

because this Senate should occupy a high position in the country. The unfavourable opinion that people outside entertain of this Senate, is due to ignorance. They do not look intelligently into it. They look upon it that we are here as Conservatives or Liberals, and that we vote with our party. That is an erroneous idea, and I do not think the House is constituted on that principle.

The Fathers of Confederation in establishing the Senate thought there would be enough men in this country of sufficiently high tone and patriotic views to sink their personal and political feelings, just as a lawyer does when he ascends the bench—that the gentlemen coming in here would feel they were entering a temple of justice to vote in the best interests of the country, and that each would try to fit himself as an impartial judge ready to devote his time and attention to what would promote the interests of the people in general, not to elevate any particular party, which would criticise legislation in such a way as would commend itself to those who were criticised as well as to the critics themselves. I should like the Secretary of State to say if there be any other grounds than the one I have suggested for the formation of these committees. I say it without any idea of hampering him in any way. If there be any other I should like to know it. I was under the impression it was different, and therefore I feel a great deal more keenly the position I have been placed in, knowing as I do the constitution of those committees.

Hon. Mr. KERR—The gallant knight who leads the opposition in this House, has this afternoon, in his speech, given one further proof of his untiring industry. He has shown by his close analysis of the personnel of the proposed committee, that he has expended a great deal of time and thought upon this question, and he thought fit in the course of his address, with which I find no fault, to mention my name. It so happens that I have been proposed for four committees. I wish to say that I am not responsible for that. Since I entered this chamber I have never spoken to any member of the government, or any one out of the government, requesting to be placed on any committee. I simply have

tried to do my duty, as I shall in the future try to do my duty on any committee on which I am placed, not inquiring why I am there. But it does so happen that I am just on the same four committees that I have been on for the last two or three sessions—

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. KERR—And I would fain hope that I shall not prove a useless member of any of these committees. I should like to remind the gallant knight, if he has forgotten—and I think it only due to myself, although I do not like to imitate a bad example and blow my own trumpet—that I served on important committees for several years in the other branch of the legislature. He knows that for the last thirty years I have served on important municipal committees, on university committees, and on other important bodies, so that although an unworthy member, perhaps, of these several committees, I hope I shall be of some use to them; but as I said before, on whatever committee I serve, whether it be on one committee, on two committees, on three committees, or on four committees, I shall always have before me the polar star of duty, striving to do my duty to my King and to my country. I should like to throw out a suggestion which might be slightly comforting to any member of this august body who has been chagrined or disappointed at being left from some committee, and commend to such that comforting text of Scripture, which says, 'In whatsoever state you are, learn therewith to be content.'

The motion was agreed to.

THE PRINTING COMMITTEE.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT moved that the following be added to the Joint Committee on Printing:

The Honourable Messieurs:—Barnier, Carling, Sir John, K.C.M.G., Cochrane, Dever, Dobson, Ellis, Ferguson, Fiset, Gibson, King, Macdonald (P.E.I.), MacKay (Alma), MacKeen, Mernier, O'Donohoe, Pelletier, Sir Alphonse, K.C.M.G., Primrose, Reid, Shehy, Templeman, Watson.—21.

The motion was agreed to.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I should like to call the attention of the House to the fact that the House of Commons have 24 members on this committee. I have always understood this was a joint com-