

House. Not that I am in any way embarrassed as to what I have to say as that has been quite clear to my mind for a long time. Besides, the leader of the Opposition has been kind enough to assist me, not only by tracing the main lines of my speech, but even condescending to prepare the conclusion. (*laughter*). The reason I ask the indulgence of the House is that I am well aware that I cannot rise to the heights of eloquence attained by the honorable members who have preceded me. But the generous attention so often accorded me by my colleagues is sufficient encouragement and once more I shall rely upon their kind attention.

The Francœur motion which is the subject of the present debate reads as follows :

"That this House is of opinion that the Province of Quebec would be disposed to agree to breaking the Federation pact of 1867 if the other Provinces consider that Quebec is an obstacle to the unity, progress and development of Canada."

The honorable member for Lotbinière (Mr Francœur) has outlined the motives which prompted him to propose this motion. He desired to reply to the insulting words and the unjust articles that appeared in certain newspapers. It is pretended, I know, that that was not his sole object. It is said that his action was inspired by spite owing to the result of the recent Federal election. It is also claimed that he desired by means of this motion to attack the Federal Government. It is even added