

go back and recall some of my reminiscences, I might bring to the recollection of the House the fact that, with a great flourish of trumpets and great gravity of demeanor on the part of the Ministers of the day, who decided to have a dress debate on the subject—the Government of the day brought forward a resolution declaring that in the best interests of the people the Senate of Canada should be abolished. And I will never forget, Mr. Speaker, the roundabout methods with which these honourable gentlemen endeavored to show to the members of this Legislature the wisdom of the proposition which they thus brought forward. During the course of that debate, however, the honourable gentleman who then represented the city of Ottawa in this House brought forward statistics to show that the Senate of Canada had voted down a very large number of propositions of the Conservative Government—I forget how many—a fact which greatly astonished and surprised all the honourable gentlemen who supported the resolution.

SENATE STILL UNREFORMED.

But, Mr. Speaker, I must not waste time over that. I may just mention in passing, however, and I am sure honourable members will excuse me if I draw attention to the conduct of the Liberal party at Ottawa with regard to their reform of the Senate, that in spite of the resolution passed in this House and those passed in other Provincial Legislatures at the time—in spite of these facts, to-day we have the Senate of the Dominion of Canada with a larger majority of one party than it has ever had during its existence, and the very evils and defects which were pointed out and proclaimed at that time by the gentlemen who sat on these benches, have not only been continued, but emphasized and accentuated.

I repeat, Mr. Speaker, that I offer not excuse for bringing this resolution forward. I do not know, Sir, what, if any, excuse the Leader of the Opposition in the Manitoba Legislature and the political colleague of my honourable friend opposite, offered for bringing forward a resolution dealing with this question. I do not know whether the representatives of the Opposition in the British Columbia Legislature made any objection or not, but I remember being here, Sir, when a resolution with reference to this very question, or rather, at any rate, a cognate subject, was brought forward by the then member for Lambton, Mr. Graham, on which a lengthy debate took place, and to which there was not a particle of objection raised