

Hon CHIEF COMMISSIONER.—I must explain that I spoke from recollection. I was not in the House.

Hon MR HENSON.—I claim that the official members who voted against responsible government would be struck out. But if we allow them to be counted, there is still a majority of six to three of the representative members in favor of responsible government; explanation as is necessary. With regard to responsible government being in the hands of the new Council, members will, we may presume, be elected for four years; consequently the question will, in all probability, be postponed for four years. And I say that those who keep back responsible government will run a great risk of having Confederation debated at the polls. Some hon members may desire such a result. If so let us understand the course they are taking. With regard to the individuals going on the delegation, if we are to take the general rumor there is not one who will properly represent the Mainland. There are two recent converts, and one open opponent of Confederation, an imprudent and politically unprincipled enemy to Confederation, charged with some power. I won't say with the eleven hooded men, but with some power to defeat Confederation. It is extraordinary that the Governor should make such a selection, ignoring the whole Confederation party and the whole Mainland as a territory. I could not justify myself if I voted for his selection, which will virtually be voting for three Island members, two recent converts and one—(No, no from Mr. Helmcken)—well, I won't say it again. (Laughter.) I can understand a Government's selection at heart pursuing this course, but I cannot understand a Government that is true to the cause doing so.

Hon CHIEF COMMISSIONER.—Mr Chairman, hon members seem to be in position of fighting shadows in the dark. If they are wrong in their suppositions all the words that have been spoken today are blown away. I fully concur in what fell from the hon Collector when members who favor Confederation should be the last to object to the Governor's selecting members.

Hon MR HENSON.—We have faith in the streets of the Executive in the Executive Council. The only act that was in me and other Confederation was the appointment of the hon member for Victoria confederate at heart. I believe his Excellency to be a man of progress, and ask leave to sit again, so that the Governor may have the opportunity of sending down names, or at all events, of satisfying the Mainland that their interests, and those of the Government are cared for.

The motion to rise and report progress was lost.

Hon MR HENSON.—I think this debate, if it may be so called, is quite a called for and unnecessary. It is ridiculous to bring up the names of men who may possibly go to Ottawa and discuss them; it should not be allowed. It is waste of time and lungs. I had prepared a resolution that the terms should be sent by post, but I see that it would be vain to put it to the vote. If delegates go they

ought to be properly equipped. I shall not, therefore, oppose the vote.

Hon MR DUNSTON.—I agree with the hon member for Newcastle that this debate is waste of time. I think the Mainland will be reassured.

Hon MR DUNSTON.—I think it is not a question whether Island or Mainland is represented. We want the views of different parties represented, leaving out the Mainland and Island.

Hon MR HENSON.—I express a hope that the Government will not press a Government vote.

Hon ATTORNEY GENERAL.—I can inform hon members that I feel perfectly satisfied that the Governor will not send down names. The hon member who names the delegates has better information than myself, the House having given unanimous assent to the terms. No, no, I was the exception.—Hon MR DUNSTON.—I am glad to hear that the Governor has not sent down names. It is most unfortunate that the act of the Council, which I do not expect would be unanimous, they would be unable to refer to the Executive Council. It must injure the faith in the world that the Governor has not Confederation truly at heart. The hon member for New Westminster says that I am a convert, and that I represent Victoria. I am glad that the old should be sorry that it should run in the other direction. The hon member for New Westminster has told us we cannot get responsible government but he would not consent to make it a vote against.

Hon MR HENSON.—I have never said that Confederation would be refused without responsible government.

Hon ATTORNEY GENERAL.—I have no doubt, I am not speaking from private knowledge, but I have no doubt that the delegate will be clothed with full power to discuss all the suggestions made on the matter. If responsible government is started by the Canada Cabinet, it will receive full consideration.

Hon HONESTY.—The people do not distrust His Excellency, and on this delegation they will endeavor to keep up the present Confederation system. I am satisfied that if the hon member named, or sent to the Mainland, is fitted.

Hon CHIEF COMMISSIONER.—I believe that those who support Confederation are leaving the cause. I believe that if a consistent representative of Confederation from the Island, and one from British Columbia are sent to Ottawa, with one member of the Government, such a delegation would carry confidence even if the terms were modified. I propose to vote for this resolution. I hope the delegates will be such as will give satisfaction. I intend that there are some who would add weight to that delegation, and I should not like to see office members left out.

The motion to rise and report progress was carried, only one vote being against it.

The motion of the Hon Chief Commissioner, Committee read and reported resolution passed.

House adopted resolution.

Reported for the Government by

W. S. SEBRIGHT GREEN.