

would make up our minds to do what we should for the purpose of improving the tone of the Senate in place of bringing forward resolutions which may have an injurious effect—because we all know that the enemies of the Senate will take hold of this and tell us that our own members feel the need of reform—no radical change will be necessary. I am a Conservative; I want to conserve what we have and I think it will be time enough to make a change when reform is needed. The Conservative party are the true reformers when reform is necessary, and it will be time enough to make a change when reformation becomes indispensable.

HON. MR. KAULBACH—I wish simply to emphasise what has been said by a large number of gentlemen with regard to not having a sufficient number of portfolios in the Senate. I believe, that is the only cause of dissatisfaction here, and I think it is the cause of dissatisfaction outside. If we had three or four Ministers with portfolios in the Senate, I think all the difficulties would be overcome. Every member who has spoken in favor of some change has admitted that the Government have made wise and judicious appointments in nominating the members of the Senate, and therefore there is no difficulty on that score. The Government for the time being is responsible for all its acts, and if they should be imprudent in their appointments here, it would reflect on them, and they are responsible to the people. In no other way do I believe the Senate should be selected unless you make it elective. That I see no necessity for yet. Many objections have been raised here to that mode of constituting the Senate, which I think are very forcible. If we were elected we might place ourselves in a position of hostility to the other House. With regard to the failings of the United States system, the Senate in that country is not composed of the majority, but largely of the minority. When you find a small State having the same representation in the Senate as a State with twenty times its population, and more than twenty times its wealth, it is not a body that is representative of the population. Frequently the position of parties in the two Houses causes a dead-lock. You find parties arrayed against each other—the House of Representatives against the

Senate—and very important bills, bills affecting the interests of this country, bills affecting our fishing interests, have been thrown out by one party simply for the purpose of embarrassing the other. A treaty which was believed by the President and his Cabinet and by a majority of the House of Representatives to be desirable in the interest of the country was rejected simply on party grounds. I think there is nothing in the constitution of the United States that we should desire to copy. They have no responsible Government there. There Government can hold office during the term of the President irrespective of the support of the people. I do not see anything here that requires a change. I have expressed my disapprobation of this resolution before us, because it comes from a young Senator—I thought it was not only premature, but it did not come with that consideration which it would receive from an older Senator. I think at all times it is dangerous to tinker with the constitution of the country, but I am pleased, after the long debate we have had on this subject, to find that scarcely any one who has spoken has suggested that the members of this body have been unwisely selected. All believe that the Government of the day have been wise in their appointments to the Senate. Now, with regard to our standing in the way of legislation from the other House, if the Government should be in the hands of those who are not in harmony with us on political grounds, I would remind the House that when a Liberal Government was in power, though we threw out several measures, every action of the kind met with the sanction and approval of the people. I have listened patiently to find if there was anything which could be urged requiring my opposition to it, and I have heard nothing. The discussion to-day has established the fact that if the Government will only give a sufficient number of portfolios to the Senate, this body is quite able to do a larger amount of work than it has done. What work we do is done well—that is admitted. We ought to have more legislation given to us and I hope that the leader of the House will impress on the Government the importance, in the interest of the public business, and to expedite legislation and prevent us from remaining at the Capital for weeks longer than we should, to give this