

way was being exploited, and when there was a desire all over the province for that road to be built down the valley of the St. John, the Liberal party called a convention. Mr. Porter, from the parish of Andover in the constituency of my hon. friend from Madawaska and Victoria (Mr. Michaud)—a true Liberal and a gentleman who had the interests of the province of New Brunswick at heart—moved a resolution at that convention that the National Transcontinental railway should go not across the wilderness of the province, but down the valley of the St. John. My hon. friend from Carleton from party expediency and in order, as he said, not to embarrass the Liberal Government at Ottawa, made that resolution still-born.

Mr. CARVELL: My hon. friend does not know what he is talking about; no such thing ever happened. I say that what the hon. member says is not true; he is misinformed, and I want him to take it back.

Mr. SPEAKER: Since the hon. member for Carleton denies the truthfulness of the statement, the hon. member for York is obliged to accept his statement.

Mr. McLEOD: By parliamentary usage I am obliged to accept his statement, but will my hon. friend deny that Mr. Porter of Andover proposed a resolution at that convention that the railway should come down the valley of the St. John?

Mr. CARVELL: No, I will not.

Mr. McLEOD: More than that, Mr. Porter's resolution was still-born in that convention, was it not?

Mr. CARVELL: No.

Mr. McLEOD: Did it reach the convention?

Mr. CARVELL: Yes.

Mr. McLEOD: No, it did not.

Mr. CARVELL: I say it did.

Mr. McLEOD: It was called off, and my hon. friend was the chief executioner of that resolution.

Mr. CARVELL: That statement is false, and I want my hon. friend to withdraw it.

Mr. SPEAKER: I would like to say to the hon. member for Carleton that after the withdrawal by the hon. member for York, the hon. member for Carleton is certainly out of order in still declaring that he made a false statement.

Mr. CARVELL: Mr. Speaker, I want to tell my hon. friend that he is entirely misinformed; no such thing ever happened.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member for York is bound by parliamentary rules to accept the hon. member for Carleton's statement.

Mr. McLEOD: Undoubtedly I am bound by parliamentary rules, and I propose to be during the few remarks I have to make. I accept, by parliamentary usage, the statement made by my hon. friend. The hon. member for Carleton has admitted that such a resolution was prepared by Mr. Porter of Andover; but did it pass the Liberal convention? Did it, my hon. friend? It did not, and yet the province of New Brunswick stood as a unit absolutely in favour of the St. John Valley route. What happened to that resolution? Had my hon. friend lost his influence with the Liberal party in New Brunswick? Did he exert his influence to put that resolution through the convention, or did he not? He is on the horns of this dilemma: either he did not and was therefore opposed to that route; or he had lost his weight and influence with the Liberal party in the province of New Brunswick.

He must decide between these two horns of the dilemma in which he finds himself. We did not get the Valley railway on that occasion. It was not the responsibility of the Conservative party that we did not get it. The responsibility lies with hon. gentlemen opposite and lies at the door of my hon. friend from Carleton and in other places. We came into power in 1908, we were unpledged and unpromised in regard to this road, but we did have at our door the responsibility of providing adequate railway transportation facilities for the province of New Brunswick. There came to us, as the hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries has said, not from one county, but from many counties, gentlemen of both political parties urging us to give them those transportation facilities so long denied them by hon. gentlemen opposite. We were then the Conservative Government in the province of New Brunswick. There was in power then at Ottawa a Liberal Government supported by the hon. member for Carleton. It needed, as was stated on the floors of the Legislature by a gentleman of the Liberal persuasion from the county of St. John, the conjunction and the united forces of a party at Fredericton and a party at Ottawa to make this thing a success.