

question exhaustively, and I will point out as I have not done yet, that it is too late. Besides, I think I can make it as clear as noon-day that we cannot confer upon the Senate the power proposed to be conferred by this Bill. The hon. leader of the House has told you that the overwhelming weight of opinion in the Senate was against this view. The overwhelming majority may have been against it, but the overwhelming opinion of those who are qualified to deal with the question was the other way, and, that being so, I trust the hon. gentleman will not proceed with this discussion, but will wait until the Minister of Justice, the hon. member for Simcoe (Mr. McCarthy), and the hon. member for Albert (Mr. Weldon) are here, and until we have an opportunity to consider this question fully at an earlier period of the session.

Mr. FOSTER. If the House will allow me, I feel that I must come to the conclusion that my hon. friend, having stated that he will go into this question exhaustively, rather rules this Bill out.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). I propose reading the first volume of Hallam to the hon. gentleman.

Mr. FOSTER. I thought that in the long speech my hon. friend made on Thursday, he had completely exhausted his side of the question, but if he has yet more to say, I think we will not be able to go further with this Bill at the present time.

Mr. DALY moved the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to, and debate adjourned.

COMMANDER BOULTON.

Mr. McNEILL. I wish to say that I have learned with great regret, and I am sure that many other members of the House share my regret, that the country is to be deprived of the services of such an efficient officer as Commander Boulton. He is a man of great experience, of great practical ability, and has been doing a work which is appreciated in the very highest degree by those who are acquainted with it. Vessel owners and practical seamen in the Georgian Bay or on Lake Huron speak in the highest possible terms of the value of the work that Captain Boulton has performed. I think it is only right that some reference should be made to this matter before the House rises. I hope my hon. friend the acting Minister of Marine and Fisheries will add his testimony to what I have said as to the high character of this officer.

Mr. SPROULE. I heartily concur in every word that has been said by the hon. member for North Bruce (Mr. McNeill) regarding this officer. I believe every member representing a constituency along the Georgian Bay, who knows anything about the great work he has been doing, are of opinion that it is a great

pity that this man's services could not be retained until the work which he began, and has so far successfully carried on, is completed.

Mr. COSTIGAN. I have made inquiries in the department with regard to the officer referred to, with a result most creditable to himself. I need not assure the House that we made the change because we thought it was in the interest of the country that the work should be done by the department. I am quite certain that the House will understand that the change implies no reflection upon that officer, whose record is most favourable indeed.

Mr. FOSTER. Whilst the matter has been brought up, I would like to say a word. Commander Boulton was in the service and was conducting the survey when I was Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and I also desire to bear my testimony to the capabilities of that officer, and to the admirable way in which he has carried on his work. I know he has given the utmost satisfaction; he has done a work which will be his best monument. But there is this to be said about it. Commander Boulton has stayed out the term for which he came here, and during the time he has been carrying on the survey, he has had under him some capable young men, one of whom has turned out to be a worthy and, I may say, a successful follower of himself, of whom he himself speaks very highly. This young man last year carried on an independent survey of a part of the British Columbia coast, and did it so well as to merit the commendations of the British Admiralty. I understand that the work is to be given over to him, and that, with Commander Boulton's opinion in his favour, he is in every way qualified to carry it on. Therefore, while we have lost the services of Commander Boulton, for which we are sorry, and for which we are very grateful, it can be said that he leaves behind a pupil of his own eminently qualified, I believe, to carry on the work successfully in the line which he himself began.

Mr. O'BRIEN. I do not at all question the competency of Mr. Stewart for carrying on the work begun by Captain Boulton, but there is this difference between the two men. Commander Boulton is a navigator, which Mr. Stewart is not; and it is impossible for any one to complete that survey as it ought to be completed, and to lay down the courses as Captain Boulton has laid them down, who is not a navigator. I do not at all question Mr. Stewart's competency as a surveyor, but to carry on a hydrographic survey, a want of knowledge of navigation is a serious defect. It may be said that the master of the vessel is competent for that. Then you have the two heads, a surveyor and a navigator, and which is to rule? Anybody can see that there may be cases where a difference of opinion may occur as to how the works can be carried on. Now the hon. gentleman will have a survey conducted by