

between both parties are narrower than they were before? It is now five o'clock. Perhaps by eight o'clock the two parties could agree. I am inclined to believe that those who took part in the conference must be of opinion that the suggestions made by the honourable gentleman from Hamilton deserve to be taken into consideration. I am sure that the honourable leader of this House must attach some importance to those suggestions.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I pointed out to my honourable friends before that we had been most anxious to meet their wishes in every possible way, but it seems impossible to do so. It is not necessary for me to say that the session is drawing to a close, and that we must proceed with this Bill. As my honourable friends have not accepted the workable form, in which we on this side of the House consider we have embodied the principle suggested as a basis of settlement, I am not aware of any other concession that we can make.

Hon. Mr. DAVID: The honourable gentleman cannot deny that the honourable member for Hamilton has suggested an amendment.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: We have spent two days in trying to get my honourable friends to accept that very same proposal.

Hon. Mr. POWER: Honourable gentlemen, I made some observations on the second reading of this measure, but I think I may add a few words more. The honourable leader of this House says that this measure must be put through this session, and, because it is desirable that the session should close at an early date, that we should go ahead and dispose of the measure now; and he practically says that any one who undertakes to hold up this measure and delay its passing is really not a friend of the country—is an enemy of the country.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I have not said anything about that.

Hon. Mr. POWER: It is implied. Now, who is responsible for this hold-up? If the honourable gentleman had allowed the Bill to pass as it came from the House of Commons there would not have been any delay at all. But the honourable gentleman allows one of his supporters to get up in this House and move an amendment which,

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as regards the province of Nova Scotia, practically contravenes the principle laid down in the Bill. I think that under such circumstances it is really not becoming for the honourable gentleman to undertake to blame members of the Opposition who have resisted this important change made by one of the honourable gentleman's own followers in a Bill coming from the majority in the House of Commons. If I may say so, I am not fond of talking; but I feel that this is a case where one is bound to say something. As the honourable gentleman from Halifax (Hon. Mr. Roche) has just pointed out, the lists in Nova Scotia—and the same is the case in New Brunswick, I understand—are prepared with great care. The revisers are not appointed by the Government; they are appointed by the county councils.

Hon. Mr. DANIEL: In New Brunswick the chairman is appointed by the Government. The other two are generally county councillors. I think it is the same in Nova Scotia.

Hon. Mr. POWER: I was under the impression that it was the same in New Brunswick as it is in Nova Scotia. In Nova Scotia the Government have nothing to do with the appointment of revisers. The revisers meet, and, using the books of the assessors, and any other information they have, they make out a parliamentary list. This list is printed and posted up in a number of conspicuous places in the polling districts, and notice is given that on a certain day the revisers will meet to hear applications to have the lists corrected, whether these applications are to add names which have been omitted or to take off names which have been improperly inserted. Some weeks intervene. The first meeting of the revisers is held, I think, about the 5th of February, and the revisers meet about the 5th of March to correct the lists, and then there are, particularly when an election is coming on, a good many applications to have the lists corrected. These lists are finally corrected by revisers, who, as I say, are not appointed by the Government. As a rule, that really ends the matter. The law gives an appeal to the sheriff, but that appeal is hardly ever taken; and, as my honourable colleague has stated, as regards the county of Halifax, the sheriff who preceded the present one was like the man who was so straight that he leaned backwards. Sheriff Archibald was so anxious to leave no