

any other province as to senatorship or House of Commons membership, require imperial sanction? It is a matter of domestic concern. The federal Parliament here has full and supreme control over those matters. The federal Parliament already has reduced the representation in Prince Edward Island from six to three, in Nova Scotia from twenty-one to eighteen, and in New Brunswick from sixteen to fourteen. They have done that without appealing to the Imperial Parliament. Now, just imagine some member on the floor of the House of Commons in England asking, 'What have we to do with that? Why do not they attend to their own business? They have done it in the past, yet they are asking us for power to do what they have been doing since Confederation.' I am simply putting the question as a legal matter, and I would not be surprised if Joe Martin, M.P., on the floor of the British House, would put a spoke in the wheels, for he knows the constitution of this country, and knows that it is not necessary to appeal to the Imperial Parliament to regulate these matters of domestic concern. The question is a parliamentary and legal question, and you may find obstacles in your way in regard to this Bill on the other side. I have no objection to the measure. I think it is fair, and what surprises me most is the very moderate demand of the representatives of the West. I am surprised they did not seek for the welfare of the future as well as the present. These Prairie provinces, Manitoba, Alberta, Saskatchewan, British Columbia, may in future have three times the population of Ontario, Quebec or the Maritime provinces, and still they will only have 24 senators. As a fair and honest-minded man, I say the representatives of the West should have asked the Government to have provision in this Bill for further representation. I am not opposed to the Bill, but am surprised at their moderation, because I feel that in five, ten or fifteen years the provinces of the West will contain a larger population than the provinces of the East; still, the West is satisfied to-day to accept the same proportion as given to the older provinces of the Dominion. I put the question as delicately as I can to the leader of the Government here, in regard to the way the imperial authorities should be called upon to regulate a domestic concern; and, afterwards, to express my surprise and admiration at the conduct of those western members in not asking more.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND—Could the hon. gentleman tell me on what amendment to the British North America Act it is claimed that Manitoba and British Columbia are entitled to an increased representation?

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—I said that under the legislation which we passed extending the boundaries of Manitoba in 1912, provision was made for an increased representation of members in this Chamber.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND—Is it solely upon this that the hon. gentleman thinks Manitoba is entitled to increased representation?

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—No, the question arises as to whether this Parliament had authority, when we made provision in 1912 for that increased representation, to make that provision.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK—The question arose as to whether there was sufficient authority given under the Act of Union of Manitoba and Canada to increase the representation in the Senate to that province.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND—What procedure will be followed on this resolution? Shall we consider it clause by clause in committee? I know that my hon. friend the leader of the Opposition has an amendment to offer which might not meet with a kindly reception from a majority of this Chamber. It affects the last clause, concerning the alteration in the terms of the British North America Act governing the census and affecting, more especially, Prince Edward Island.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—It is entirely within the power of the House to consider the resolution clause by clause in the committee. We should first consider the motion, namely, that we concur in the message from the Commons.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND—But suppose we are not satisfied with some parts of the address, should we concur in it before considering it in committee?

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—I am quite satisfied that the House should resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, and I move that we go into committee accordingly.

The resolution was agreed to.

In the committee.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK—I am surprised that the Government should bring