

Edward Island may lose a man or two and New Brunswick—in fact we will have to redistribute from the Atlantic to the Pacific; two hundred and twenty constituencies will have to be increased to thirty-four. It is a heavy task and we will put it off. Is that fair to the West? I am aware the last two or three Redistribution Bills took a little time, but what is the government for except to get the expression of the people on all important questions. On the navy question see what it means. It means that this present parliament is twenty-two seats short of its quota in the House of Commons. What does that mean? Thirty thousand people is the quotient of a constituency and it means six hundred and sixty thousand people not represented to-day in the parliament of Canada—nearly twice the population of one of the provinces, and all that done in cold blood and with perhaps a reference to a larger representation in the Senate, which is of comparatively trifling importance. Twenty-two men who should be heard and who represent interests of the greatest importance should be given a voice on that Navy Bill, and these provinces are to accept this kind of consideration, six seats in the Senate where we cannot discuss money matter, where we cannot ask for a vote for any enterprise, where we cannot discuss the tariff, where our hands are tied in the discussion of matters of importance affecting the West. There we are without the aid and assistance of those twenty-two men. I hope there will be time before the session ends to give us that Representation Bill. I am not going to reproach the government. I was not a party to the Redistribution Bill of 1882, but was a sufferer from it. I know how long it took the government to fix my constituency until they thought they could determine on which side of the guillotine my head was to fall. It did not fall but it cost me a great deal of labour. The same sort of preparation applied to sixteen representatives in Ontario, some of whom died a violent death. Let us give a full measure of justice to the Northwest. It is the youngest portion of the Dominion. Ontario is old, Quebec is old. Who cares for Quebec? They have sixty-five members.

My hon. friend to my right (Hon. Mr. Dandurand) can smile when the billows roll over the other provinces, when they are hewed as Agag was hewed to pieces. You cannot touch Quebec, its rights are imbedded in the constitution, but you can touch Ontario. Let us in Quebec and Ontario say to the West 'You are filling your prairies and adding to the wealth and comfort of the people, we want to see your representatives stand on the floor of the House of Commons with all the virility you possess and all that information you have acquired in building up that great country.'

I have spoken perhaps longer than I should, but I want to assure my hon. friend opposite that we will not embarrass his course so long as his course is constitutional, that we will not annoy him with criticism which he does not deserve, but when deserved I cannot tell what we may do. We will not pass any censure on his conduct which is personal, for of all hon. gentleman who have led an opposition in my experience he had the most suavity, urbanity and patience, and at the same time the tenacity of a man who wanted to get his own way. When he did not get his own way he could sit down quietly and take his political medicine. We will treat him on that side of the House with the kindness with which he treated us, and if that measure is not full enough to satisfy his purpose we will heap it full and let it run over into his lap, so that he will feel as leader of the House that he has the pleasantest job of his life, and he is serving the Senate to his credit, but let the constitution always stand between him and us.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED moved the adjournment of the debate until to-morrow.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at three o'clock.

THE SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, November 27, 1912.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

Prayers and Routine Proceedings.