

twenty-four (24) Senators. The 147th Section provides that "after the admission of Prince Edward Island the representation of N. Scotia and N. Brunswick in the Senate shall, as vacancies occur, be reduced from twelve to ten members respectively. Within the last few weeks one Senator has died in each of these Provinces, viz. Senators Locke and Steves, both these members were supporters of the present Government.

a group, one of three, with a representation of twenty-four members in the Senate. Prince Edward Island not having come into the confederacy, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick received each two members more than their own allotment as portions of the group. The 147th Section of the British North American Act provides that "after the admission of Prince Edward Island the representation of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in the Senate shall be reduced as vacancies occur from twelve to ten members respectively. Senators Locke and Steves from these Provinces died very recently, both these members were supporters of the present Government but they cannot be replaced, and the result is that the Government is further weakened in the Senate.

I do not mean to lay down the doctrine that the Senate must be filled by the appointment of an exactly equal number from each political party. Such an arrangement would be scarcely possible; nor do I pretend to say that, even if possible, it would be advisable for each successive Administration to obtain a majority in the Senate. The body as it exists is the result of a system of compromise which it was hoped would be reasonably