

particularly from the provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, have not stood up and demanded that their provinces should be given equal justice at the hands of this government.

In point of fact, I do not see the particular necessity of a step of this kind. I do not see why there is any particular need, in the first place, for the Dominion of Canada divesting itself of this territory. I do not see any particular need for adding this territory to the already overgrown provinces of Quebec and Ontario; but since the government have determined to do so, then let the other provinces have fair play and equal justice. Do not do something which will affect the representation from these provinces as it must be affected by the addition of this additional territory to the province of Quebec. That our representation must be affected is a proposition which needs only to be stated to be admitted. This territory of Ungava will no doubt in the near future become inhabited. There is, I believe, vast mineral wealth lying undiscovered in that territory.

I believe there is a vast mineral wealth lying still undiscovered in that great territory. There are great fisheries on the coast to be developed. Taking all these things into consideration you are adding very largely to the province of Quebec territory which will be inhabited and so will affect the unit of representation as applied to the small provinces. As I said, I have no wish to discriminate in any way against the province of Quebec. It is unfortunate that when members from other provinces speak on behalf of their provinces some super-sensitive members from Quebec think that their province is affected. It will be seen that I am looking at this matter from the eastern standpoint. I am looking forward to the time when, by reason of the great growth of the west the representation from that section will have largely increased; and, in order to preserve the equilibrium between east and west, it will be important that the representation of the maritime provinces should not fall below the figure of to-day. To recapitulate; I am in favour of this resolution for the reasons I have stated; but I say to the government that they are not acting justly by the maritime provinces in not giving to them some compensation to weigh against the large increase in material wealth which they are adding to the three great provinces I have named.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. With regard to the suggestion of my hon. friend the leader of the opposition (Mr. R. L. Borden) that it would have been preferable to leave this matter open, I must say that my observation leads me to an entirely different conclusion. Nothing is so likely to create bad blood between neighbours as these boundary questions. At the present time, I am sorry to say, our relations with New-

Mr. FOWLER.

foundland in regard to boundaries are not as satisfactory as they ought to be. I stated this forenoon that we have provided for an arbitration to determine the boundaries between Newfoundland and Canada, Canada in this matter being interested for herself and for Quebec. This step was rendered necessary because Newfoundland has given concessions in a part of the disputed territory alleged to be encroaching upon the rights of Quebec. A lawsuit was entered in the province of Quebec to test the legality of the concessions given by Newfoundland. Rather than have this private litigation going on, parties holding rights from either one government and from the other going before the courts with their claims, we appealed to the government of Newfoundland to have an arbitration to determine where the boundary is. It is particularly desirable that we should eliminate this question in view of the possibility, which we hope some day will be realized, that the question of Newfoundland entering confederation may be brought forward for practical decision. I am sure I simply voice the feeling of every Canadian when I say that if the time comes when the Newfoundland people are willing to enter confederation we will extend to them a very cordial welcome. When that time comes as I hope it may, there will be a multitude of questions to be determined—questions of finance, questions of education and many others. And it will be all the better if, at that time, the question of boundary shall have been removed by the decision of arbitration. Therefore, I cannot agree with the leader of the opposition—

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. The right hon. gentleman has certainly misunderstood me. I did not make the slightest objection to the settlement of the boundary. It was an entirely different matter to which I was referring.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. What was it, then? I failed to comprehend.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I said that it might be an inducement to Newfoundland to enter confederation if some part of that territory were left to the administration of that province.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. But what would be an inducement to one member of confederation might be the reverse of an inducement to the other. The province of Quebec might have something to say to that. As far as that goes, it is preferable in every way that the claims of Quebec and the claims of Newfoundland should be settled so that neither party may have any doubt as to the matter.

Mr. FOSTER. Is it in respect of the present boundaries or possessions of the province of Quebec that the dispute is to be settled? Or is the delimitation of the