

Liberal and if the vote of the Province were analyzed you would find a large majority of Liberals for the Commons and for the Provincial Legislature; but the constituencies are so framed—the leaders of the Government in the other House have so arranged the constituencies—that the Liberals—

HON. MR. MCCALLUM—Does the hon. gentleman mean to say that Ontario is a Liberal Province to-day?

HON. MR. SCOTT—I say it is, and I point to the fact that the Liberals have had possession of it for twenty years and still have and will have for some considerable time I trust. From my standpoint the majority in the House of Commons is largely due to the arrangement of the constituencies. I do not state it as an arbitrary fact, but I do state the other as representing my position. Now, what is the position in this Chamber to-day? With the exception of my hon. friend Mr. Reesor, and myself, I do not know another Senator from Ontario representing the great Reform party in this House to-day.

HON. MR. READ—And it is not so long since you joined it.

HON. MR. SCOTT—I have been here sixteen years as a member of that party. I have no doubt hon. gentlemen will contend that they have the best Government that we can possibly desire. Very likely you have from your standpoint, but not from mine. There are differences of opinion about that, and I ask you whether it is reasonable to suppose that the grand Province of Ontario which is the principal Province of our Dominion, represented as it is here by three gentlemen, one of them, I am sorry to say, an invalid, and not present this Session—can be fairly satisfied with its representation in the Senate? I ask you that question? Ontario is entitled to twenty-four representatives here and she is now represented by only three members who are in harmony with the great party that prevails in that Province. I ask hon. gentlemen whether that of itself is not sufficient to create a feeling of distrust and disappointment? A feeling that some change ought to be made, because it is going on, and eventually I suppose if things continue as they are, in another five years Ontario will not be represented by any Liberals at all, in the

natural course of events, as, apparently, this Government has come to stay. So that is Ontario's position. Now that is rather anomalous, but, joking apart, the people who pay the piper think they are entitled to some share of the representation, and it is quite obvious to any gentlemen who choose to read the papers that this House is not well thought of in Ontario. Even by its own friends it is not thought well of. You find strictures constantly in the papers about the Senate which are not all unwarranted and improper. There is no doubt about that, because under the peculiar position which has been adverted to by the hon. gentleman, with all the active workers of the Government—those who regulate the departments in the other Chamber—we have nothing to do. For six weeks this Session, we had practically nothing to do, because if we take the number of hours that we spent in this room during that time they were so few that they were not worth while calling us together for. If there was proper representation in this Chamber—gentlemen who represent departments—they would naturally introduce legislation that affected their positions. That would give us occupation, and we would show that there was talent, industry, intelligence and capacity in this House to deal with the business of the country. But under the present system we have not the power to do business, only as it comes to us after it is partially finished in the other Chamber, to register it here or to make slight changes. It is an exceedingly unfortunate position of affairs, and it cannot be improved unless the constitution or manner of appointment to this Chamber can be improved. What I say is this: we are not in touch with the people. In this country, particularly, all power springs from the people, and we are not of them—we are not part of them. The people have no voice, practically, except in a very indirect and remote way, in saying who shall be elected for a seat in the Senate. For that very reason people look upon us, I will not say with distrust, but the papers indicate the feelings of the people on that point; and I think the motion of the hon. gentleman is one in the right direction. I am not prepared to say at this moment that that is the best way of filling this Chamber. I have my own views upon it, but it might be that a mixed