

Hon. Mr. RING—The Hon. Attorney-General seems to think that these honourable men may live forever. He forgets that in the progress of time other men will take the lead in public affairs.

Hon. Dr. HELMCKEN—It is a most important question. The Canadian Government ought to know what we think of it. The brewing interest would disappear, and it is large in proportion to our population, and to ruin it would be doing an injury. I hope the Hon. Attorney-General will withdraw his opposition and let this recommendation go with the others to the Governor, that he may forward it with them to the Canadian Government. At the time the Organic Act was made it related to contiguous Provinces. The Hon. Attorney-General says they may not put it in force here for ten, twenty, or thirty years. Granted, but it may also be put in force immediately. I say, then, let the Canadian Government be made aware that the application of the excise laws to this Colony will be detrimental to its interests.

Hon. Dr. CARRALL—I think the Hon. Member loses sight of one fact. He is terribly afraid of the Canadian tariff, but he loses sight of the fact that barley comes in duty free. I believe the whole system will be carefully revised, and it is absurd to hamper the terms of the resolution for such a petty question.

Hon. Mr. DRAKE—In reply, I think our duty in coming here is to protect the interests of the Colony. We ask the Dominion Government to consider these things. We do not insist on terms being inserted. I do not ask for this only; I desire to draw the attention of the Canadian Government to these interests that they may not be overlooked. As to these interests being petty and small, that is our misfortune; but let us not lose sight of them for that reason. As for Americans coming here to cut down our logs, I say let them come. If I can alter my resolution to suit the Attorney-General, I will do it.

Hon. ATTORNEY-GENERAL—If I thought the interests of the Colony would suffer, I would consent to bring the subject before the Canadian Government, but I think we have nothing to fear.

Hon. Dr. HELMCKEN—If you ruin the brewing interest, you inflict much harm in other ways. Brewers consume one million pounds of barley yearly. This is 700 acres of land which must be cultivated. To ruin this will throw out of employment a large number of people and close up our breweries.

Hon. Mr. DECOSMOS—I see no objection to sending this up, but not to make it a *sine qua non*. I believe the Canadian Government will protect all these interests. Brewing is not of sufficient magnitude to kill Confederation.

Hon. Mr. ROBSON—I must oppose if logs are left in. I think it may be our duty to protect spars and logs.

Hon. Mr. DRAKE—Then I will strike out logs and leave spars.

The Clerk then read Hon. Mr. Drake's motion, as altered. Carried.

Hon. Dr. HELMCKEN—There are other things to be considered.

Hon. ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I think it is now competent for me to move the resolution proposed by the Hon. Chief Commissioner.

Hon. Mr. ROBSON—Is it intended that this shall swamp all the others?

Hon. ATTORNEY-GENERAL—No; it relates only to tariff:—

*Resolved*, That this Council respectfully represent to His Excellency the Governor that, "in negotiating the terms of union of British Columbia with Canada, it is of the first importance to point out to the Government of the Dominion that the circumstances of this Colony are in many respects so different from those of the Eastern Provinces that the application of the present Canadian Tariff to this Colony, while reducing the aggregate burden of taxation, would injuriously affect the agricultural and commercial interests of this community, and that it be therefore urgently impressed upon that Government that it is absolutely necessary to our wellbeing under Confederation that special rates of Customs duties and special Customs regulations be arranged for this Colony, in such manner as may be found practically most advisable, so as to secure, while our requirements in this respect remain as at present, an equal measure of protection to our agricultural products and of facility to commerce, as are provided under the existing British Columbia Tariff."

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The original motion of the Hon. Mr. DeCosmos, on the Orders of the Day, was read, and by leave withdrawn.