

Hon. Mr. ROBSON—It is a great pity that these sectional differences should be allowed to prevail. We ought to consider ourselves British Columbians. The Governor-General, with the consent of his Council, appoints the Lieutenant-Governor, and the Lieutenant-Governor, with the advice of his Cabinet, recommends the Senators. [No, no—Hon. Dr. Helmcken.] Yes, it is so. He recommends to the Governor-General, who appoints. It is a great pity to raise these disputes about Englishmen and Canadians.

Hon. Mr. HUMPHREYS—It is all very well to talk that way. I maintain that the Englishmen sitting at this table have said less as to nationality than the Canadians. We want to be governed by British Columbians.

Hon. Dr. HELMCKEN—We had better drop these nationalities.

Hon. Mr. WOOD—The Hon. Member for New Westminster should not be angry because we want to provide against the possibility of ill-feeling by timely precaution. "Safe bind, safe find." When the Governor-General appoints Senators, if I understand it right, he appoints the political friends of his Cabinet. If we are to have Responsible Government there will always be some check; if not we may be in the position of having members selected by the Lieutenant-Governor without the assistance of any responsible Cabinet. [Hear, hear—Hon. DeCosmos.] A Canadian Lieutenant-Governor will act with the same sort of feeling that the English Government will. Senators will be selected by favouritism, and supporters of Confederation will doubtless be selected in this Colony, unless we have Responsible Government and Representative Institutions in full vigor. Canadian interests will doubtless be very prominent in this Colony, and power acts injuriously on the human mind—it is one of the corruptors of the mind.

Hon. ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I should be very sorry to see the words "if any" struck out; their retention leaves the matter open. Hon. Members seem to have forgotten that Senators must be residents of British Columbia. Probably they may be selected on the ground of their having an appreciation of the whole country, instead of a section only. It may be that Senators will be appointed for the whole Colony.

Hon. Mr. HOLBROOK—After hearing the explanations of the Hon. Attorney-General, I feel more desirous to press my recommendations, to show that we from the Mainland desire to have our fair share of representation. I think the words most objectionable.

Hon. Mr. DECOSMOS—I find by the Resolutions passed at the Conference of Delegates in London, that Senators were to be taken from the Legislative Council. We are told by the Government that we are to go into Confederation without Responsible Government; then we ought to have a guarantee that the first Senators shall be representative men, and that they shall not be chosen by the Governor and put into office for life without reference to the people.

Hon. Mr. HUMPHREYS—I shall move a recommendation that the first Senators shall be nominated by the Legislature.

Hon. Dr. HELMCKEN—The position will be worth \$600. The difficulty will be to get anyone to go there. People are chary of going into the Legislative Council now, and they will not be very anxious to go to Canada. As to choosing Senators from one place, it is out of the question. And it is equally out of the question to appoint them by the Legislative Council.

Hon. Mr. HUMPHREYS—We are here as the agents of the people, delegates in point of fact, and we are bound to legislate in accordance with the well understood wishes of the people. In reference to having these Senators appointed, we are bound to see what they are and whether the people are likely to approve of our acts.

Hon. ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Hon. Members must remember that these Resolutions will be submitted to the people, a much-abused term, as the Hon. Member for Victoria District has truly said, and our common object must be to make the terms acceptable to the people. They will have to pass upon them in the last resort, and to say we will or we will not have them.

Hon. Mr. PEMBERTON—The objection seems to me to be to dividing British Columbia into districts. It is a qualification for Senators that they must reside in their districts; therefore, I think it will not be desirable to divide the Colony into districts. I think the clause should stand as it is.

Hon. Mr. ROBSON—One matter deserves attention in connection with this item. I believe that the indemnity to Senators is \$600 in a lump sum, without travelling expenses. I think it is now commuted, and this would place British Columbia Senators at a disadvantage with others. It is no hardship to other Provinces, but would be most unfair to British Columbia. Travelling expenses both ways should be allowed.