

country. Are hon. members prepared to go back to their constituents and say: "You need have no fear, the Quebec Scheme will not be inflicted on this constituency. These Resolutions give plenipotentiares in the draw, these very men who assisted in the drawing, very men who Scheme, and when they meet the delegates from Canada what will they be able to say. Nothing, absolutely nothing—their mouths will be stopped. It is the Government given to the House any increased information by which they will be able to return to their people, and say, "The Quebec Scheme will be altered?" No, they are asked to go it blind, they have no information they can give more than hon. members already know. I say again, that for men to go to London and say, "We'll take the Quebec Scheme if we can't get anything better," is mere child's play. And to give out to the country that new negotiations will be opened, and then bring in a bold resolution like this, is to put things in a very unfair position. The Canadian Parliament having passed upon this Scheme, they are bound to its terms, and the Imperial Parliament must also be confined to it in all its features in their dealings with the delegates. I know that the British Government are in favor of that Scheme, and that alone. When in England with Judge Allen we asked Mr. Cardwell if any change could be effected in the terms of that Scheme, and he assured us that no important alteration would be allowed. When the Canadian delegates see that we are willing to take the Quebec Scheme, if we can do no better, they will not ask the House now in session for power to effect any change, but if they know that this House has confined the delegates to accept Union on certain conditions which they have laid down, the Canadian Government will, I am sure, at once ask and obtain leave to make such modifications as will meet with our wishes and requirements. They will ask for such delegated power as will enable them to make such concessions as are demanded by the Lower Provinces. Unless we do restrict the powers of our delegates, no such course will be taken, and they will not have the power to make alterations even though our delegates have the assurance to ask for them, and we shall have the Quebec Scheme, and the Quebec Scheme alone.

I will now come to the scheme which it is proposed by our Government to make the "basis," as they term it, for new negotiations, and I shall state my objections to that scheme pretty fully. And first there is a provision for the appointment of the representatives according to population.

"The basis of representation in the House of Commons shall be population,

as determined by the official census every ten years; and the number of members at first shall be 194, distributed as follows:

Upper Canada,	82
Lower Canada,	65
Nova Scotia,	19
New Brunswick,	15
Newfoundland,	8
Prince Edward Island,	5

In no other part of the British dominions is such a provision made for the representation. They have probably taken the idea from the plan adopted by the Constitution of the United States. There they have representation by population in the House of Representatives. But in the Senate it is provided that every State alike sends two Senators. And it must be remembered that the Senate of the United States have executive as well as legislative functions; they have power even to veto many of the acts of the President. What he does must have their approval and consent. Here they have a check on the House of Representatives. But under the provisions of this scheme, the people's House will be the all-important and all-powerful branch, for they will be able even to overturn the executive of the country. It is not so in the United States. But large as the House is, there is another provision that the number of representatives may be increased.

"Immediately after the completion of the census of 1871, (no change is to take place till that time,) and immediately after every decennial census thereafter, the representation from each section of the House of Commons shall be readjusted on the basis of population."

There is then to be a new arrangement every ten years, and we should, therefore, all the more require that there should be some check to this great power. Under this scheme it is evident that Canada will become the all-important power, and I therefore invoke the aid of hon. members of this House to ask for some further checks in our favor in the second branch over the lower. I warn the delegates against admitting this to pass as part of the scheme of Union, and I ask them in the name of a common interest and a common country to deliberate well on this point.

While the framers of this scheme have copied this provision from the United States, have they given us the same checks as are provided there? Not at all. There every State, large and small, send one representative to the Senate, but here the provision is,

"Upper Canada shall be represented in the Legislative Council by 24 members, Lower Canada by 24 members, and

the three Maritime Provinces by 24 members, of which Nova Scotia shall have 10, New Brunswick 10, and Prince Edward Island 4 members."

This Canada is not only to have the great majority in the Lower House, but in the Legislative Council she is to be represented by 48 members, whilst all the Lower Provinces will only have 24. We are told that Canada sympathises with us, that the men in power there have no desire to override us, or infringe on our rights. Even were this the case, we must remember, Mr. Speaker, that men pass away, that they are transitory, and men may arise in the future who will abuse the power they possess to our ruin. Let us then see that we have conceded, not as an indulgence but as a right, the proper checks in the Upper Branch. New Brunswick has by this arrangement but ten members to their 24 each. It may be asked why we should have an equal number with them in the second branch? I say because they have full power and control in the Lower House. I again repeat, we have come here to express our opinions and form a judgment with regard to a subject that is to affect for all time our common welfare and our common country, and it behooves us to look carefully into every matter that concerns us. I may be wrong, and it is possible that my voice will have no effect in obviating the difficulties that surround us. I am aware that I have no power, but the Government have all power at the present time, and I ask them not to be bound by a previously expressed opinion on this subject. I say that we should have at least an equal number of representatives in the Legislative Council with Upper and Lower Canada. There is another reason why this should be, for it is provided that the members of that Council

"Shall be appointed by the Crown, under the Great Seal of the General Government, and shall hold office during life."

In the United States the Senators are elected by the people, and not for life, but one-third of their numbers every two years. But here they acknowledge no sway from the people, and with all this Canada is to have a two-third's majority in that House.

Then there is a point that has been omitted from the Scheme altogether. I do not know whether it was intended or not, but it is certain that there is no provision made that the Legislative Councillors should reside in the districts they represent. Now we know that in the selection of these men, at first they can't go outside of the body up stairs, and there is nothing to prevent their going out of this Province to live. The temptation is very strong to men in the decline of life, to desire to be in a position of social quiet and to secure a status in society,