

*Newfoundland*

in the House of Commons, I do not see how we can adopt the motion without an amendment to the effect that it has not yet been adopted by the Senate. The wording of the motion is wrong. If we vote in favour of that motion, we approve a procedure which has not been rightly drafted. My point of order is that the motion should be amended accordingly or the debate should be adjourned until the Senate has passed the bill in all stages.

**Mr. St. Laurent:** Speaking to the point of order, I would invite the hon. member to read the resolution. It is a resolution that a petition be presented jointly by the two houses of parliament. The hon. member can have the assurance that the petition will not be presented until parliament has finally disposed of the bill; and when it is presented it will be true that parliament will have approved the measure in question.

I take it that I am concluding the debate. I would not want to go on at this point if there are other members who wish to speak.

**Mr. Knowles:** On a point of order, certainly I do not wish to speak, but if the Prime Minister speaks now he is speaking to the previous question which was moved by the hon. member for Peel (Mr. Graydon). He can speak again later on.

**Mr. St. Laurent:** The previous question prevents any amendment of the main motion. The previous question having been moved, nothing else can be decided but the main motion. There does not have to be a previous decision on the previous question. The moving of the previous question prevents any other matter but the main motion being put to the house. All those who are entitled to speak on the main motion may of course do so now. If there are others who wish to speak, I will not do so at this moment, because I would be closing the debate.

**Mr. Graydon:** I am not sure, Mr. Speaker, that the Prime Minister has fully appreciated the point that is involved here. The debate to which I referred when I was moving the motion in the original instance, that is, on July 5, 1943, bears out, I think, my understanding that the motion then was on all fours with this, both as to the substance of the resolution and as to the procedure. I think the Prime Minister will readily see that there are two matters to be disposed of. One is the motion I made, seconded by the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Green), that the question be now put. If the Prime Minister will turn to page 4367 of *Hansard* of July 5, 1943, he will find that the first motion put there was the motion of the

right hon. member for Glengarry, then Prime Minister, who moved at that time that the question be now put. That motion was then decided by a vote of the house. When that motion had been disposed of, the Speaker then said, "The question is on the main motion", which was the motion moved by the then Minister of Justice, now Prime Minister; and upon that motion the house decided. But there were two different motions which had to be disposed of by the house, by means of a vote or otherwise.

**Mr. St. Laurent:** The whole of the debate must take place before either of the motions is put. When the motion "that the question be now put" has been affirmed, it is immediately put.

**Mr. Knowles:** But it might be defeated.

**Mr. St. Laurent:** If it is defeated, of course the debate goes on.

**Mr. Graydon:** That is right.

**Mr. St. Laurent:** But if it is agreed to, the question is immediately put. If I have anything to say on the main motion, I must say it now; otherwise, in the event of the previous question being adopted by the house, I would be deprived of my right of saying it.

**Mr. Graydon:** That is quite right.

**Mr. St. Laurent:** On the main motion, I merely wish to make two short points. The first is that should the attitude announced by the leader of the opposition be the attitude of the house—that is to say, that this motion be rejected—that would mean that there would be no union of Newfoundland with Canada on the terms that have been approved by this house.

**Mr. Rowe:** Not necessarily.

**Mr. St. Laurent:** Yes, it would; because, unless there is a petition, there cannot be a bill in the parliament of the United Kingdom. And unless there is a bill in the parliament of the United Kingdom, receiving the royal assent before March 31, 1949, all the work that has been done up to this time falls by the wayside and must be started over again. The second point I wish to make is this. I would ask Mr. Speaker, when putting the main motion, to call for the yeas and nays so that all members of this house, on this historic occasion, may have the privilege of standing up and letting their fellow members in this house and their fellow Canadians know what their position is.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question before the house is the motion moved by the hon. member for Peel (Mr. Graydon) and seconded by the hon.