

*Newfoundland*

reference can hardly be serious. The Tories say in effect: "Let us, the Canadian parliament, make a decision with reference to the terms of union, which matters are within the competence of parliament and then, having arrived at a conclusion as to what are satisfactory terms, submit the agreement, upon which we are in concurrence, to the vote, and possible veto, of the provinces. That most certainly is a travesty of confederation."

In his resolution the Tory leader says that nothing must be done until there is what he calls "a satisfactory conclusion" of the dealings, negotiations, consultations or whatever you wish to call them, with the nine provinces. He is careful not to say what he means by "a satisfactory conclusion". We cannot tell whether he means that he would be willing to let Newfoundland into confederation as a new province if three-quarters of the provinces agreed, whether he would be satisfied with a two-thirds count, or whether he would be satisfied with a mere majority. As it stands now, he commits himself to the principle of the veto. What his resolution means is that he will not allow Newfoundland to become part of Canada unless and until some of his Tory premier friends have expressed their acquiescence.

**An hon. Member:** Which one?

**Mr. Maybank:** It is not hard now to indicate which one. I suggest that it is a big price for any party to pay for the support of one individual or several individuals. It means that they are ready to play fast and loose with this serious question of bringing Newfoundland into confederation. They are willing to play fast and loose with that serious question in order to get the support of Premier Duplessis of Quebec.

The odd thing about it is that they can sit there and laugh with glee at the trick they are attempting to play.

**Mr. Drew:** We are just laughing at you.

**An hon. Member:** You do not see what we see.

**Mr. Maybank:** That is right. They do not see what I see and I do not see what they see.

**Mr. Abbott:** Not bad.

**Mr. Knowles:** The blind leading the blind.

**Mr. Maybank:** I am bearing up under the terrible view in front of me. I am keeping my humour despite the horrendous vista before me.

**Mr. Rowe:** That is about all you have got.

**Mr. Maybank:** There is another thing I might say to those who made reference to that which they could see, and by inference to that which I could see. They might as well

make up their minds now that they are not going to yell me down, or make noises on their desks or with their feet or in any other way, and succeed in stopping me.

**Mr. Fraser:** We are enjoying it. We would have to pay half a dollar to see a show.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Maybank:** It is a great thing when people will pay half a dollar to see themselves as a show—and a rather poor show they are making in this particular matter. People who would put forward this kind of proposition, which is patently insincere or crazy, are surely pretty irresponsible people when they can sit there and laugh about it.

**An hon. Member:** We are laughing at you.

**Mr. Maybank:** Their position is that they are willing to give a veto to one man on this very important question in order to obtain his continued support. That is what it amounts to. You know, I am not sure but what something has been paid already. This may be the pay-off. Maurice has helped very substantially in Nicolet-Yamaska, and this is their payment, the payment to him.

**Mr. Rowe:** It might be your pay-off, too.

**Mr. Maybank:** I can say to the hon. gentleman who interrupted with that cynical remark that if I had to win by this kind of sale I never would win at all. I should like to appeal to some of those fine, decent men over there to stop this Tory business of endeavouring to buy their way into Quebec.

As I speak, something reminds me of Walter Savage Landor, who has written a few volumes of very fine stories under the title, "Imaginary Conversations". They are very interesting. I would recommend that the hon. members opposite read some of them. They would find much that would be helpful. I was playing with the idea of what Landor could do in writing another story. It could be a conversation between the premier of Ontario and the premier of Quebec. I suppose the imaginary conversation would have been something like this: "Well, now, look, Maurice, you may depend upon this. There will never be anything done of a constitutional nature without your having the last say. I can assure you of that, Maurice." The reply would be, "Well, George, remember if you do not keep that promise I can ruin you just as quickly as I can make you."

Some of these men who are pinning their faith on the same sort of thing that their party has attempted before had better remember that their good friend, Maurice, can ruin them just as quickly as he can make them, if he can "make" them at all. They had better remember that. They will always have to pay