

Newfoundland

crown, a very responsible minister, for under his direction is the national defence of this country. In the world in which we are now living, that is an extremely important department. Surely, he is not going to say that, in his department, he does not anticipate what is going to happen in the future. One would expect he would look ahead. Surely, he must have been farsighted enough to realize the possibility of an amendment such as this being brought in at this time, whereby the matter could be referred to the provinces.

If the amendment had been made before the bill was passed, as I said before, it would have constituted a non-confidence vote. At that time, we could have been accused of holding up the measure. But we did not hold it up, we co-operated in seeing that the measure was passed. Now that it has passed, all we ask is that the sovereign rights of the provinces be preserved and that they be consulted in this matter. The amendment is a

reasonable one. Its passage will be a magnanimous gesture towards the provinces and will surely satisfy the people of Newfoundland that they can be welcomed into Canada with unanimity. For that reason, Mr. Speaker, I am voting for the amendment.

On motion of Mr. Raymond (Beauharnois-Laprairie) the debate was adjourned.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. St. Laurent moved the adjournment of the house.

Mr. Graydon: What is the order of business for tomorrow?

Mr. St. Laurent: We will continue this debate and then take up the act to amend the statutes.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 10.56 p.m.
