

sentimental relations will be favourable to Canada and to the British empire. We have heard a great deal of imperialism in this country. Not long ago noble sentiments were expressed by the hon. member for Victoria and Haliburton (Mr. Sam. Hughes), and certainly there is something which appeals to the intelligence of every Canadian in the word 'imperialism' owing to the debt of gratitude we owe and of the continued gratitude which we expect to entertain for the British empire. I believe that for many years to come, for the present at least in my judgment, the best imperialism which we can offer to the British empire would be for the Canadians to produce all the wheat and all the breadstuffs which her millions of artisans in the cities of London, Liverpool and Manchester require and which they have neither the means, the time nor the land to produce, and to have those immense quantities of wheat and breadstuffs transported through Canadian channels and Canadian ports to the ports of England, Scotland and Ireland.

The prospects of those new provinces are certainly brilliant and it became no doubt a hard task for this government and for the right hon. gentleman who leads the government (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) to raise the foundation upon which these two provinces will be best able to work out their destiny and the fullest development of their progress, moral and material. Our constitution gives the government of this country many powers in the making of new provinces, and no doubt when a portion of country comes and calls at the door of this parliament asking for provincial rights, the people of that portion of the Dominion naturally expect all the freedom and opportunities possible under the constitution. It becomes then the duty of the government and of the Prime Minister to allow such rights as may be commensurate with their future happiness and prosperity. The government has to give them that right of going to seek for their future prosperity that a father gives to his child, whom he sees going from him. While the father gives his son a portion of his territory, he shows still greater attention and greater parental sentiment, when he says: My child, I give you a certain domain, but I shall not leave you all alone, I shall continue to help you with my credit and my means in order to allow you to develop that domain as rapidly as possible without encumbrance upon yourself. When this question arose the question of land was no doubt one that first attracted the attention of the right hon. the premier and his government. No doubt a certain class of people in those Territories, at first sight, may have thought, and thought properly in their judgment, that they should have a claim to the lands, to the vast prairies, to the millions of acres which are still unsettled, and the development of which will require millions of

dollars in order to be able to bring immigration sufficient for the development of those lands, and to maintain the credit of those provinces by keeping up a steady flow of immigration. Let us for a moment consider the position of the people of those provinces in reference to the possession of those lands. The moment those lands are transferred to them the people of these provinces would have to meet the expenses of that immigration of which I have spoken, they would have to continue the immense payments for immigration agents in the different countries, they would have to pay the expenses of their land agents, and we know what a risk there is of a province under her own credit, and with her own single resources, no matter how wealthy that province may be, falling into some bad policy which would be sufficient to at once arrest the tide of immigration and divert it to some other country. If, therefore, we compare the difference in the monetary terms granted to the people of these provinces, Saskatchewan and Alberta, as they are now, and as they would be if the government had given the public lands to the provinces, we find that if they had the lands they would then not only have to meet the expenses of immigration, but they would have no compensation for the lands. Now, when they do not get the title to the lands, they receive compensation instead, and therefore instead of paying large sums of money, which will continue to be paid by this government, they will have the benefit of the credit of the government, of the credit of the nation, and I claim this evening, Mr. Speaker, that if the government of Canada, if the nation of Canada were to withdraw her credit as well as her means from the facilities for immigration to these provinces, that might be sufficient to divert the current of immigration again to the country to the south of us, and therefore expose our provinces to the loss of innumerable immigrants. Section 19 reads thus:

Inasmuch as the public lands in the said province are to remain the property of Canada, there shall be paid by Canada to the said province annually by way of compensation therefor a sum based upon the estimated value of such lands, namely, \$37,500,000, the said lands being assumed to be of an area of 25,000,000 acres and to be of the value of \$1.50 per acre, and upon the population of the said province, as from time to time ascertained by the quinquennial census thereof, such sum to be arrived at as follows:

The population of the said province being assumed to be at present 250,000, the sum payable until such population reaches 400,000 is to be one per cent on such estimated value, or \$375,000.

The people of the province of Alberta or Saskatchewan will receive annually at first a sum of \$375,000 to provide for their local needs, having the benefit, at the same time