

very few people can at present realize. Fortunately the territorial government has been so far most satisfactory and we must be careful now not to undo any of the good work that has been done in the past.

The first provision of this Bill which I want to discuss relates to the financial terms arranged for the new provinces. They, of course, are the most important ones, at least they are very important to the well-being of the provinces, and looking at them as a whole I may say that the representatives of the Territories are satisfied with the provision which has been made. I believe that the income which has been provided for them will enable them to conduct their internal affairs in a satisfactory manner. They are not in the position of remittance men. They have had a fair settlement and they can go on and develop the country in a perfectly independent manner. Each province will have over a million dollars to start with and as their population increases so will their income, and thus they will have increasing means with the increasing demands which will be made upon them for the support and establishment of schools, roads and different public improvements of one kind or another. If the lands were handed over to the provinces they have to be used immediately as a source of income. We would have to get revenue out of them. The present policy of the Dominion government is to settle the lands and not to make them a revenue-producing property. Every settler that goes into the Northwest is a valuable asset to the Dominion of Canada. He contributes to the general revenue so that it is a great benefit to the Dominion, and looking at it from the purely financial point of view it is proper that the government should get as many settlers into the country as possible, but as these settlers necessitate expenditure on the part of the provinces it is also necessary that their income should increase with the advent of new people. If the lands had been handed over to the new provinces it would be a most difficult matter to determine the interests of each. A large amount of land in the Territories has already been disposed of and it will be almost impossible to say how much was taken from one or the other and to adjust matters between them. Under the proposition as adopted all trouble of this kind is avoided and there is no material for dispute between the provinces. Both are satisfied with the liberality of the terms and feel that they have been fairly dealt with. Many possible complications have been disposed of by this settlement and there is no room for further discussion in the matter.

In regard to the boundary question, I believe that the division of the Territories has been a most ideal one. There was at one time some difference of opinion as to where the line should be. Many people con-

Mr. ADAMSON,

sidered that the north country, bounded by the North Saskatchewan river, should be made into one province and that the south country should be made into another province. I myself at one time held that opinion, but on further considering the matter and hearing the views of others expressed, I can easily see that this is an equally good division, and we are all satisfied with it. Only one objection, and one only, has been raised against the dividing line decided on, and on examination that objection proves to have very little force. The hon. member for Calgary (Mr. M. S. McCarthy) states that the 104th meridian will divide the ranching country and that confusion is likely to arise between the different cattle brands in the new provinces. If this objection were a valid one, it would entail taking the boundary east to the western boundary of Manitoba, which would be out of the question. There are cattle brands extending all over that country, and therefore the adoption of another boundary would not remove what he regards as a serious objection. It would entail making this whole territory into one province. I consider then that the present dividing line is as nearly ideal as is possible, and that the two provinces will be closely equal in their present population, in their prospects of increased population, in their natural resources and in the income which is at their disposal.

There has been much discussion on the subject of the extension of the Manitoba boundaries to the west. On this question I am fully in accord with the sentiments of the hon. member for East Assiniboia (Mr. Turriff) and the hon. member for Saskatchewan (Mr. Lamont). To quote the words of the latter gentleman, I believe that if such an extension were seriously contemplated it would raise such a storm in the west that our friends of the opposition who talk so persistently of the agitation of public opinion, of conflagrations and storms, would really see what a Northwest hurricane does mean. In this case they would not have to whistle for a breeze. The storm would be on them in very short order. There is no question, Mr. Speaker, as to the temper of the west on this subject. Public opinion is crystallized, and they have very clear-cut ideas on the subject. That opinion is growing every day. There was a time when union with Manitoba might have been accepted, but dating from the day of that meeting held at Indian Head, a joint meeting which Mr. Haultain and Mr. Roblin, premier of Manitoba, attended, and at which meeting Mr. Roblin actually threatened to hold up the Northwest Territories if they did not accede to his desires in this matter, there has been a change of sentiment. From the moment that Mr. Roblin attempted to tell these people that if they did not consent to join with Manitoba, if they did not fall in with his views at that time expressed, he would make certain reprisals upon them, a feeling