

for the lands taken away from them by this government. A good deal has been said as to what the provinces would do, should the lands be handed over to them, for money to carry on the government. I may state that there have during the last few years been large sales of coal lands made. That is one way in which a revenue could be obtained by the new provinces. I understand that within the last two years a sale of coal lands amounting to about \$300,000 was made to one n.a.n. That information may not be correct but I saw the report in several papers. If that is true it applies to a very small portion of our coal lands. I understand that large sales are being made continually to outside corporations. I understand that Jim Hill has, in the neighbourhood of Pincher Creek where I live, 10,000 acres of coal lands. I do not know what he has paid for them; I do not know, in fact, whether he owns the lands or not, but it is generally supposed that he owns them, and if he paid the same price for these lands that other people are paying for similar lands the amount will be quite considerable. Other coal lands are being sold from time to time. That is one source from which a considerable amount of revenue would be received by the new provinces.

Another way in which, I think, it would be very expedient for the government to deal with a portion of the Northwest lands would be to grant a pre-emption to settlers. I do not know whether it is generally accepted in this country or by members from the Northwest Territories, but in my locality it is considered that a quarter section of land is not sufficient for a homestead. I think this government should take into consideration the selling to homesteaders the odd quarter section adjoining their homesteads. As I understand the policy of the department at the present time there is no land for sale in the Northwest Territories to any person. I believe that is the present policy of the government. No doubt they will sell in time, and I do not see any reason why they should refrain from selling land to settlers. We know they have been selling it to corporations. I am quite sincere in what I say in reference to placing these odd sections at the disposal of homesteaders in addition to their homesteads. I think the government could sell this land at a good price, and I do not think they could sell it to any better people than the homesteaders, selling it to them at the price of railway lands, for instance. I say the time will come very soon, when, if even the Dominion government retain these lands, they will be putting up the price; they will not be giving these lands as free homesteads. I do not think it is justice to the pioneers who have gone in and settled that country, taken up land and advanced its value until to-day it is worth \$5 to \$10 an acre, in fact from

Mr. HERRON.

\$7 to \$20 an acre and then to allow new settlers to go in and get that land for nothing the same as the early settlers did.

Mr. BOLE. Does the hon. gentleman (Mr. Herron) advocate homesteading the odd sections?

Mr. HERRON. Yes, certainly for the present, but I believe it will not continue very long. I do not think it should continue very long. The point I am making is that the land is worth from \$10 to \$20 an acre, and I do not think the government should continue very long to give that away.

Mr. BOLE. I was wondering where they were going to get the revenue to run the government.

Mr. HERRON. I have named one or two sources of revenue from which we could get perhaps as much money as we are getting under the present Bill. I believe we could derive a large revenue from the sale of our mineral lands in that country for some years to come, and with the revenue that will come to the provinces under this Bill, I do not see how they are going to provide for provincial services. The amount allotted for the first year under this Bill could be spent in my own district alone, and then it would not half supply the needs of the district in building roads and bridges and other things which are absolutely necessary. Hon. gentlemen on the other side of the House know that when the Territorial government was giving us \$700,000 or \$800,000 a year there were applications in for the expenditure of \$15,000,000, which large sum could be very judiciously applied to meet the wants of the people.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. This afternoon the hon. member for Assiniboia (Mr. Scott) read an extract from a speech of mine that I had—

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Forgotten.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. No; but I was wondering how he could possibly make the views therein expressed conflict with my present views. I did say something about the recklessness of legislatures voting away the property of the people, but I was speaking of all legislatures, including the Dominion parliament. It must be remembered that these legislatures, which so cheerfully gave away the heritage of the people, were nearly all under Liberal governments, but a change is taking place now. There has been a change in my own province, and two minutes ago I received this telegram from Toronto, which shows what a Conservative government is doing to protect the interests of the people:

Whitney announces that Order in Council granting Electric Development Company power to develop extra 25,000 horse-power will not be ratified.