

which they are debarred in lands from which they come.

The making of this new province, or these new provinces, as the case may be will establish a continuous line of provinces from sea to sea, and will, to a certain extent, round off confederation. As a result of this growth which I have but roughly outlined, a great change has been coming over Canada. Our outlook has widened during the thirty-eight years that have gone. We have ceased to view matters from a provincial or narrow point of view; our outlook has become a Dominion, a continental one. And, especially during the last eight years has this development gone on in so remarkable a degree that I may be pardoned for referring to it. One of the advantages of this marked advance of the last eight years is that old race and creed issues have been forgotten, and from sea to sea men do not now stop to consider these things, but we realize in a way we never did before that we are Canadians one and all. There is coming to Canada, but more particularly to young Canada, a realization of the great resources and extent of our country which was not present with us even a few years ago. When we recall that, in Canada we have an area that is more than one-third of the whole British empire, and as that idea has permeated the whole life of our people, there has grown a patriotic pride and a feeling of interest in and devotion to our country which, in other nations and in other times, it has required the stern teaching of war to evoke. And our pride in our institutions, in our literature, in our rapid growth in national life, has been enhanced by our faith in our country's resources, and by a realization of the fact that during the past eight years our trade increase has exceeded that of every other country in the history of the world. I have already given some figures showing our position at the time of confederation. To-day, our railway mileage exceeds 20,000 miles; our postal revenue is over \$6,000,000 a year; the deposits in our banks instead of being \$38,000,000, as they were thirty-eight years ago, are close upon \$600,000,000. Once these facts are realized, we contemplate the position of Canada with growing exultation and pride. We realize that here in Canada, we have all the elements by which we may become the great flour, paper, cheese, butter and provision producer, as well as the great woodenware manufacturing centre of the world. These natural conditions are beginning to be appreciated, and are certain of early exploitation. But our outlook widening, as it has been on the federal and continental side, looks also toward the imperial field; and I am proud to say that I believe there is not in Canada any desire for any other future than in connection with the great empire to which we belong. At the same time, we should remember that he who would artificially or un-

naturally hasten the solution of the problem of our future relations to the empire may create the worst stumbling block in the way of reaching the end which he desires to see attained. There are those who are accustomed to say that Canada has done nothing towards paying her debt of gratitude to the empire. I think they forget the efforts that have been put forth by Canada, and the help that has been rendered by Canada in constructing already one great transcontinental line and preparing for the immediate construction of another. The first of these already has been, and both of them must be, tremendous factors in binding the empire together, whether in peace or in war. In addition to that, Canada has shown herself, by her attitude at the time of the South African war, to be ready to stand by the empire in the hour of national necessity. We are going on with the inception of a Canadian navy—a small navy it may be, but we are moving along the proper line by arranging that when Canada spends her money on behalf of the empire she shall oversee that expenditure. It may be true—it is true—that Canada must make some sacrifices in order that the problem of the empire may be solved. Those of us who believe in imperial connection and the future of the empire are ready that these sacrifices should be made. At the same time, Canada's interests must be guarded, and there must be corresponding sacrifices in every other part of the empire, in order that a harmonious and a successful future may be assured.

The next paragraph of the address to which I will refer announces that satisfactory progress has been made in carrying out the policy of a national transcontinental railway which was approved by parliament two years ago and reaffirmed last session.

I am sure that hon. gentlemen opposite appreciate to-day, perhaps more even than they did in the past, the great importance to Canada of carrying to a successful issue the construction of this great railway. It is only fair to say that, although some of these hon. gentlemen, at the inception of this proposition, were disposed to combat the idea that the new Transcontinental Railway was necessary, at the conclusion of the discussion of that question, they frankly admitted that it was a good thing to have the new railway. But they interjected into the discussion a proposition which was utterly opposed to all the traditions of their party, when they suggested the government ownership and operation of that railway. To-day, I am sure, they will join with us in the satisfaction we all feel in learning that a great many of the difficulties that were expected in the inauguration of this enterprise are rapidly disappearing. Thus, we were told that the country through which the railway is to pass between Quebec and Winnipeg was a country of muskeg and stunted poplar. I am