

ASSEMBLY OPENED.

(Continued from Page 4.)

granted the Territories to come here for subsidies, the rest of the country would be suffering. Railway commissions would no doubt be useful, and there was great scope for one, but while the commission was sitting our crops would have been harvested, and we would be pressing for our supplies to come in, and the transportation facilities would prove themselves entirely inadequate to the needs of this rapidly growing portion of the Dominion.

PUBLIC DOMAIN AND LEGISLATION.

On the subject of the public domain Mr. Haultain said their position was that they demanded that it be handed over to the Territories, and in the strongest possible manner they had protested against the alienation of any land for any purpose whatever except as homesteads to settlers. The time had passed when railways should be subsidised by land grants. The people of the country as a whole realised this, though perhaps the people of the East had not reached that conclusion on the same grounds as had the people of the West. If land grants in the West were given it simply meant that railways, built not alone for the benefit of the West, but for the benefit of the whole Dominion, would be paid by the people of the West alone.

Speaking of the proposed legislation making changes in some of the laws and providing for new laws, the Premier said that changing conditions required new laws. Conditions were changing here and he hoped would continue to change and require new laws and amendments for many years to come. It would be a very unhealthy sign were the country not in a state of transition for it would mean stagnation. They must continue to make new laws and alter the old ones.

In conclusion Mr. Haultain said he would not go further into the many important questions dealt with in the Speech from the Throne. These would come up again later. He had given notice of the appointment of a committee which would be representative of all parties in the House and all sections of the Territories to which would be referred the work of preparing a memorial to the Governor General in Council on the subjects of the constitutional and financial position of the Territories, the question of transportation and the public domain, and he hoped they would be able to deal with these matters in a broad way and unite on a memorial to Ottawa with regard to them couched in language at once strong and dignified. (Cheers.)

The address was then adopted without division, and ordered to be engrossed and the House adjourned.