

between the federal authorities and the Hudson Bay Company whereby the interests of the early settlers of that country were not properly protected. In consequence of that feeling the people of Manitoba in order to try and get satisfaction drew up a Bill of Rights which they, through their delegates, conveyed to this parliament. That Bill showed very clearly that the people of that time were not satisfied with the way in which they had been treated. This Bill of Rights reads as follows:—

That the Territories heretofore known as Rupert's Land and the Northwest shall not enter into the confederation of the Dominion of Canada at all except as a province to be styled and known as the province of Assiniboia, and with all the rights and privileges common to the different provinces of the Dominion.

Further :

That the local legislature of the province of Assiniboia shall have full control over all the public lands of the province.

Now, Sir, this Bill of Rights sets out the two things that we as a province have always contended for and are contending for to-day, that is an increase of territory and also the control of our public lands.

At six o'clock, House took recess.

After Recess.

House resumed at eight o'clock.

Mr. STAPLES. Mr. Speaker, when the House rose at six o'clock I was speaking of the unhappy condition of affairs that existed in the province of Manitoba when the Dominion government for the first time undertook to exercise jurisdiction over that province. I also spoke of the financial conditions upon which the province entered confederation, and by reference to the terms of union it will be seen that the financial position accorded the province was, when all sources were reckoned, \$67,204.50, and with this stipend, the province entered upon the performance of local self-government.

It was not long, however, in consequence of new settlers coming into the province, that the exigencies of responsible government began to be manifest, and four years had not expired until the pressing expenditures exceeded the subsidy from the Dominion by \$150,000, and representations were brought to bear on the federal authorities that the financial condition of the province must be improved materially, in order to provide for pressing needs and necessities. The result of frequent correspondence and interviews brought about an adjustment of things which gave to the province in 1873 about \$5,000 a year, thus raising the total to \$72,000.

In 1875, owing to withdrawals from capital account, the allowance had shrunk to \$65,000 and the necessity for another ap-

peal became apparent, which resulted in a readjustment, giving the province, as a subsidy, \$90,000 a year. In 1880, the subsidy went from \$90,000 to \$105,000 and again in 1882 there was an increase to \$227,153.04.

In 1885, by what is known as 'the better terms agreement,' there was a re-adjustment of the per capita allowance to the province, by which the province was to receive annually \$120,000, based on an estimated population of 150,000 at eighty cents per head, to be increased on a census basis after the population exceeded 150,000, until the population reached 400,000 souls. The capital sum was also readjusted to be calculated on a population of 125,000. Provision was made that the province should annually receive \$50,000 for support of government, and \$100,000 for want of public lands. This arrangement has been effective since 1885, the last subsidy received from the Dominion (year, 1904) being as follows :

Yearly allowance on population of 255,211 at 80 cents per head.. . . .	\$204,168 80
One year on additional population of 94,789.. . . .	75,831 20
	<hr/> \$280,000 00
Yearly allowance for government....	50,000 00
Yearly allowance in lieu of lands..	100,000 00
Interest on capital account.. . . .	178,947 06
	<hr/> \$608,947 06
Less expended on swamp lands to June 30, 1903.. . . .	29,885 67
	<hr/> \$579,061 39

The foregoing narrative amply shows that from time to time since Manitoba became confederated with Canada, the terms accorded at that time were wholly inadequate for a growing community and the rearing of a substantial provincial superstructure, and the cause of constant complaint. At the present time, the position of the province, owing to large increase of settlement, and consequent demands is, if anything, intensified, the revenue received being wholly inadequate to necessities for future advancement and development, and the time has now arrived, in my opinion that just and equitable assistance should be extended to the province, as a matter of right, as will enable the affairs and requirements of the government to be fully and satisfactorily dealt with.

It is well known, and should be readily admitted by the federal authorities, that the burden of development of Manitoba has been imposed upon the province with limited revenue, and it may be observed that this embarrassment is added to by the Dominion government inviting people from all countries to settle in Manitoba and the west. It is, moreover, a reasonable conclusion that on the heels of a settlement, rapidly follow the demand for railway facilities, schools, roads, bridges, and the neces-

Mr. STAPLES.