

of all that the government of Canada can do with its wealth and its credit to send immigrants to fill up their vacant lands. And when the population reaches a larger number this annual payment increases. This alone, in my judgment, is enough to prove to the people of the Territories that the government has been most careful and paternal in retaining the lands and undertaking the expenditure on immigration, and placing more money at their disposal for the first years—and this is most important—to be spent in meeting provincial requirements. Then we have heard a great deal lately about the boundaries established for these provinces, and the government has been taken to task for not having extended the boundaries of Manitoba westward, thus taking from the new provinces a portion of their lands and a portion of their population. I would like to ask some of the residents of the province of Saskatchewan, especially some of the people who live on the borders of Manitoba, and who, as is now proposed, will belong to the new provinces that have no liabilities, whether it would be more in their interest that they should remain in the new province or should join the province of Manitoba and share its liabilities, its financial endorsements and financial responsibilities. I have no doubt that the people of Saskatchewan have been strongly and urgently representing to the government of Canada that they should be allowed to remain within the limits of the new province. The new provinces are going into the union without any debt, and they are to receive from the government of Canada half-yearly in advance interest at the rate of 5 per cent on the sum of \$8,107,500, or a total of \$405,170 each. The people that would be taken away from the province of Saskatchewan and added to the province of Manitoba would be deprived of the benefit of that payment, and, moreover, they would be shackled by the participation in the liabilities of Manitoba. I do not wonder that every member from the Northwest Territories on this side of the House has been so decided and so urgent in his expressions of opinion on behalf of the people. It has been my good fortune lately to visit the district of Saskatchewan and to hear the expressions of opinion by the people, in the trains and hotels and also in their homes, and I have found them practically unanimous in the desire to be by themselves; and they want to have two provinces, or even three provinces established, lest there should be any risk of their being joined to Manitoba. The people of the Northwest Territories are a business people, and they look at the question of provincial rights and opportunities from a business standpoint. It is not the course of a man of the Northwest to neglect any possible advantage, for he knows that in these days he must progress rapidly if he wants to progress at all. The people there understand

Mr. TURGEON.

the future and know the vast possibilities of their resources of land, forest and mines. The virtues of all nationalities can be usefully combined to make that new country prosperous. I will not undertake to discuss from the legal point of view the rights of the Crown within the province or within the Dominion government. I am not gifted with the legal training or knowledge required to do so. But speaking from a common sense point of view, I believe that every man in the Northwest, as well as every man in the east, will admit that the Dominion government has bought and paid for the lands of the Northwest. And now, when the parliament of Canada is called upon to give provincial rights and privileges to the people of the two new provinces, it is our duty to give them the best we know and can give in order to ensure their development and future stability and prosperity. We are legislating for the happiness and prosperity of millions of Christian and British families that will be there at the end of the century, all united in a true Canadian sentiment, and, as I have said, at the same time in a true British sentiment, which will be to our advantage. In this country we do not look forward to independence, and much less to annexation; we look for continued relations with the mother country, and relations which will grow closer all the time. As I said, give us prosperity, give us trade, give us wheat, give us coal, give us gold, give us lumber in the west, and you will have a constantly growing sentiment of loyalty to the British empire all the time. We may expect to see, through a development of navigation in Hudson bay, a revolution in the trade and in the financial conditions of American and European countries.

It has been said that Manitoba should have at once an extension of territory, if not to the west, then to the north. Mr. Speaker, we have a valuable country, the immense wealth of which is not yet suspected. I suspect it, perhaps, because I have taken an interest in it all my lifetime and made a lengthy visit into that country. I know that the people of my county take a great interest in that country also. It is my practice at home, whenever I pass by a school house in the county of Gloucester to go in and give a few words of encouragement to the pupils, and I always make it a point to call their attention to the inconceivable possibilities of our extensive territory to the Northwest, and to inspire in their breasts an irresistible sentiment of patriotism and pride in the immense prospects which the development of navigation to the Hudson bay will open up to all the people of Canada. In regard to the extension of the boundaries of Manitoba, I think the government of this country has acted wisely and prudently, and that the people of the west will in future thank them for it, because that development requires further study. It is a question that affects not