

Bill discussion in a way that was most diabolical. The facts have already been fully given by the right hon. First Minister, but they will bear repeating. Mr. Rogers begged an interview of the government on the boundary question and afterwards published a statement intended to lead the public to believe that he came to Ottawa at the solicitation of the right hon. First Minister. He and Mr. Campbell urged on the premier and his associates the extension of Manitoba's boundaries to the westward and to Hudson bay. Naturally they were informed that it could not possibly be done unless the other provinces were consulted in regard to the question. The hon. the Postmaster General (Sir William Mulock) was very emphatic in the statement that no extension of their territory should take place, and that Ontario must be heard on this important question as it had rights in this matter. The hon. Postmaster General insisted upon this province being heard while Mr. Rogers, in the meantime, insisted that Ontario had no rights in the matter. But the hon. Postmaster General, as the representative of this province, stood firm on this question, as he always stands on every question which is for the benefit of the country. He withdrew from the conference and the matter was at an end. Now, the plotting began. The Manitoba delegate waited on the Papal ablegate and got him, no doubt at his suggestion, to put into writing his wishes in regard to the education of the minority in the province of Manitoba. This private document, of which the government had no knowledge until it was made public by Mr. Rogers, was used to make political capital in the interests of Dominion Conservatives and they made a useless effort to lead the public to believe that they were promised that if they would grant the wish of the ablegate their boundaries would be extended. While all this was taking place no doubt the delegates were thinking of the words of the Postmaster General that no extension could take place, and also of the words of the right hon. First Minister in introducing the Bill on February 21st when he said that no extension could take place until the sister provinces were consulted on this matter. The right hon. Prime Minister at this time said that he had the authority of his colleagues to make that announcement. The provinces of Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan must meet here and decide on the important question of the division of this particular territory in the interests of all the people connected with the question. Yet, in the light of these statements made to the Manitoba delegates in private conference and from the floor of this House, they had the stupid impudence to insinuate that the government were prepared to make a crooked deal with them. Their plot had not even the merit of cleverness.

Saskatchewan has been heard from. The

Mr. DERBYSHIRE.

western members who have been indifferent in regard to the school clauses, have expressed themselves with great indignation at the suggestion of having any part of their territory annexed to Manitoba. In nothing is the Autonomy Bill wiser than in the boundary clause. Manitoba can rest assured that justice will be done her. The boundaries of the new provinces have been honestly marked out; Manitoba and Ontario will both have their boundaries extended, and in such a way that the harmony that has been in Canada since 1896 will continue to reign under the Liberal government for the balance of the twentieth century. The action of the government in regard to the lands of the Northwest shows equally good judgment, and the decision that the Dominion lands shall continue to be invested in the Crown and administered by the government of Canada for the benefit and for the purpose of Canada must meet with universal approval. The ex-Minister of the Interior (Mr. Sifton), the Minister of the Interior (Mr. Oliver) and the hon. member from West Assiniboia, all of whom are best capable of expressing themselves on this question have given their unreserved approval to this proposal. What Canada needs most is men and women. Anything that will tend to check immigration of the desirable class that is now rushing into the Northwest would be a serious misfortune to this country. The federal government has built up a fine immigration policy and it is best qualified to carry it on; any break or change in its management might have disastrous results. Great railways are being constructed with the expectation that within the next ten years the new provinces will have several millions of people; factories and wholesale establishments in the east have been increased and enlarged to meet the present demands, and in future they expect vastly greater results. Under the proposed arrangement, capital can rest assured that the country will continue to grow under the wise immigration policy that was inaugurated by the Hon. Mr. Sifton; a policy with which the new Minister of the Interior (Mr. Oliver) is thoroughly in accord. If the lands of the other provinces had been controlled by the federal government with a wide awake Minister of the Interior in charge, instead of an increase of the population of one half million or so for the last twenty years, the population of the country would have increased several millions. The older provinces are now beginning to wake up to imitate the policy of the federal government and a bright day is dawning. The tramp of the host of willing workers of the right class in all the provinces will be heard. The action of the government with regard to the lands of the new provinces necessitated the making of special financial arrangements, and criticism might have been expected with regard to this provision