

In the interest of the nervous members of this House I would ask him to be so kind in future as not to repeat the dose. I am not going to quote from newspapers as the hon. gentleman has, because if I did I would only be repeating what has been stated to this House over and over again. I believe that every newspaper from the Atlantic to the Pacific has been quoted in support of certain things which have happened in and out of this House with the exception of one paper and I do not think we require any further 'eye openers' from this source of information. I am not going to talk about King William and His Holiness the Pope as my hon. friend has done, but I will try and confine myself to the subject which is before the House. Nor am I going to introduce any personal history. I will direct my few remarks to the little postal stamp upon the map. I am proud to be a representative from the province of Manitoba, and what I say in reference to that province will be quite in touch with the different clauses of the Bill or relative to the remarks that the right hon. leader of the government made when he introduced that Bill. Unlike that hon. gentleman who has just taken his seat, I am not going to talk about everything except the Bill which is before us. I wonder if the constituents of that hon. gentleman sent him down here to make the harangue that he has made here this afternoon or to eulogize any particular person. I rather think not. I think his constituents sent him down here for the purpose of dealing with the subjects that concern this great country of ours. I may say, however, before proceeding further, that I have sat here patiently waiting for some hon. gentleman on the opposite side of the House who represents a constituency in Manitoba to say something in defence of the little province of Manitoba. I have sat here day after day and week after week waiting to hear from those hon. gentlemen on the other side of the House who are well qualified to defend that little province, much better qualified than I am, for example the hon. member who represents Lisgar (Mr. Greenway), in this House and who was premier of that province for twelve years has sat in his place and has not said one syllable in defence of that province. The hon. member who represents Selkirk (Mr. Jackson) and who sat in the Manitoba legislature for years has not said one word, and his colleague the hon. member for Portage la Prairie also sat in the local legislature has not one word to say in defence of Manitoba. Last but not least is the hon. ex-Minister of the Interior (Mr. Sifton) who got up and talked two and a half hours without having one word to say in defence of the little postal stamp upon the map.

We are dealing to-day with that great territory which was originally known as

Rupert's Land. We are dealing with it. I think, for the last time and I stand here in order to try and convince the hon. members of this House that the little postal stamp upon the map is not getting justice. I do not care to go into a detailed history of the province of Manitoba, but in order to lay the foundation upon which to state the facts, I think it would be wise and expedient to take a retrospective glance at the circumstances under which the province of Manitoba came into confederation. The territory which now constitutes the province of Manitoba originally belonged to Rupert's Land, a vast tract of country which was controlled by English capitalists who received a concession from the imperial government. They had jurisdiction over it for a great number of years until they surrendered their rights for a consideration of £300,000 and one-twentieth of the land and that great country was turned over to the Dominion of Canada. There is a great deal of history in connection with that country, and the way in which it was governed for many years, but I do not think that it is necessary that I should undertake to discuss that at the present time, because it has been referred to by hon. members this afternoon and anything I might say in so far as the province of Manitoba before it entered confederation is concerned would not perhaps add anything to the information of the House. But, Sir, I will proceed to point out to the House how the little province of Manitoba came into confederation. I will try to explain the circumstances under which that little province started to keep house. The terms and conditions embraced in the Act admitting Manitoba into confederation of Canada were chiefly:

1. Responsible government.
2. The payment of five per cent half-yearly on \$476,690 in lieu of no debt.
3. \$30,000 in support of government and legislature.
4. 80 cents per head on 17,000 souls, payable half-yearly with subsequent increases based on decennial census, until the population of the province amounted to 400,000, at which amount the grant should remain thereafter.
5. All public lands in province to be vested in the Dominion of Canada.

It is not necessary nor would it be wise for me at this particular crisis to undertake to tell of the unfortunate happenings which occurred when the Dominion of Canada first undertook the government and control of that Territory other than to say that when that country entered confederation the people of that district were by no means well satisfied, they thought that as the descendants of the early settlers who were placed in that country by the great Lord Selkirk who had governed the district of Assiniboia for a great many years they were not properly and justly dealt with. They felt in fact that the whole deal was a compact