

sity for increased accommodation in public institutions, and many other purposes consequent upon increased population, and that such should and must be extended, is no hallucination, but a grim reality.

I submit that the province of Manitoba should now, having taken its place in the front rank of confederation, receive at the hands of the federal authorities the same liberal treatment that was extended to the other provinces of the Dominion. This evidently was promised. The Honourable Joseph Howe, a prominent statesman of the day, who visited Manitoba in early days, stated :

I have conversed freely with all classes of the community, from Governor McTavish downwards, and to all, held the same language, that the same constitution as the provinces possessed, would ultimately be conferred upon the country.

There should surely be some sort of proportion between our revenue and our expenditures. As our population increases so should our power of providing for the wants of the people.

It is true that Manitoba, by reason of the fertility and fruitfulness of its soil, and as a field for profitable investment of capital in agricultural pursuits, commercial industries, and in divers other respects, has attracted, and is attracting, settlement of such phenomenal proportions over and above the usual quota of increase generally falling to the lot of new countries, and that through energy and determination, the agriculturist of Manitoba has succeeded in producing grain of a quality, and to a quantity, beyond the most sanguine expectations, but, although this is a matter of pride and for congratulation, it nevertheless carries with it increased responsibilities of such magnitude that the government of Manitoba, with the limited means at disposal, cannot view the situation other than with the gravest apprehension.

In proof of present necessities, in contrast with past periods in the history of Manitoba, and which bear evidence of being intensified by the rapid influx of population, which will multiply the cost of government, a few illustrations are given to substantiate the fact.

The population of Manitoba has increased over 1870, to the extent of 340,000 souls.

The number of schools have increased from 326 in 1884 to 1,335 in 1904, the school population from 7,000 in 1881 to 56,840 in 1904; the government grant to schools from \$29,242.70 in 1883 to over \$200,000 in 1904. The public institutions of the province are taxed to their utmost capacity, and the demands for municipal improvements are greatly increasing.

The people of Manitoba have been taxed to their utmost capacity and the demand for municipal improvements is continually growing. But, Sir, while that is the case, it

must not be forgotten that the little province of Manitoba has been no mean contributor to the exchequer of the Dominion, and if you will take the trouble to turn up the facts you will find that we are to-day contributing over a million and a half dollars annually. Therefore, I claim that we should get increased subsidies from this government, and more especially should we get them because we have been totally divested of our public domain. Manitoba at the time of confederation had lands of wide area and very valuable. These should be handed over to the province and the province should have its own public domain, and if you will follow closely the British North America Act you will find that it is according to the spirit of that Act that the public lands should be handed over to the province. As evidence of this take the little province of Prince Edward Island which had no public lands and received the sum of \$800,000 in lieu thereof, whereas Manitoba only receives annually the paltry sum of \$100,000 for all its public domain. Why should the province of Manitoba not be given its lands? What argument can be adduced why that province and the other provinces in the west as well should not own their own public domain. True, we had the hon. member for Labelle (Mr. Bourassa) the other night trotting out the old argument which I thought had been relegated to the background. He said this government had to construct the Canadian Pacific Railway for Manitoba and the west. I do not think there is an hon. gentlemen in this House who will not admit frankly that the Canadian Pacific Railway is a road entirely of a national character in which all the provinces derive benefit. But who paid for the Canadian Pacific Railway? Sir, the little province of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories have paid nearly every dollar expended on the construction of this great transcontinental line. They had to give 20,000 acres of their most valuable land per mile. Further than that, those lands were exempted from taxation. How have the other provinces been dealt with as regards the Canadian Pacific Railway? Take for example the province of British Columbia. That province is receiving annually for the right of way the sum of \$100,000, the same amount as Manitoba is receiving for the total confiscation of all its public lands. Therefore, I do not think there is any justification for the argument resuscitated by the hon. member for Labelle. What is the public domain of the province worth to-day? Let me call to your attention a few facts which will show the revenue derived from the public domain by the other provinces. In the year 1903 the province of Ontario received \$2,440,549.91 as revenue from its public lands, woods and forests. The province of Quebec received \$1,447,294.24 from the same source. Nova Scotia received \$600,000 from its crown lands and mines. New Brunswick received \$210,-