

riotic loyal citizen of the Dominion of Canada. There is no question that it was always intended that the boundaries of Manitoba should be extended, that we should have a greater area than we have at the present time. We have been clipped off to the east, and we are naturally asking for an extension to the west, and all that I have to say upon this western extension is that that territory lying immediately to the west of us belongs geographically, commercially and socially to the province of Manitoba, and it would be much to the interest of these people, although they may not see it now, to come into the province of Manitoba. If they came in we would be able to extend to them the fully developed facilities that we now have. We would be willing to extend to them our good railway policy, a policy that has saved the people of the province of Manitoba hundreds of thousands of dollars. There are many arguments that might be adduced to show that it would be to the advantage to the people of the west of us to come in but the right hon. gentlemen say: We cannot extend the boundaries to the west of Manitoba because the people of the west object. I wonder if the people of the west are agreeing with all the features of the present Bill; I rather think not. But we cannot get an extension to the west for the reason I have just stated and when it comes to asking an extension to the north, up to the Hudson bay, what are we told? Oh, you cannot get an extension in that direction until I consult my native and beloved province of Quebec! Sir, I think it has been properly said that to consult Quebec in this matter is an insult to the province of Manitoba. I do not think that term is a bit too strong; there may be some reason why Ontario should be consulted in this matter but so far as the province of Quebec is concerned, I do not think it is entitled to have anything to say other than through the hon. members who represent the province of Quebec in this House. What would an extension to the north mean? As an agriculturist of the province of Manitoba, I would like to say a word upon the point. If we get our extension to the north we will have a deep water outlet, the natural outlet of that great western country and the progressive government of Manitoba will immediately undertake the construction of a line of railway to Hudson bay. What will that mean? It will mean to the agriculture producers of that country that we are placed 1,000 miles closer to the markets of the world than we are now. Any hon. gentlemen who know anything about transporting stock of any kind to the markets of the world know that it is easier upon the stock to transport by water than by rail and therefore I claim as an agriculturist—it would be much to our interests, and there are many more arguments which I might adduce in support of this contention—that

Mr. STAPLES.

we should have our extension to the north and I think that this government, when they are considering the readjustment of affairs in that great western country, should readjust the boundaries of Manitoba and should give us the territory that rightly belongs to us. That is all we are asking, we are asking nothing more than what we are entitled to.

There is one other matter connected with the immigration policy of this government to which I wish to refer. It is a matter which I think the hon. member for Winnipeg might well take up and see what he could obtain from this government. Owing to the immigration policy of this government our hospitals in Manitoba are being utilized very freely by a class of settlers that are being brought into the country, settlers who are homeless and who if any misfortune in the way of sickness overtakes them are immediately taken to the hospital. Therefore the capacity of the hospitals is overtaxed, and the hospital authorities are asking for greater consideration and greater grants from the government. The government of Manitoba gives to the hospitals of that province 37½ cents per day per patient and the hospital authorities are asking for further consideration. In order to give you an idea of the view which the board of the hospitals take of their treatment let me read from the annual report in which the following passage occurs:

The board regrets to note that, notwithstanding the fact that the hospital has cared for a much larger number of patients than ever before, the grants from the Dominion government is less than in previous years. Considering the enormous amount of work entailed upon the hospital by incoming immigrants, the board is of opinion that the amount of assistance received from the Dominion government is quite inadequate, and further the expenses of maintaining the hospital have, of course, increased in proportion to the work done, and have now reached a figure that threatens serious embarrassment, unless some means can be devised for materially augmenting its resources.

Now, Sir, I think this shows very clearly that the hospitals of the province of Manitoba are making a just demand upon this government and I hope that at this time of re-adjusting the affairs in the west, the government will see fit to give to the hospitals a large increase in the grant which they now receive. The provincial government gave last year to the hospital at Winnipeg the sum of \$21,387.37, whereas this government only gave to the hospital the sum of \$2,653.27. Owing to the facilities which the hospital offers to immigrants brought into this country, surely the federal government should deal more liberally with it.

I come now to the educational clauses of the Bill, and these I will not discuss at any length. I am not a lawyer; I have sat here and listened to the constitutional arguments