

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Absolutely, except that we are adopting the same provisions as those contained in the Northwest Territories Act for convenience of administration.

Mr. SPROULE. That will not give them representation?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. No.

Mr. SPROULE. Is it intended to fasten upon them the separate school provision of the Northwest Territories Act, and to extend it to the north pole?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I will give to my hon. friend the answer that Alexander MacKenzie and Sir John Macdonald gave to a similar question, when the Keewatin Act was introduced in 1876: We will provide for that when these territories are joined to the adjoining provinces.

Mr. BARKER. Hon. gentlemen opposite have laid stress upon the necessity of the Dominion keeping control of immigration. If there is any place where there is ground for urging that the Dominion should keep control of immigration, it is Athabaska, where immigration has hardly yet begun. There are only 242 whites, according to a statement that was made, and one can understand that in 250,000 miles of territory—I think it is about 251,900—with 242 white people, the Dominion may be looking with some care to immigration for the purpose of developing it, and they may also be anxious to keep control of the lands of that immense territory, and not allow the 242 white people up there to have too much to say in the matter. But that argument cannot apply reasonably to the districts that are now to be given autonomy—Alberta, Saskatchewan and Assiniboia. These districts are fairly well developed, and there is every reason why the people should be allowed to further develop their own resources. Apply autonomy to those who have arrived at manhood and are ready for representative institutions, but keep Athabaska, develop it from the Dominion point of view, keep control of it, as we kept control of all these districts in 1875.

Mr. INGRAM. The right hon. First Minister referred to two mills. Where are these two mills located—in Athabaska?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Yes, in Athabaska; on the Peace river.

Mr. INGRAM. I judge they are of very great importance or the right hon. First Minister would not have referred to them, perhaps.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. One is at Peace river crossing and the other at Vermilion.

Mr. INGRAM. In the Vermilion district?

Mr. R. L. BORDEN.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. No; not in the Vermilion district, but at Vermilion, on the Peace river.

Mr. INGRAM. Exactly, and it is in the Vermilion district.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. There is another Vermilion district.

Mr. INGRAM. I will read what the report brought down to the government says about the mill at Vermilion:

Agriculture has been followed in a small way for many years, and two small grist mills supply meal and flour for local needs. Two years ago, however, the Hudson Bay Company erected a fine roller mill, with the intention of grinding flour for the northern trade, and encouraged by the certainty of a good market for all the wheat they produced, the settlers more than doubled their wheat acreage last year. This mill can produce from 250 to 300 pounds of flour per hour, and being lighted by electricity can be run day and night when necessary. The erection of such a mill in that latitude, where the transport of heavy machinery is so difficult and expensive is the best evidence that can be offered of the belief of the residents in the future of the Vermilion district.

Let me point out that between 250 and 300 pounds of flour would represent the enormous total of 72 hundred-weight in the year, and yet the importance of this great mill is given as a reason why the boundaries of this province should be extended up into that district. Surely the right hon. First Minister will see that the proportions of this mill are not very large—from 250 to 300 pounds per hour. That cannot very well be the reason why the line is extended up into that section of the country. This Peace river question is a pretty live question; we had it up last year, and I know it was like a red rag before some animals when it was talked about, and to no one more so than to the hon. Minister of the Interior. He does like this subject. He did not like it then, and I presume he does not like it any better now. But there must be some other reason for extending the boundary up there than the existence of this mill. The extension of the boundary line gives them two representatives, and I think that was probably a greater reason why the boundary was placed where it is rather than being placed where it was suggested by the premier of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. LAKE. I wish to bring up one matter before the debate closes, and that is in reference to the name. I would like to ask the right hon. Prime Minister what suggested the name of Saskatchewan? It seems to me that the name Assiniboia is both a prettier name and also a name worthy of recognition in the formation of a new province. The district of Assiniboia certainly contains the larger population at the present time, and, what is more than that, I think I may safely say that it is mainly due to the intelligent industry of the people of