

country, which soon must be full of people, and which will require large expenditure—that the terms which have been accorded the other provinces would not be satisfactory or suitable terms for these new provinces of the Northwest. The conditions are different; the terms must be different; the terms are different, and in so far the terms are satisfactory.

As to the ownership of the lands; it has been urged that these lands are the property of the province, should remain the property of the province and should be administered by the province for the benefit of the revenue of the province. It matters not to me what the legal rights of the province or the Dominion respectively are in that case. The lands belong to Canada whether administered by the province or by the Dominion; the settlement of these lands is for the benefit of all Canada. Whatever method of administration will give us the best results in the way of the settlement of these lands is the policy that is best not only for the Dominion but for the province. As a representative of the west, I believe the idea of using the lands of the west as a source of provincial revenue would be a very great detriment to these new provinces and to the country at large. I am aware that the provinces must have revenue, and failing any other source I would say: Certainly we must have revenue from the lands. But if we can get adequate revenue from other sources than the lands, then we certainly do not want the lands used as a source of revenue. I can easily understand that with a change of policy on the part of the federal government, a change of policy back to what it was say twenty years ago, when it was believed to be the proper policy to take everything that could be taken out of the land in the way of cash payment; then possibly it would be better that the lands should be in the hands of the province rather than in the hands of the Dominion. But, so long as we have a land policy the basic idea of which is the land for the settler, it is certainly better for us and for the Dominion that the lands should be administered by the federal authorities. One hon. gentleman said, that the lands could be better administered by the province than by the Dominion because the people of the province were closer on the ground and the interests of the province he said, were just the same as the interests of the Dominion. I beg to differ; their interests are not the same. The interest of a province in the land is in the revenue it can derive from the sale of the lands; the interest of the Dominion in the lands is in the revenue that it can derive from the settler who makes that land productive. This Dominion of Canada can make millions out of the lands of the Northwest, and never sell an acre; it has made millions out of these lands

without selling an acre. The increase in our customs returns, the increase in our trade and commerce, the increase in our manufactures is to a very large extent due to the increase in settlement on the free lands of the Northwest Territories. The prosperity this Dominion is enjoying to-day is to a very large extent due to the fact that the lands of the Northwest Territories have been given away and that people have taken them. I say that the interest of the Dominion is to secure the settlement of the lands, and whether with a price or without a price makes little or no difference. It is worth the while of the Dominion to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars in promoting immigration to that country and to spend thousands and thousands of dollars in surveying and administering these lands, and then to give them away. But the province is not in that position. The province derives no revenue from the customs duties or from the wealth which the settler creates. Every settler who goes on land in the Northwest Territories is a bill of expense to the provincial government. That settler requires a road made, he requires a school supported, he requires the advantages of municipal organization, and these have to be provided for him out of the funds of the provincial government, so that as a matter of fact the tendency of the provincial government is to get such money as it can out of the land and to prevent settlement from spreading any further than can be helped. On the other hand, the interest of the Dominion is to get the settlers on the land, to scatter them far and wide so long as they are good settlers and they get good land. That is the position as it strikes us in the Northwest, and when we have secured a financial arrangement with the Dominion government that gives us adequate consideration for our lands—I mean to say, gives us an adequate revenue as compared with the other provinces at any rate; gives us a revenue that instead of decreasing will increase as our needs increase; gives us a revenue that is proportionate not only to our population as it will be but to the area over which that population will spread—when we have secured an arrangement such as that, we have secured a very satisfactory arrangement; at least as satisfactory as we can expect to secure.

As to the amount we get out of our lands, a word on that point may not be out of place. The province of British Columbia owns all its natural resources; it has timber, it has gold mines and lead mines and coal mines. And I find that last year the province of British Columbia derived from all the resources connected with the ownership of its lands, the sum of \$615,000. In the coming year, the country which is now the Northwest Territories will derive a sum of something like \$750,000, based on the