

I would call the attention of the member for Alberta (Mr. Herron) to the latter part of this statement of the Liberal Association of this important ranching district.

Mr. HERRON. Does the hon. member (Mr. Scott) depend on the views of the Liberal Association with regard to the boundary line?

Mr. SCOTT. Well, if the hon. gentleman does not like that let me give him something else from Maple Creek. On February 14th I received from the secretary of the board of trade a non-partisan body of Conservative, Liberal and independent business men and stock men of that ranching district, the following telegram:

At largest meeting of Board of Trade ever held it was unanimously resolved that dividing line between proposed new provinces should be 4th meridian, and ask your support.

(Sgd.) W. R. ABBOTT,  
Secretary.

I think that evidence will go to convince the House that the range communities that are being left in the eastern province and which form the communities which, according to these hon. gentlemen, are to be pitied, are unanimously favourable to being put in the eastern province and having the 4th meridian as the dividing line. With reference to what my hon. friend from Alberta (Mr. Herron), said I cannot agree with him that the whole of the ranching country is west of Swift Current. As pointed out by the hon. Minister of the Interior (Mr. Oliver) one of the most exclusively ranching areas in the Northwest is the Wood Mountain and Willow Bunch district. That community raises no grain, but depends entirely upon ranching. They extend along the boundary line for the distance of from 100 to 140 miles, their eastern limit would be a meridian that, running north, would pass about the town of Regina.

Now, I would like to make a remark or two with reference to the statements made by the member for South York (Mr. W. F. Maclean) this afternoon. That hon. gentleman is desirous that the Athabaska district should not be included in the new provinces at the present time. I think that the statements made during the present session by representatives of Manitoba would go to show that it is very wise to include the district of Athabaska in these provinces. We all agree that a great mistake was made with Manitoba in not allowing it to be extended further westward twenty years ago. If we have learned the lesson that that teaches, we must agree in the opinion that it is a very wise provision that the district of Athabaska should be included in the new provinces at the present time. But, for one who, only a couple of years ago, held such exceedingly strong opinions in favour of practically wiping out provincial government and centr-

ing all political power in Canada here at Ottawa, the hon. gentleman (Mr. W. F. Maclean) has made a pretty radical change of opinion in a short time. Of course, he gave voice to his change of opinion last year, as was pointed out yesterday. He said last year that he wanted new and independent provincial legislatures established and put in possession of the public resources. And why? He wanted these new legislatures to be created and put in possession of the public resources that they might turn hand springs, as he put it, with those resources in favour of corporations.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. Will the hon. gentleman read where I said that?

Mr. SCOTT. I should be glad to do so if anybody will hand me a copy of yesterday's 'Hansard.' I read it yesterday.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. Then, I can only say that the hon. gentleman misconstrued what I said.

Mr. SCOTT. I will be glad to read it again when my hon. friends have found it. My hon. friend used practically these words, that if the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Pacific Railway appeared here they did not wait to have their wants attended to, but the wants of the people were not being attended to. All the legislatures in Canada he said—his words were: There is not a legislature in this country that is not turning handsprings with the public resources in favour of corporations, and he argued that an independent legislature should be created in the Northwest Territories and put in possession of the public resources.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. Where did I say that?

Mr. SCOTT. In the debate on the address, in the session of 1904.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. This is your construction, these are not my words.

Mr. SCOTT. This afternoon my hon. friend was not content with having two new legislatures, he wanted a third one, a territorial legislature with its capital in the district of Mackenzie. Has he some corporation friends that are looking for some public resources up there? Here is what my hon. friend said:

Why cannot the people of the Northwest be given a government of their own? They are prosperous, they have schools and other things to carry on, and they can manage for themselves as well as this government can do it for them. Why cannot the Northwest Territories be erected into a province? The people are asking for relief and they cannot get it, but if the Grand Trunk or the Canadian Pacific want anything you find the great Liberal party turning handsprings to give them what they want. There is no legislature in this country to-day doing anything for the people, but every one of them is turning handsprings to distri-