

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Will the hon. gentleman allow me to ask him a question? Will he explain to the House the difference between the original clause and the clause as it is amended?

Mr. CRAWFORD. It has been discussed a great deal, and it seems to me that we have all formed our own conclusions. If I thought for a minute that it would have any effect on the hon. gentleman, I would spend half an hour or so in trying to explain this clause to him; but what is the use of my trying to do so? I am not talking to the hon. gentleman at all; I am talking to the people of the country, who have been deceived in this matter. I might talk here for a week without making any change in my hon. friend.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. The people of the country would like to know.

Mr. CRAWFORD. The hon. member for Brantford (Mr. Cockshutt) referred at considerable length to the province of Manitoba. He spoke of the littleness of Manitoba. Now, I happen to come from the province of Manitoba, and I do not appreciate the manner in which a good many hon. gentlemen in this House refer to that province. Manitoba may be small in territory, but it is a great and important province. Manitoba has done more for Canada, I think, than any other province in the Dominion.

Mr. LENNOX. Will the hon. gentleman mention any member on this side of the House who has said anything disparaging of Manitoba in any sense or form?

Mr. CRAWFORD. When hon. gentlemen refer to Manitoba as being little, as being only a postage stamp, and that kind of thing, it is belittling that province. I was saying that Manitoba, if not so large in territory as some other provinces, is big in other ways, and it is of very great importance to the people of Canada. Manitoba, by her wheat and her rich soil, has done more to advertise Canada than any other province. Manitoba has been the great factor in opening up and developing the territory which we are now dividing into provinces. The early pioneers in Manitoba have been of untold value to the Dominion of Canada. Without the development and the prosperity that we have in the Northwest Territories to-day, the eastern provinces would not be in their present prosperous condition.

I may say that I am just as much in favour of seeing the boundaries of Manitoba extended as any other hon. gentleman in this House. I would certainly have liked to see Manitoba's boundaries extended somewhat to the west; but, owing to the conditions that have been brought about

in Manitoba in the past few years, we could not expect an extension in that direction. The hon. member for Eastern Assiniboia (Mr. Turriff), speaking here the other evening, referred to the dread which the people in the territory just west of Manitoba have of attaching themselves to that province, owing to the enormous debt at present resting upon it. There is no doubt that those people would hesitate very much before they would agree to subject themselves to a heavy increase of taxation, and the conditions in Manitoba to-day have had a good deal to do with creating a feeling on their part against uniting with us. Knowing these conditions myself, I could not very well expect an extension of the boundaries of the province in that direction. But I would like to say that we are going to get an extension to the north and the east. I do not value that extension very much. It is largely a matter of sentiment. When we take up this question with the government here, whatever party may be in power, we shall have to consider not only the extension of the boundaries of Manitoba, but the question of a greater subsidy on account of the territory which we may bring in, but which would practically be better without.

The territory to the north of Manitoba I think, to a very large extent will cost more to govern it than it is actually worth. Still we are entitled to the whole of that country to the north and ought to have it and will get it. We want different treatment from what we have had from the federal government in past years. Take the history of Manitoba, and who is responsible for the littleness of that province? Certainly not the Liberal party but our Conservative friends. Go back to 1870, when Manitoba was brought into confederation, and what did they give us? A very small territory. Later on we were not satisfied, and about 1881 we got an extension of the boundaries. The federal government made believe that they were giving us something great but they were actually giving us territory which it was not theirs to give. They gave us a section of territory which really belonged to the province of Ontario, and Ontario proved her right to it and held it. Many appeals were made by us to the late government for increased territory and subsidy, but they were all turned down. In 1884 a very strong appeal was made to the late Conservative government. And what did we get? Had we got the treatment which is being meted out to these new provinces, we would have been satisfied; and I may just say that if we had received that treatment, the provincial rights cries which we have had in the west would never have been heard. In 1884 we were given, in lieu of the lands, \$100,000 and our swamp lands. That was considered a final settlement. The province