

state and who return to Nova Scotia. The majority of them went there years ago and they have remained there. It is only three years ago that so high an authority as the 'Mail and Empire' stated that emigration from Canada to the United States had ceased.

Mr. BENNETT. Nonsense!

Mr. BROCK. You do not mean that.

Mr. FRASER. Yes, I am glad to admit that sometimes the 'Mail and Empire' is right.

Mr. BROCK. The Minister of Agriculture says to the contrary.

Mr. FRASER. The Minister of Agriculture did not say so. The reference of the leader of the opposition to Lunenburg is most unfortunate because there are very few of these men who leave Lunenburg now.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). I was not referring to the county of Lunenburg; I was referring to the south shore of Nova Scotia, the counties of Shelburne, Queen's and Yarmouth, and I mentioned the hon. gentleman from Lunenburg because his county adjoins these.

Mr. FRASER. With the exception of Yarmouth and to some extent Shelburne, not one-half the number of people now leave for the United States that formerly emigrated there. I am proud to say that there is no county in Nova Scotia that has so increased the number of ships owned by its people as has the county of Lunenburg, and the people are staying at home. In my own county they are purchasing larger boats and engaging more extensively in fishing than ever before. Guysborough is perhaps the second largest fishing county in Nova Scotia, and during the last decade its population increased by 1,500. I admit that quite a number of them went to Sydney, but as a rule they are finding profitable occupation within the confines of the county. In the town of New Glasgow it is very difficult to get carpenters or masons if you want to build a house, and as regards the farmers every man of them is busy. I do not attribute all that to the present government being in power, but I do say that a great improvement has taken place within the last ten years. When times are good the people stay at home and that is what is occurring now. The Nova Scotians are not a roving people, but they are an energetic and enterprising people and they are anxious to seek new fields for their energy and enterprise so as to increase their wealth. The leader of the opposition will perhaps be surprised to know that in eastern Nova Scotia there is more fishing done between the months of October and March than ever before. They used to be engaged in the salt fish industry, but now you will find them going out in November, December, January

Mr. FRASER.

and sometimes in February, beginning again in April or the last of March, and they can sell their fish fresh instead of salting it as formerly. To say that the people are leaving Nova Scotia at the present time is not a fact.

Mr. BROCK. You are contradicting the Finance Minister.

Mr. FRASER. I agree absolutely with the Finance Minister, and I will add that the people of Nova Scotia are more energetic than the people of Ontario or any other province.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Oh.

Mr. FRASER. If they can better their position they will go to the United States, but they have a yearning for home because they know that the latch string is always waiting for their return. I can tell the leader of the opposition that the Nova Scotians read, and they are perfectly well acquainted with the conditions in the North-west. I know a number of young men who have gone to the North-west, but to talk of sending agents down there to induce them to move out to the prairies would be simply like swapping knives. Let us try and keep our young Nova Scotians at home and improve their condition, rather than transplant them to the west. Let us get men from other countries who will make good citizens to go to the North-west. We will then have the population of Nova Scotia increasing because the people will stay there, and we will have new blood brought into the North-west. It is neither good political economy nor good sense to say that the mutation of population from one province to another is in the interest of the Dominion. In Nova Scotia we are fairly successful. I venture to say that never before in the history of Nova Scotia has there been anything like the accumulation of wealth or the number of people employed that there has been for the last seven or eight years. Why, not long ago men had to be brought from the old country to work in the Cape Breton collieries, and I venture to say that any man who is building a railway in that province now will find it more difficult than ever before to find men to work at fair wages. I remember the time myself when you would have a dozen men looking after one job, whereas now the jobs are so plentiful that the men have their selection in their own hands, saying what they will do. In the last eight or ten years there have been more improvements, more wealth and better houses along the shores in the counties of Digby and Yarmouth, owned by the men who have retired from their fishing, than you will see in almost any other part of this Dominion. If there is a family of boys where the farm is too small for them all, and if any of them wish to leave the farm to go elsewhere, I always tell them to go to the North-west. But I want them to stay in