

ritories. The chief point of contention was, of course, the much-vexed school question. The word coercion was the battle-cry. Now the people of the west are thinkers. They do not become hysterical; they are not easily stampeded. Party lines are not as finely drawn as you have them here in the east. The people asked themselves can there be coercion where there is no coercion? Can it be called coercion to give us a School Act framed by our own legislature, and their answer was emphatically no. I had not the honour to be a member of the legislative assembly at the time that the school ordinance was first passed; but for the past eight years I have had the honour to be a member of that House, and I took a very great interest in the amendments that were passed from time to time to perfect that ordinance. Amendments were added from year to year until we, the representatives of the people, fondly imagined that we had evolved the most perfect school system in the universe. Yet it was contended that the inclusion of this in the Autonomy Bill, originally our own creation and our own perfection, was coercion.

His Excellency next says that:

The bountiful harvest with which we have been blessed in the past season, together with the continued development of our industries and transportation facilities, have so stimulated business in all parts of Canada and have given such an impetus to our exports and imports that the trade both with the United Kingdom and foreign countries for the current fiscal year gives promise of being the largest on record.

In no part of the universe, I think, was the bounty of our Maker more in evidence than in this our own Dominion, and in no part of the Dominion was it more marked than in the western part of Canada, Manitoba, and the two new provinces. Our crops were immense last season, the yield was abundant, but, hon. gentlemen, it was nothing to what is coming. As our tillage improves and increases, so will our crops increase until in the near future our exports will not be counted by the hundreds of thousands, but by the millions. We in Alberta have strayed from the beaten path and solved a problem of our own. After experimenting with fall or winter wheat for some years, and having no failures, we decided that that was the grain for us. The yield is more abundant and it ripens earlier; the farmer gathers his grain so early that he

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has time to replough the soil and plant his seed for the ensuing year the same season.

Now, I wish to call your attention to the fact that what is our plenty is your plenty. Prosperity with us is your prosperity, and a full pocket with us is a full pocket for you. We raise our immense crops of grain, our huge herds of cattle. We find sale for them readily in outside countries. You get, to use a western expression, a rake off, in the transportation of our products to the seaboard. Again, the money upon being received by us is immediately returned to the east in payment of the machinery, food, wearing apparel and other commodities necessary to the maintenance and comfort of life. In the Lethbridge district, owing to the enterprise of the Alberta Railway and Irrigation Co., and to the foresight of the present government who passed the necessary legislation to enable and encourage them to do so, we have been able to establish a new industry, the manufacturing of beet sugar. The Knight Co. have been in operation for three years, and since the inception of that company they have annually paid a dividend of six per cent. Their output for the last year I think was somewhere in the vicinity of five million pounds of sugar. The success of this industry I feel sure will lead to the establishment of others of the same kind. I have no hesitation whatsoever in saying, from what I have seen, that it will not be many years before all the sugar used in Canada will not only be manufactured in Canada, but manufactured from the Canadian product, the sugar beet.

The next paragraph in the address is:—

The flow of immigrants seeking homes in the three prairie provinces still continues, and from the present outlook the number will be in excess of any previous year, and it is gratifying to note the increasing proportion from the British Isles.

We in the west say let them come; the more the merrier. We have the land; send us the people. It may cost money—the expenditure may be large, but it is money well spent. It is a first class investment, and will return large dividends. The continued opening of the west means the continued prosperity of the west, and the prosperity of the west means the continued prosperity of Canada. What we want in the west is men— hale, hearty men, willing and able to work. A man, no matter where he comes from, as long as he has a pair of hands and is willing