

which was done to New Brunswick by the extension of the boundaries of Quebec in 1898. At page 33 of the Debates of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick in 1905 we have these words as spoken by the Minister of Public Works who was then the attorney general of New Brunswick :

The boundary line of Quebec was well recognized, and is laid down in Arrowsmith's map, published in 1815. It is referred to in the work of Bouchette, the surveyor general of Lower Canada, which was published in 1832. This is a book of the very highest authority, and it shows that the northern boundary of Quebec was long recognized to be the height of land which divided the waters flowing into the St. Lawrence from those into Hudson bay. Now, it must have made a very great difference in the willingness of the people of New Brunswick to join the confederation if Quebec had then been as large as it is now. I submit that when our people entered into the union, they agreed to go into the confederation with Quebec as it was, and that the boundaries of that province ought not to have been altered without our being consulted and our interests safeguarded.

As already stated by the Premier the Imperial Act of 1871 provided that when the area of a province was extended the rights of the other provinces should be properly guarded. Yet, in 1896, without this legislature being consulted, the late Dominion government agreed with Quebec to extend that province to Hudson bay thus adding to it a territory which will soon be traversed by the Grand Trunk Pacific and which in time will become populous. The Bill to carry out this agreement was introduced on the 2nd of June, 1898, by Mr. Sifton. It was introduced in blank and treated as a mere formal matter. On the 8th of June, it was read a second time and passed. So far as the records of parliament show, there was no debate whatever on the subject, and this large area was added to Quebec without the maritime provinces being consulted. It does seem to me that in view of the legislation, which has already taken place so seriously affecting our interests, and in view of what is now being done in connection with the legislation for the Northwest Territories, this government is but doing its duty in asking the legislature to express its views and to endeavour to undo this great wrong.

At the conclusion of that debate a resolution was passed by the legislature of New Brunswick unanimously affirming that a great injustice had been committed against the province of New Brunswick by reducing its representation. As the representative of one of the constituencies in that province I cordially join in the protest already made against any further extension of the territory of the province of Quebec unless there be a distinct understanding that the rights of the maritime provinces with respect to their representation in this House shall first be safeguarded. It would only be upon such an understanding that I as one member of this House would assent to the terms of the resolution now before us.

Mr. A. MARTIN (Queens, P.E.I.). As a representative of the province of Prince Edward Island I also desire to raise my voice against this legislation. I agree most heartily with what has been said by the members from New Brunswick. The province of Quebec at present is the size of a pretty large kingdom. Some years ago more than half its original area was added to that province, and by this proposal another kingdom in extent is to be given it. To whom do these lands belong that we so cheerfully give away? What right has this government or any government to alienate the property of Canada and give it to any province without a consideration in return? This is part of the Hudson Bay Company's territory; it was bought and paid for by the people of Canada generally; paid for by New Brunswick and Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island as well as the other provinces. What right has this parliament to hand over this territory unless we get something in return for it to recoup the public treasury the amount which these lands cost the people of Canada? Years ago two millions of money was borrowed to acquire these lands and adding interest they stand to-day as costing us \$10,000,000 if not more. This is the land you are giving to these provinces for nothing. Ontario some years ago got a very large increase in its territory. I do not know that I would raise my voice against adding to the territory of Manitoba, because her area as compared with the other provinces in the west is so small that she has been dubbed the postage stamp province. I do not know that the maritime provinces would raise any objection to increasing the area of Manitoba, but I protest strongly against the public domain being given away to the other provinces without some quid pro quo to the maritime provinces which cannot have their areas extended. Look at the preponderating influence over the smaller provinces which this extension of area will give to the larger provinces in this parliament. We saw how that resulted about a year ago when the subsidy question was brought before the House. So much did the large provinces receive under that Subsidy Act that although Quebec came here saying she was in debt and she wanted money to tide her over her difficulties, she has now a million dollars surplus. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island got a mere trifle under that Subsidy Act, and now you come to parliament and you propose to give those larger provinces the public domain without any compensation. The Prime Minister told us that this territory would not be settled for years to come, but we do not know the value of these lands. There may be millions and millions of acres of mineral lands worth incalculable wealth there. Before the House proceeds in this we should know exactly what we are giving away and how much