

money in clearing out the streams there and making them floatable for timber and small craft.

Although, as I have said, something is said about drainage in the resolution, nothing was said on this subject by the honorable gentleman in moving the resolution. That country has the greatest natural drainage of any country in the world. Then we are doing what I pointed out through the Public Works Department and otherwise to furnish drainage facilities in the older sections. Wherever we construct roads in Northern Ontario, sufficient drains are constructed not only to drain the roads, but to drain the farms tributary to these roads.

We have constructed some hundreds of miles of drains during the last two years in that country, and we will continue to do like work in the future.

#### Increased Population.

Now just a few figures for our friends with their money and interests centred in the Western Provinces and British Columbia. Look at the great expanse of territory we have in the north, some 330,000 square miles. It is almost as large as the whole of British Columbia, larger than either Manitoba, Alberta or Saskatchewan. You could lose New Brunswick or Nova Scotia in almost one constituency and not be able to find it. Now what have we done during the last decade, 1901-1911, and the figures I give are taken from the census returns? I would make a much better showing if I could give you the figures up to the year 1914. I am speaking now of what may strictly be termed Northern Ontario, not including Parry Sound or Muskoka. We find the population in 1901 was 100,401, and in 1911 it had risen to the splendid number of 214,759, or an increase in that decade of 114,358 people, in other words 114 per cent. of an increase during that ten-year period. How does that compare with the Western Provinces? How does it compare with Manitoba, including the great city of Winnipeg, that great distributing centre for Manitoba and the Prairie Provinces? We find in the same time Manitoba's increase was 200,403, or 78 per cent. In other words Northern Ontario increased by 36 per cent. more than what the Province of Manitoba did. Take the Province of British Columbia, boomed so much by the railway companies and the Government, a country