

brought a great many people to our section of the country with a view to settling there, while previously no one thought of going there as it was considered that if the land was leased a man could not settle on it. This action of the Government has removed all cause of complaint in that direction. There is now sufficient land of the very finest class thrown open to which settlers can go and have the advantage of being near towns where they can carry on mixed farming and enjoy the best advantages. The first resolution passed by the Legislative Assembly reads as follows:—

“That this Assembly regards the question as of first importance and urges the Dominion Government to take immediate action in giving an outlet by railway to the pioneer settlements of the North Saskatchewan.”

Edmonton, Prince Albert and St. Albert are old settlements, I suppose Fort Edmonton was established 100 years ago, and all that these towns and the outlying country require is railway communication to make them, as I have said, the Garden of Eden. The next resolution is with respect to the half-breeds resident in the electoral districts bordering on the North Saskatchewan. The North Saskatchewan runs both through my district, that of Alberta, and the Saskatchewan district. There are a great many half-breeds who live on the border of the Saskatchewan River, having settled there in old days. The resolution to which I refer reads as follows:—

“Whereas it has been represented to this Assembly by some of its members that among the half-breeds resident in the electoral districts bordering on the Saskatchewan, who preferred claims for losses during the rebellion of 1885 before the Commissioners on such claims, and whose claims have been rejected, some, who were known to have been loyal, had their claims rejected, while others who were known to have been directly implicated in the uprising have had their claims allowed. That such apparent discrimination has given rise to a wide spread feeling among the half-breeds referred to that those who remained loyal have not received the justice intended by the Government at the hands of the Commissioners. Be it resolved, &c.”

I think that a commission should be appointed, as the resolution sets forth, consisting of a judge of the Supreme Court of the North-West Territories, so that all claims may be wiped out, and not be brought before Parliament year after year. The next resolution upon which I will touch was passed on the 23rd of last November, and it sets forth:

“That in the opinion of that Assembly a vote of the Territories on the question of license *versus* prohibition should immediately be taken.”

This is one of the most burning questions of the North-West. The people should be allowed to decide whether they would have free whiskey or high license, or have the liquor as in the Eastern Provinces. Liquor is now brought into the country, and the Government derive no revenue from it. I have no doubt, if a vote of the people were taken to-morrow, every man in the business of selling liquor would vote against free whiskey and with the temperance party, simply because to do otherwise would be to destroy his means of livelihood. There are in Calgary to-day not less than 25 saloons selling liquor. Neither the town of Calgary nor the Dominion Government derive any revenue from that sale. It will be asked, where does the liquor come from? It comes from British Columbia, Manitoba and Montana. Under these circumstances, it would be better if the people of the North-West were allowed to have a vote on this subject, or at least be placed on the same footing as the people in other portions of the Dominion, so that they could pass the Scott Act or not as they desired. It is certain that you can never prohibit the sale of liquor in the North-West as long as it is manufactured. I hope, therefore, that the Government will take this resolution more especially under their consideration, and will endeavor to deal with it in such a way that we can have this question settled either by the vote of the people or by the Dominion Parliament. The next resolution takes up the question of immigration. I think the Government should without doubt grant more

liberal aid to immigration to the North-West than they have given hitherto. There should be immense quantities of pamphlets circulated through all portions of Europe, the United States and even Eastern Canada. I venture to say that the United States Government have sent out ten car loads of immigration pamphlets to one sent by the Dominion Government, and the reason why their country has been settled is because it has been advertised. With regard to placing agents in Great Britain and the United States, I fully agree with the resolution and the remarks of the hon. member for West Assiniboia (Mr. Davin). It is asked that the sum of \$15,000 be placed at the disposal of the Territories, and this would be a mere drop in the bucket as compared with other expenses that are going on, and it would benefit the country tenfold. The next resolution deals with the subject of the settlers being allowed to use dry wood for fuel. That, I believe, has been already arranged, and I have simply to say that the people of the North West should be allowed to burn up the dry wood that is going to waste without paying revenue to the Dominion. There is another question I wish to urge upon the Minister of Inland Revenue, and that is the appointment of a hide inspector at McLeod and Calgary. At the present time when so many cattle are being shipped out of the country, it has become very important that all the hides should be inspected before the cattle leave the country. Even if a man kills meat on the prairie he should be compelled to bring in the hides, so that it would be known whether he had killed his own animals or those of his neighbors. The cost would be but very light and it could easily be paid out of the revenue, by simply putting a fee upon our hide inspector. In this same resolution the Assembly recommends as follows:—

“As under the Half-breed Commission of the 20th March, 1885, the Indian title, in as far as half-breeds are concerned, only extends to those born prior to 15th July, 1870, and as a number have been born to parents coming under the said Commission of 1885, who in the opinion of this Assembly have equal rights to those already dealt with: This Assembly would draw the attention of the Dominion Government to the fact and urge that steps be taken to finally end all half-breed claims.”

We all know that there are quite a number of half-breeds in the North-West Territories who when this treaty was made with them in 1870 were in Manitoba, but before they were settled with they moved to the North-West. Those people were not settled with until 1885 and then only those who were included in the Treaty of 1870 had their claims met by the Government, leaving the children born between 1870 and 1885 out of the treaty. There is no reason in the world why those children should not receive the same benefits as the other so long as their title is not extinguished. If the Government had paid everyone of them in 1870 there would probably have been no rebellion in 1885. I would strongly recommend to the Government that this matter should be attended to at once and that the claims of those excluded from the treaties should be considered in the same way as the claims of the others, viz., by a commission of the judges of the North-West Territories. The Assembly also recommends:

“That the Dominion Government be asked to grant scrip to all those acting during the North-West Rebellion as scouts under the Police Act.”

They also recommend that the North-West Mounted Police, who rendered valuable services during the rebellion, should be rewarded. I think that this is a very fair request to make to the Government. There is not the slightest doubt that any one who acted as a scout during the rebellion, as well as the members of the North-West Mounted Police force should receive the same compensation as others. They are certainly better entitled to recognition at the hands of the Government than many of those who received it. I cannot see why the scouts and the Mounted Police should not be treated the same as the militia and volunteer forces. They did as good work as any of the others, and they should