

## WARRANTED BY DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Speaker: In rising to move the second reading of Bill No. 23, I would like to have the permission of the House to devote myself for a little time this afternoon to enlargement of the very brief explanation which I submitted yesterday in introducing the bills which are now before the House. Before doing so, however, I think it is perhaps but right that I should preface my remarks with the statement that the railway policy of the Government as at present agreed upon is one which we have decided upon in the first place because of the very great development that is to be noted in almost every section of the Province, in the next place because of the very obvious necessity for the provision of additional transportation facilities to assist and strengthen that development, and in the third place because of the near approaching completion of the Panama Canal, the construction of which we are all convinced will do so very much to promote the satisfactory development and prosperity of this section of America. It is now but two years since I last submitted to this Parliament certain measures making for the construction of needed railways in this Province. At that time we were all of the opinion that because of the prominence our Province is obtaining in the eyes of the world, the time was not far distant when we should have to ask Parliament to authorize further measures of a similar nature.

## ADDED PROSPERITY

I am glad, indeed, that I am now in a position today to present a number of measures which I feel confident will make for new development and added prosperity in British Columbia in its every part. I can add but little to what I have so often said to Parliament and to the country on this subject. That the growth of British Columbia during recent years has been little short of phenomenal goes without saying. At the same time it may fairly and truthfully be said that this marvellous advance, when analyzed, is found to be based upon a sound, solid and substantial foundation. There is in this Province nothing that may be regarded as in the nature of a boom. There is nothing in British Columbia's present growth that is of a speculative character. The growth and progress that are now being noted make indisputably for permanency and a great future, and this cannot be questioned. In this connection we feel that we are entitled to, and we do take, some credit for the work of the Government in having in some degree been instrumental in the promotion of this development. And that we have not made this plea in vain has been established when we have submitted the question to the great jury of the country and we have come back to this House with added strength.