

Manitoba the tendency is to cultivate the land beyond its capacity to farm with safety and economy, and therefore they are not in a condition to meet such a difficulty when it presents itself. For that reason I do not coincide exactly with the remarks made in the Address so far as the prosperity of Manitoba is concerned? Our merchants are suffering from the very causes I have spoken of. Our eastern creditors here, I have no doubt, suffer from the same causes—that is those who sell us machinery and all that we require for our operations during the year. I always think it is a great deal better that we should speak plainly and not pretend that facts exist where they do not exist. That there are evidences of a very large volume of trade is unquestionable, but that is the result of the development of the country. It is the northern half of this North American continent, and it is only by the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway and the railway construction that has been going on for several years past, that the vast undeveloped regions of Canada have been opened up, and it was the good luck of the Liberal party to come into power just as the consummation of all these efforts was being found a success. We have added to our commercial life the development of the Klondike, which, as hon. gentlemen know, has attracted world wide notoriety, and brought thousands of adventurers and people to the country. I may say it was a boom which resulted from the discoveries of precious metals. The hon. Secretary of State, in his speech on the Yukon Bill last year, said there would be a population of 200,000, but it has fallen far short of that. There were exaggerations put forward at that time in order to get the bill through. There has been a great deal of development from that country, but we distinguish between permanent and boom development. We are also thankful indeed to see that the mines of the Rocky Mountains, where development has been going on for some time by the aid of different United States railways to the south, and now has been further stimulated by the building of the Crow's Nest Pass are turning out successfully. Our dairy commissioner's efforts have borne good fruit in many ways, so that the country has undergone great development during the past year or two. There have been two or three efforts at immigration, such as the bringing in of the

Doukhobors and Galicians in very large numbers during the past year. That adds to the demands of commerce, trade and transportation. The people in the west fear the emigration to such a large extent of a foreign element which it will take generations to assimilate and who are of a different class. I would hold out a warning voice in that respect. But all these things, one after another have contributed to the increase of the general prosperity as shown through the blue books of the government upon which the government have felt justified in putting that statement into the speech. But we have to judge by results. Those who come into the country are well supplied with means, and everything else of that kind. After they have settled down, and have to depend upon their physical power and the resources that present themselves to their individual efforts for their individual support, then comes the test as to how far the country is prosperous when those conditions prevail. In the west of course we are situated in an inland country and we have difficulties to overcome that do not present themselves elsewhere. We have transportation rates, and we have a very heavy taxation through the protective tariff that is put upon the country which draws the money out too rapidly. Those are questions I will deal with when I come to discuss the matter later. Speaking of the total cessation of the exodus of the population which has already been referred to by my hon. friend the leader of the opposition, it is only by the census that we can tell exactly how the emigration has been during the past ten years. It would be a very sorry account indeed if the next ten years do not show something better than the past ten years. The past decade were a disappointment to the whole country in regard to the increase of population. I hope when the census of 1901 is taken that the remark which is put herein the Speech from the Throne will be borne out by the facts. A reference is made to the negotiations which were set on foot during the recess with regard to a treaty with the United States. That has been a matter of considerable controversy for a great many years past. The United States have been opposed, as a general rule, to the negotiation of treaties. Very few treaties have been in past years negotiated. President McKinley of the United States did formulate a series of reciprocity treaties, under a