

but, as the most westerly forty miles cannot be said to contain any large quantity of agricultural land, this leaves 660 miles in length, which would give a total area of 2,500,000 acres. In that area our land sales aggregate 593,000 acres, including alienations of all kinds. Now it is my opinion you will not find in other sections of this Province an equal area of good agricultural lands as in this particular belt. The pre-emptions issued amount to 1,200, but we have room for 9,000 more pre-emptors, allowing the full 160 acres to each. Now, I say that this has resulted from the Government policies of placing reserves in good time against the purchase of these lands. These reserves commenced in 1907.

A CONTINUOUS RESERVE

"In that year you will find that a large reserve was placed on this land for 195 miles along the South Fork of the Fraser River from Yellowhead Pass to the junction with the North Fork of the Fraser River, and for three miles on each side. Additional reserves were made in 1908, 1909 and 1910, so that there was practically a continuous reserve from Yellowhead Pass to the Bulkeley Townships. In this area we have surveyed 1,200,000 acres, or nearly half the total area. Of the surveyed land still available for pre-emption we have 234,000 acres, enough for 1,500 pre-emptors; 59,000 acres are reserved for university purposes, and timber license holdings occupy 137,000 acres.

"With respect to the Bulkeley Townships it may be said this was the first large area surveyed in the Province of British Columbia. Some twenty-two or twenty-three years ago these lands were practically surveyed by A. L. Poudrier, and an effort was made to settle or colonize them at that time. By reason of the lack of transportation no great result was achieved, and subsequently the lands were acquired by the South African War scrips in 1903 and 1904, but my calculation includes all of these alienations, although they could not properly be said to come under the head of land sales in the sense I have been discussing.

"I noticed in The Victoria Times the other day a declaration from the gentleman who bears the same name as myself, although of different political persuasion—Mr. Duncan Ross. At one time he was heard on the floor of the Dominion House, but at the moment he appears to be engaged in reconstructing the Liberal party. At the annual meeting of the Liberal Association he told the people what he thought he knew of the land policy of the Government, and made some rather startling declarations. Amongst other things he stated that I ought to be put into the penitentiary for allowing literature to be distributed telling about