

by unnecessary and irritating acts of the various legislatures. The chief reason why, I think, the Provincial Governments are so industriously building up barriers against Dominion and extra-Provincial corporations is because they need the money paid for charters by those who wish to take advantage of the Companies' Act. These fees are in the aggregate large and are of much more importance to the Province than they are to the Dominion, and if one can overcome this objection it seems to me that the Provinces would readily acquiesce in the passing of the Dominion Companies' Act and repeal their Acts if they found that no Provincial interest would be affected.

I propose therefore that the Dominion Government should amend the Companies' Act, as follows:—

1. Enact that the Provincial Secretary or some other member of the Provincial Government should have authority to issue charters for the Secretary of State at the capital of the Province.

2. That all applications for charters should be made to the Provincial Secretary of the Province in which the head office of the proposed company was intended to be situated.

3. That the schedule of fees named in the Act should be paid to the Provincial Secretary, and that he should account for twenty per cent. to the Secretary of State and apply the remainder for the use of the Province.

4. That the Provincial Secretary should forward a copy of the application and the charter to the Secretary of State immediately after the granting of the charter.

5. That all returns required to be made by the Act should be made to the Provincial Secretary in the Province in which the head office is situated, and that the Provincial Secretary should forward copies of these returns to the Secretary of State immediately after their receipt.

6. That all companies theretofore incorporated under any Provincial Companies' Act would *ipso facto* on filing an application in a simple form to be made a schedule to the Act, and on paying a nominal fee become incorporated to the same extent and with the same powers, privileges and rights as they had under their Provincial charters, under this Act, and providing that