

*Canadian National Railways*

to the hopes and aspirations of the people of New Brunswick at the present time. A few weeks ago the *Financial Times* also spoke about the situation in the maritime provinces and in New Brunswick in particular. It said:

Mining developments are, however, not just confined to one area. The possibility of mining is spreading far and wide, and this hints at least at the possibility, which shortsightedness may yet ignore, that mining throughout New Brunswick could be expanded into full metallurgical and chemical industries with results similar to those obtained in western Canada from oil and gas.

Given the necessary hydro power, or where fossil fuels are cheaply available of steam power, the pulp, paper, mineral and allied industries are capable of a fairly extensive growth, with growth in population, purchasing power, improved farming, etc., leading to the expansion of consumer goods industries similar to the rest of the country.

Those articles express very well, Mr. Chairman, as I say, the aspirations of the people of our province, and they are brought to mind very forcibly by the introduction of this resolution this afternoon for the building of a railway into the mines of this particular area. I am sure there will be no objection to this resolution from other parts of Canada. I am satisfied that every hon. member is pleased indeed to see that the railroad is to be built. They hope, I am sure, as I do, that it will be of great benefit to the people of our province.

I do not want to be considered one of those—and there are very few in this country—who are objecting to United States capital, as they say, coming into New Brunswick. It is United States capital that owns this mine in New Brunswick to which this railroad is being built, but most of us have no delusions or illusions as far as United States capital is concerned. We know that it comes into this country not for its health or for the health of the people who invest it here. The people who own it are here to get all they can out of the moneys they spend.

Instead of complaining about United States capital coming in, we wish to have more such capital, but we would like to see the American capital smelt and process those minerals in our country. May I use this as an illustration. We can take the Labrador ore again. United States capital owns the mines, owns the railroad, owns the ships and owns the mills in their own country to which the raw material is being shipped. In my opinion that is not a state of affairs which is going to build up this country.

I do not apologize for emphasizing this fact again. I do hope that in New Brunswick and in other parts of Canada where we have American capital and our people provide the labour to produce the raw material, we shall

also have American capital or some other capital that will build mills and process the raw material here in Canada.

I do not think it necessary for me to say any more this afternoon, Mr. Chairman. We are very pleased indeed that this resolution has been introduced, and we shall be very pleased when the railroad is built, as we hope it will be.

**Mr. McWilliam:** Mr. Chairman, this resolution deals with proposed legislation for the construction of a Canadian National Railways branch line from Bartibog to the Tomogonops river through the constituencies of Northumberland-Miramichi and Gloucester in the province of New Brunswick.

The subject matter of this resolution is of great importance to the people of Northumberland county, to the north shore area and to the province of New Brunswick as a whole. As we are all aware, base metal and other discoveries will soon come into production in this area, and facilities to move the deposits to a central point are vitally needed. It is judged that until a decision is reached as to the construction of a smelter the deposits from the Little River area will be brought to the deep water shipping terminals on the Miramichi river.

The Heath Steele Mines Limited, a subsidiary of the American Metals Company, are almost in operation at Little River. At the present time they are developing a mine at the site of the discoveries. It is expected that this mine will soon be in production, and the subsequent shipping of the concentrates will follow. In my opinion the construction of this branch line is only a start in the providing of rail facilities for this area. It appears that, based on explorations and the results of drilling, further production will be undertaken by other mining companies in this area, which will necessitate an extension or off-shoot of this proposed branch line. I trust, Mr. Chairman, that this resolution will be given favourable consideration and that a bill based on the resolution will soon be presented and will receive the approval of this house at the very earliest date. I wish to express the thanks of the people of Northumberland-Miramichi to the government for presenting this measure and the manner in which they are expediting it.

If it is in order, Mr. Chairman, I should like to ask the minister two or three questions. I want to stay within the scope of this resolution, much as I am tempted to follow my good friend the hon. member for Royal, and probably bring out some of the history of New Brunswick in regard to our mineral resources and our other resources in the province, and the exportation of the same