

natural advantage, and secondly, by discovering so far as we can the markets abroad which will enable us to expand in our sale of commodities which we produce or manufacture. If one would take the trouble to consult the figures and see what is actually taking place in the matter of development, one would find that while a few years ago we were exporting raw materials almost exclusively, the percentage of partially manufactured commodities and the percentage of wholly manufactured commodities which we have been exporting has been continually increasing. In other words, we are getting away from the stage of a country which is simply selling its raw materials to the stage where as a country we are developing a large manufacturing industry as well. The development of Canada in this particular will, I believe, compare more than favourably with any other industrial country in the world; that is to say, we have reached a higher stage in our manufacturing development in Canada, having regard to the age of the country and its population, than has, I believe, any other country in the history of the world.

I now hasten to follow my hon. friend's example and shall not dwell too long upon any one subject. I shall endeavour to take up the several matters in the speech from the throne which he touched upon, and to do so in the same order.

May I, before proceeding further, recall my hon. friend's reference to the improved health of His Majesty the King? As my hon. friend has said, this House of Commons gave expression last week to its thankfulness and rejoicing that His Majesty's health has recovered to the degree that it has. I am sure that we have all read with increasing thankfulness and rejoicing the word that His Majesty, being now at the seaside, is rapidly approaching the stage where convalescence may be looked for. We in Canada will be happy to join with Great Britain and other parts of the British Empire in a day of thanksgiving just as soon as His Majesty's government in the old land deems it advisable to name a day of thanksgiving for the Empire as a whole.

I come to the next matter to which my hon. friend has referred. He spoke of the fishing industry and to the reference in the speech from the throne to the appointment of a deputy Minister of Fisheries, and asked if it was the intention of the government to appoint a minister of fisheries. I would say to my hon. friend that it is the intention of the government to add to the ministry the

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

separate portfolio of minister of fisheries, but I hope he will allow us to choose the moment that seems most opportune in that regard.

Mr. BENNETT: About election time.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: My hon. friend the leader of the opposition spoke at considerable length upon the question of the transfer of their natural resources to the western provinces. He chided the government for the delay that has taken place in successfully bringing about the transfer of the natural resources to the different provinces, and he pointed to a reference in the speech from the throne of three or four years ago to the effect that negotiations were then under way with the hope of effecting a transfer so far at least as some of the provinces were concerned. My hon. friend might have gone back further even than that. He might have gone back to the days of Sir Robert Borden when he first came into office, and to the time when my hon. friend was associated with Sir Robert, and he would have found in some speeches from the throne of that day references to the intended transfer to the western provinces of their natural resources.

Mr. BENNETT: The war stopped that.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The war can be blamed for a good many things, but not wholly for that. No, I will give my hon. friend the explanation. The explanation is this, that in the matter of the transfer it takes two to make a bargain, not one. We could transfer the natural resources in five minutes if we were prepared to give the western provinces all they wish to have. If the government has been cautious in proceeding in this matter, it has been due to the fact that we have felt and rightly felt, that the government, in the matter of the transfer to the provinces of these natural resources, has a great trust for which it must have regard.

Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): The difficulty was that you had three making a bargain, instead of two.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Three?

Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): Yes; this government, the Alberta government, and the hon. member for Labelle (Mr. Bourassa).

Mr. BOURASSA: I am glad to learn that.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I think what my hon. friend from Frontenac-Addington (Mr. Edwards) really has in mind is that Sir Robert Borden had a third in his party on that question, and that he himself made the third.