

because only a few days later the Prime Minister himself appeared in my constituency and there he urged the electors to give their generous support to my opponent who was designated as a Farmer-Labour-Progressive-Independent. Just imagine the Prime Minister, after his utterances at Richmond Hill not more than two or three weeks before, swallowing that mouthful as if it were maple syrup! Any name looked good to him at that time but Tory. He did not even permit a Liberal candidate to enter the field. He and his campaign advisers told the old-line Liberals in West Kootenay that they could not have a Liberal candidate, and they were practically deprived of their right of franchise. They were simply told to take the Farmer-Labour-Progressive-Independent or leave him. The

lack of consistency might apply 10 p.m. to the utterances of the Prime Minister, through the acting leader of the government (Mr. Lapointe) to our Independent friends on the left of the Speaker. He tells them that they have always been good friends; that their principles are practically alike; that all they need to get along nicely is a little co-operation or co-ordination. He tells them that they are good friends; in fact he says: "I love you like a brother; just stay with me." But the Prime Minister does not talk in that way to the Independent out in Prince Albert.

There was polled in the constituency of West Kootenay in the 1921 election a majority vote of 2,000 against the Conservative candidate. In 1925, that majority was reversed plus 941. I put it to hon. members of the House if that is not another very emphatic evidence of lack of confidence on the part of the people in the King government.

I want to refer for just a moment to a matter other than that of agriculture, because it is a fact worthy of note that the Speech from the Throne contains absolutely no reference by way of recognition of the vast natural wealth of British Columbia, the development of which would very largely solve, first of all, the immigration problem, certainly, the unemployment problem, and, lastly, the problem of the exodus of Canadians to the United States. British Columbia has added to the national wealth of this country by its production of coal and coke no less than \$260,000,000, and notwithstanding interruptions it yields \$10,000,000 per annum. Our fisheries yield \$25,000,000, our agriculture, \$45,000,000, our industrial revenue, \$155,000,000, our forest products, \$100,000,000, and our mines \$66,000,000. In other words, we add practically \$500,000,000 annually to the credit of British Columbia, and this is tending to

build up what is destined to be, not only the greatest city in Canada, but certainly the most important port on the Pacific coast—the city of Vancouver.

Now, I think this discussion also brings out the supposition that the prairie provinces are bearing a very large share of the burdens of Canada to-day—perhaps to them they appear to be more than their share. But I think it would materially advance our national interests, certainly it would enlarge the information of hon. members, regardless of their political affiliations, if they would simply take time between sessions to cover different portions of the Dominion, and I would add—particularly the province of British Columbia. Our chief interests in my district are mining and farming, especially fruit growing. If you come to the historic mining camp of Rossland you could go underground through a concrete shaft for a distance of half a mile and ride in electric cars for thirty miles, and be lost through workings and tunnelings extending over eighty miles, every mile of which has produced one million dollars in wealth. Those eighty million dollars have created a Canadian payroll for three thousand men for the last twenty-five years. And Mr. Speaker, what we need to-day chiefly are Canadian payrolls. You can go down the mountain from our little town six miles and come to the greatest and most modern smelter on the continent, where is produced gold, silver, lead, copper, zinc, antimony and other by-products, 99.99 per cent pure. You can go out to the adjoining district, represented by the hon. Minister of Public Works (Mr. King), and there you will find the richest mine on the North American continent. You can go to the coast and find the Britannia mine, which at one time was considered a white elephant. Its mineral resources are immense. But in the early days science had not advanced to the point where it could make a commercial possibility of that vast body of ore. However, science has since accomplished this. Then, too, you will find the Premier mine, which has paid dividends aggregating \$7,000,000 since 1921.

But the point I want to drive home is that while to-day the mineral development of British Columbia is on the upgrade, and people are keenly interested in it, yet there is necessary greater action on the part of the government for field and research work. It is the research work, carried on chiefly by private companies, which to-day has resulted in the greatest achievement in metallurgical science. Hon. members will understand the importance of the achievement when I remind them, Sir, that by reason of this research