

of the production of the West Indies and the West Indies are beginning to take more of ours. I trust that that trade will grow. With better means of communication and more knowledge of the wants of the people, trade will greatly increase in that direction.

Allusion is made to the contiguous waters treaty, a treaty tending towards amicable relations between the United States and Canada with regard to public works on rivers and streams where the interests of the two countries unite. I trust that that will tend in the general direction of peace and goodwill, and also secure the best material interests of the two countries.

This brings me to a very interesting part of the Governor General's speech, and that is promised legislation in which we are all going to have a part. First of all, a Bill is to be introduced with regard to banks and banking. I may say the bankers of the Dominion have met and conferred and have given their views as to the best means of banking, to make it secure and popular and satisfactory to all classes. They have laid their views before the government, and I believe the government has incorporated those views in a Bill. It is to our satisfaction—we are proud of our institutions—that the banking system of Canada is being regarded as worthy of consideration, and of imitation in the United States, that our principles are superior to those on which United States banks are founded, that whereas some of the National banks of the United States have been embarrassed, and two or three banks in London itself have failed, no bank in Canada has had to succumb during the past year, showing the stability of our institutions and that our model is imitable, and probably will be adopted in that great country to the south of us.

There is another subject of great interest to the west, that is the establishment of terminal elevators for the protection of grain in transit. I have no doubt the government would give assistance in that direction, and the legislation will be of great interest to those portions of the country which produce grain and to other portions which are the fortunate receivers and transmitters of that grain. Last of all, legislation is to be submitted to us for the regulation of labour disputes. We are all inter-

ested in the condition of the labourer, and in the quieting of labour. A great desideratum would be attained if the labourers were satisfied that tribunals acted fairly and for their interests. It behooves every one who has influence with labourers to convey that impression to their minds, that they are not oppressed by capitalists and that capitalists do not over-prevail in these arbitration boards, but that the interests of the labourers are entertained and cared for and that they are dear to the government and as dear to any of these tribunals as the interests of capitalists or any other class. It is the duty of public men and the public press to explain the sinister effect of strikes. When men are prevailed upon to resort to brute force and violence, a strike is a calamity in any community, and we should endeavour to show its malignant effects, which fall upon women and children and helpless people. We will be conducting a good work and achieving a favourable termination if we pass such legislation as will be satisfactory to the labouring classes and quiet them and enable them to take their part in the development of this great country.

Again, in conclusion, the Governor General wishes for us success and invokes the aid of Divine Providence to guide us in our deliberations. We reciprocate and repeat that prayer. The destinies of Canada are great; a brilliant future is before it. Who will have wisdom and strength to conduct the multifarious affairs of this great country? We are assured that 'there is a Divinity that shapes our ends rough-hew them as we will,' and to His guidance we trust; but we ourselves must do our part; and if we work in combination, with wisdom, judgment and harmony, we will receive all the material advantages which are before us in the destiny of this great country. But if, unhappily, there should be firebrands—and I know some people are beginning to sow the seeds of discord—I would remind them that it was the torch of a Roman legionary which destroyed the temple that was forty-six years in building, and it has never been rebuilt. We should frown down all attempts to sow discord among the various elements of our population and labour in harmony if we can for the achievement of our great destiny and