

tangible recompence in the way of dollars and cents to the revenue of the Province.

As matters now stand, it is doubtful whether increased settlement is any advantage to the Province from a Provincial standpoint. Each new settler only increases the burden of the whole without adding anything to the Provincial Exchequer. To be plainer — increased settlement requires increased expenditure by the Provincial Government, a proportion of which is sure to fall on the older portions of the Province, (should taxation have to be resorted to) until such time as the population of the new districts is large enough to pay the full quota towards the general fund.

It is clearly, therefore, to the interest of the Provincial Government, as matters now stand, to discourage immigration because each new settler is only increasing their burden without adding anything towards their relief. It is different with the Dominion Government, for each settler is a consumer and as such is adding to the general revenue from customs and excise besides the purchase money for his land.

It is not altogether in the interests of Manitoba and the North-West that this article is written; it is in the interest of the Dominion as well. In the first place the people of this country will not stand being subjected to taxation when it is so plain that they are being deprived of their just rights, when they are refused the same privileges as the other provinces; and it is to avoid trouble in the future that we appeal now to the Dominion to take this question up at once ere it is too late and settle it to the satisfaction of this Province. Supposing that the Dominion should assume the responsibility of furnishing in the future the necessary means for carrying on our local government and supporting our local institutions, are our public men in a position to fully estimate the responsibility they would thus take upon themselves? Can they tell what our expenditure

will necessarily be in a few years, and will the people of the Dominion, as a whole, agree to furnish annually from the general purse a sum sufficient to pay our expenses? Will the people of Manitoba and the North-West be content to receive such a contribution, when by right they ought to be in a more independent position? Will it not be a cause of continual disagreement between the Dominion and the North-Western Provinces to settle satisfactorily this subsidy question? Would it not be better, once for all, to say to Manitoba, here are your lands, go on and administer them to the best advantage, henceforth you are free and we will be responsible only for such regular subsidy as is allowed to the other provinces.

It must be remembered that this Province is settling up fast and that with the vigorous policy adopted by the C. P. R. for the development of the country and from the great attention being paid to the Canadian North-West, as a field for immigration, in Great Britain and Europe, there is every reason to expect that the population will increase very rapidly and the requirements of the country in proportion.

A limit is placed to the numbers on which 80 cents per head of a subsidy is to be paid by the Dominion and this limit is 400,000. The utmost subsidy therefore we can expect to receive under this head is \$320,000 per annum. Consequently, unless some arrangement can be entered into concerning our capital debt to increase the same, our revenue from the Dominion can never exceed somewhere about \$400,000 per annum at the outside; and this calculation is based on our specific grant being increased from \$30,000 to \$60,000 as an utmost limit.

In order to deal with this matter thoroughly we must look into the probable future of the country and discuss the question in a broad and liberal manner. It is not sufficient to show the requirements of to-day or even a year hence; the

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