

"We shall have enormous grain crops in the North-west, and it would be an economic waste, it seems to me, for 100,000 farmers to build 100,000 barns or warehouses, when, by means of proper transportation facilities, their grain could be stored for a merely nominal charge in elevators erected as a common enterprise."

That is the policy which the hon. gentleman proposes to us. I wonder if he formed any estimate of what is involved in that proposition to provide elevators for him to store at a nominal charge all the grain that would be stored in 100,000 barns in the North-west.

Is He Going to Provide Elevators for Other Farmers Than Those of the North-west ?

There are to-day millions of dollars invested by private capital in elevators and warehouses and is the hon. gentleman prepared to buy these concerns ? If he is going to build elevators what becomes of those now existing through private capital and which in order to make them pay have to impose substantial and not merely nominal charges. If he provides elevators and warehouses for 100,000 farmers in the North-west to store their grain at a nominal charge, does he not think that he would have to build as many elevators, barns, and warehouses as would be necessary to store all the grain of Canada at a nominal charge ?

If You Build Warehouses and Barns and Elevators for 100,000 Farmers in the North-west, Why Should You not do the Same Thing for the Farmers in Other Parts of Canada.

Mr. COWAN. That's a barn-yard policy.

Careful Regard for the Treasury.

The POSTMASTER GENERAL. And although the leader of the opposition takes very little heed of money, this government having that careful regard to the public treasury which has always characterized them, must take note of the cost that such

A Mad and Wild-cat Scheme

As that proposed by the leader of the opposition would involve the country in. The hon. gentleman proposes to spend \$84,000,000 to get the Intercolonial Railway extended to the Northwest, although it would be of no public service to the Dominion, and indeed would not be a service but would be a positive injury to the people of Canada. He proposes as part of his scheme to take a portion of the Canadian Pacific Railway line and to force them to divert a large part of their traffic from the north shore of Lake Superior to and through the United States. He proposes to ignore practically, until some period that may suit him—he says when he has had surveys made—the great country lying between Quebec and Winnipeg. In fact, Sir, in the matter of ignoring Canadian interests

His Scheme is More in Favour of the United States Than of Canada.

My opinion is that we cannot at too early a moment build this railway, and particularly that portion of it from Moncton to Winnipeg which has most received the active hostility of hon. gentlemen opposite.