

say that Canada, was nowhere. Now, I think we can let in a little more general light on the subject. I do not want to be confining it to myself. (Laughter.) (This referred to Sir Richard's request to turn on the lights in the body of the hall.) He continued: I commend these diagrams to your serious study, because, as I have said, they show at a glance the enormous, almost phenomenal, progress, which has been made in Canada within the last seven or eight years. (Applause.) Now, sir, although we say and are proud to say, that great progress has been made in the way of material progress, I, for one, would be far from content if that were all.

WEALTH NOT EVERYTHING.

Growth in material wealth no doubt is of very great value, very great importance, and I am not likely to underrate it. But if I had seen that growth accompanied by a similar stagnation in the matter of the increase of population in Canada so that which took place in the years between 1878 and 1896, I would have regarded our work as extremely imperfectly done. Sir, I am happy to be able to tell you, on the most excellent authority, that the growth of population in Canada is keeping pace, and keeping pace well, with the extraordinary growth in material prosperity, of which I have just laid the evidence before you. It is true, sir, that this has been partially concealed. I have had occasion in my place in Parliament and elsewhere to point out to other audiences, as I now point out to you, that the census of 1891 was in almost all respects a deliberate fraud. (Applause.)

Sir, facts are coming to light, coming to light too slowly, coming to light in some respects too late; but those facts are clear, those facts are manifest. Some eighteen months ago, standing in the House, I laid on the table in Parliament the minutely detailed statements, which showed that in twenty constituencies in Quebec frauds to the extent of an addition of 40,000 people had taken place in those ridings alone at the time of the census. There is now but too much reason to believe that the frauds which took place in these twenty counties were duplicated, were perhaps increased even, all over Ontario, all over the Maritime Provinces—whether or not in the northwest I cannot say.