

less than in 1896 or 1897. Supposing we had adopted the other course. Suppose, for instance, we had allowed the Yukon to remain without proper government. Disorder would have reigned. Dawson would be like Skaguay, the nest for every cut-throat and scoundrel in the Yukon. But the way in which the Yukon Territory, on the whole, has been administered is infinitely to the credit of Canada and the present Administration. (Loud applause.) I say, and I believe, that there is no intelligent American who would not substantiate my assertion, that since we took possession of the Yukon and established our government at Dawson there has been less crime, robbery and murder at Dawson, with its population of 30,000 to 40,000, in one year than in Skaguay in a week.

### **The Government's Enterprise.**

Sir, we might have taken no steps to promote immigration. We might have taken no steps to develop British Columbia. We might have taken no steps to extend the Intercolonial Railway—we might have left its terminus in a ploughed field as we found it. We might have given you no penny post. We might have taken ten years to finish your canals instead of completing them in three. We might have done all those things, and possibly we might have saved apparently a few hundred thousand dollars on your annual expenditure. But had we done so your annual income would have been many millions less than it is to-day. Had we done so, the wealth of the people of Canada would have been less by tens and tens of millions than it is to-day. Had we done so, the population of Canada would have been less by several hundred of thousands than it is to-day. Sir, to my mind the best test of prosperity in any country, and more particularly in a country like Canada, lies in this fact—is it a country where the people remain and seek their fortunes in it? Is it a country to which strangers from other lands come to seek their fortunes, or is it a country from which the natives fly? Is it a country in which when you bring the people to it you find it impossible to retain them? What was the position of Canada in the years from 1881 to 1891?

A voice—What about the bye-elections?

Another voice—What about the Senate?

Sir Richard Cartwright—You may leave the Senate to Providence—(loud cheers)—which in its own good time will doubtless take that millstone from off the necks of the people. (Loud cheers)