

regard his recent promotion at the hands of our leader as a recognition, in part, at any rate, of the services he rendered during the Jubilee celebration. May I say by the way, that incidentally, and only incidentally, the few steps I have been allowed to take towards the sun are not due to anything such as that, but are simply because I happen to be the senior privy councillor who sits on this side of the House.

Now I want to say something with regard to the visit of the Prime Minister of Great Britain, and the heir apparent. It is a matter for congratulation that at last a British Prime Minister whilst in office has deemed it worth while to visit our Dominion. His visit will no doubt tend to strengthen the tie that binds us, one of its greatest parts, to the Empire itself. I am quite sure that what Mr. Baldwin saw in Canada was a revelation to him, and that he went away with a better understanding of our needs, and of our hopes and aspirations. The subsequent visit of the Prime Minister of Australia, the recent visit of the Premier of the Free State, and the approaching visit of the Secretary of State of the United States, are bound to bring about great advantages to Canada. These visits will cause a sort of rediscovery of Canada, if I may put it that way, not only to Canadians but to the world at large. They will show to our visitors the grandeur of our country, of our lakes and rivers, our magnificent natural resources, our unlimited potentialities, and will cause them to look upon our future in much the same way that we do ourselves. The fame of Canada during last year spread over this continent and the old continent in a manner which was altogether new, and I would wish that the Government of the day would not lose any opportunity for the renewal of such visits.

I agree with the view expressed that great benefits are bound to accrue from Provincial Conferences such as we had during the summer. The oftener our ministers and leaders come in contact with one another, and the more frequent their exchange of views, desires and ambitions, the better will the autonomous provinces become known to each other, thus our country will be more fully appreciated. What is needed in Canada is greater contact not only of governments and leaders, but of individuals. It is extraordinary to have to admit that in this country we hardly know one another, that, for instance, the two great races have learned less than they should know about one another; and they will not become

intimate and more united unless opportunities are afforded of more frequent meetings and more constant contact.

I should like to say a few words in regard to the development of the St. Lawrence River. I have not made up my mind as to whether I shall support or oppose the proposed scheme of development. I do not think I can come to a reasonable conclusion unless I am furnished with a great deal more information than we have now. I think it is fair to say that we have at present little or no information on the subject. We must remember that we have already by treaty granted important rights to the United States with regard to the navigation of our Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence, and I confess I am rather chary about increasing those rights. I am afraid to give our American friends larger control than they now have. To my mind the St. Lawrence river is the greatest Canadian asset. There is no other that can for a moment be compared with it in value. The St. Lawrence is the open door, and is the key to the largest part of North America. Are we going to increase the hold which the republic to the south already has on this great asset without having sufficient data, or without having proper guarantees, and sufficient means for implementing such guarantees? We may get a guarantee which on the face of it may appear safe, but the question is whether it can be carried out. We should remember that the whole American Union has not been able to prevent the city of Chicago from causing great damage by altering the level of our lakes. If we increase the control which the Americans already have over our waterway, what guarantee have we that we can enforce any guarantees which they may be willing to concede?

Honorable gentlemen on the other side have referred to what should be done in the way of increasing the population of Canada, and keeping our sons within our own borders. They have expressed the desire that practical steps should be taken in regard to the two different aspects of what is really one subject, namely, immigration and keeping our people at home. Now, I have a suggestion. Our farm lands are being abandoned because they cannot provide employment except for a certain proportion of our farmers' sons. They have not the extent or possibilities that permit all farmers' sons to stay at home and find on the farm a livelihood and financial advancement. I want to suggest that the Government of Canada or the Governments of the provinces—depending very largely on the opinion which will be handed down by the Supreme