

Port Arthur. If that is the case what an enormous market will be there for the fruit growers of Canada! I am certain that this industry, a very large industry to-day, can be extended to almost indefinite proportions. We have at present in Ontario a very large and prosperous industry as the following figures showing the increased production, demonstrate:

	1901	1891
Peaches, bushels....	811,721	40,626
Pears, bushels... ..	487,759	208,887
Plums, bushels... ..	337,108	171,335
Cherries, bushels... ..	132,117	106,658
Grapes, lbs. ....	23,156,478	11,725,284
Other fruits, qts....	17,515,560	6,669,270
Apples, bushels,....	13,631,264	5,043,621

These are large figures, but the business is capable of indefinite expansion if we can only secure the markets of the country. There are a great many things necessary to secure these markets and one of the most important essentials is that we shall grow the varieties of fruit that can be transported over the great distances that we have in this country to transport them over. Our great market is the distant market of the Northwest Territories and we cannot export large quantities of the perishable fruits that we grow in the Niagara district to-day. Our fruits are of a character differing from those grown in California. Their climate is a rainless one and their fruits are of a dry nature. They are capable of being exported. They are not of as good quality as ours, but they can be carried better. It devolves upon the fruit growers to produce kinds of fruits that can be carried to the Northwest Territories. It is the duty of the government to give us an experimental farm in that district and it should be no small affair either. Let us have it conducted on broad lines because it is an important matter. It is a matter worth tens of millions of dollars to this country if we can secure our own markets for our trade. This is one of the most important matters that can be brought to the attention of this government; that is, to enable us to introduce and grow the kinds of fruits that can be carried to distant markets. We have a few but we lack a great many. We have only one variety of peaches, we have scarcely any variety of plums, and we lack a real good variety of grapes capable of being sent to distant markets. There is room for improvement and development along that line. Private individuals cannot undertake it, the present experimental farms cannot undertake it because they are not now placed where they can do it. They are situated in a different zone altogether from the commercial fruit belt of this country. That is one of the matters that might fairly well have occupied the attention of the ministers of the Crown, and might very well have been mentioned in the speech from the

Throne rather than some of these other matters, perhaps, or in addition to these other matters, important as they may be. We should expend in these ways that I have mentioned some of the small part of the enormous amount of money that is proposed to be squandered on a road running through a country that is without population, that is practically unknown, and through which no one has asked the government to run a road at the present time.

Mr. JABEL ROBINSON (West Elgin). Mr. Speaker, I hesitated before I rose believing that some member of the government should reply to the accusations made against them by the hon. member for East Simcoe (Mr. Bennett). I am satisfied that the government ought at least to have some reply to make to the charges of nepotism and of having violated the independence of parliament, in view of the fact that the members of the government used to be so fond of denouncing in this House the very things that they are charged with doing. Some of the gentlemen on the government benches should make a speech, to point out that the member for East Simcoe (Mr. Bennett) is not telling the truth, or else they should admit that what he said was correct. I am not prepared to believe it until I get further evidence, but I do think that further evidence should be forthcoming. The first part of the speech from the Throne tells us that we are to have a short session, and if that be so we must have short speeches. I intend to set a good example in that respect. I would propose that any member who was not a cabinet minister explaining a policy, or the leader of the opposition, who speaks for more than one hour should be compelled to sit every Sunday listening to the longest winded preacher in the city of Ottawa. I think that would teach him to cut his speeches short, and I would recommend that cure. The next paragraph of the speech from the Throne deals with the transcontinental railway, and most of you will remember that I spoke on that question last session. I took different grounds from the most of those who spoke; I only spoke for thirty-five minutes, and I had two thousand copies of that speech printed and sent broadcast throughout my constituency. I have yet to meet a man who read that speech, who has not said that the speech was just to the point, and that it was just what the farmers wanted. If that is a fair specimen of how the people feel all over Canada on this railway policy, then, the government instead of calling parliament to renew the charter with the Grand Trunk Pacific, should wipe it out altogether, and commence to build the road themselves. They need not do it in one year, but they can easily complete the railway in the seven years which they have allowed the Grand Trunk Pacific. They tell us that they have a surplus of \$15,000,000 this year, and if for each