

with respect to other commodities. A year or two ago, we found there was considerable depression in the maritime provinces, and we grappled with the question of railway rates in the maritime provinces. We made concessions in freight rates to industry and to the people which have served a useful purpose in the development of the maritime provinces. So our policies with respect to the railways have contributed in a very substantial way to the prosperity of the present time.

I might mention policies related more particularly to other departments of the government. Let me take first the Department of Trade and Commerce. I notice that my hon. friend did not say very much about the paragraph in the speech from the throne which spoke of the new steamship service between Canada and the West Indies and which refers to the continually expanding trade of the Dominion and the facilities which the government are providing for furthering markets in different parts of the world. He left all that severely alone. But one of the great achievements of the present administration has been the manner in which it has furthered export trade not to one country only, but to all parts of the world, furthered export trade in accordance with a policy that has been carefully thought out of encouraging trade by subsidizing certain steamship lines, by seeing that the necessary trade commissioners were appointed, by providing private concerns with necessary commercial intelligence and generally by taking such steps through scientific and industrial research and in other ways as would serve to advance the interests of trade throughout the Dominion.

I might speak also of the part which has been played by the Department of Labour in helping to reduce industrial unrest to a minimum. No other country in the world has been as free of strikes within the last few years as has been this Dominion of Canada, and if that is true, no small credit is due to liberal measures and policies and to the Minister of Labour (Mr. Heenan) for what he has helped to effect in that regard.

Despite all that my hon. friend says with regard to immigration, may I say that I think the policies of the government with respect to immigration as well have contributed very materially to the prosperity of this country. We have been cautious in the manner in which we have dealt with this problem. We have endeavoured to bring into this country the numbers which we believed could be assimilated in a natural and normal way and who would remain permanently here. We have avoided steps which would lead to un-

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

rest, and which in the end, would be certain to retard in a most unfortunate manner the tide of immigration.

These are only some of the policies which the government has brought forward and put into practice since it came into office, but all of these policies have contributed in a real and substantial way to the development of our industries and to our present prosperity.

I was interested in hearing what my hon. friend had to say about the extent to which the commodities that we were exporting were commodities that were associated with the great basic industries. He has, I notice, in most of his speeches been seeking and he did, I think, by implication to-day also seek to convey the impression that Canada in some way or another was parting with her estate, to use a phrase which he used on a previous occasion; that we were depleting our resources; that in some way or another we were depriving future generations of raw material which they ought to have. My hon. friend has answered, I hope, effectively to himself and to the country the one point that he has been seeking to make right along against this administration. He has shown that most of these exports are natural products of the field, of the forest and of the mine, largely, may I say, products of agriculture and products that could not be exported in a more developed or finished state than that in which they are exported at the present time. Let me make myself clear by referring to wheat. I have not at hand at the moment the figures in regard to the total exportation of wheat.

Mr. DUNNING: He put flour and wheat together.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I am advised my hon. friend put flour and wheat together.

Mr. BENNETT: Grain and grain products.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Grain and grain products. Will my hon. friend say that the exportation of this year's crop of wheat means the robbing of future generations of crops of wheat that may be exported? That is what I hope my hon. friend will keep in his mind. He has left out of the account in his public addresses the fact that the large exportations are of those commodities in which this country has a distinct natural advantage and which are capable of reproduction. We have a great advantage given us by Providence in our natural resources and these resources in large part are capable of reproducing themselves. At least as regards agriculture, with