

ment qualifications have been acknowledged by the diplomats the world over, and whose sound counsels have been sought after and appreciated by the leaders of the great powers. Indeed, Canada may rightly glory in the service and work of the hon. Senator Dandurand. Canada may now have direct diplomatic intercourse with other nations, and no doubt the government will avail itself of such a right wherever we have important interests to safeguard. Already Great Britain, France, Japan and other nations desire, following in the footsteps of the United States, to establish a permanent diplomatic service with Canada. These relations will contribute to emphasize our full national expansion and thereby draw to our free and autonomous country new citizens who will be prepared to benefit by our immense wealth and enjoy our peaceful national life. They will also attract capital of which we are so much in need.

The conference of the provincial prime ministers has laid down a firm foundation for that prosperity and peace which the labours of our citizens and of a sound administration ensures to a country disposing of such large resources as Canada. After having, for the sake of justice, requested the continuation of the subsidies voted to the maritime provinces at the last session, the provincial prime ministers, with the greatest freedom and frankness, scrutinized all the interprovincial questions, and the government, inspired by deliberations where were naturally exposed the various viewpoints, acquaint us with the necessary legislation destined to ensure the general welfare of the country, nevertheless taking into account the needs and legitimate aspirations of each province.

The return to the prairie provinces of their natural resources will be acclaimed by the population of the west as an act of justice, which will give them a new scope towards progress. In certain parts of the country, the prairie provinces are too much looked upon as a plain where the citizens have no other resources than that of the fertility of the soil. Moreover, in their opinion this fertility is subjected to many conditions which make the returns more or less uncertain. This is an entirely erroneous opinion, and should they be given possession of their natural resources, these provinces will prove to the remainder of Canada that they possess wealth which, by a more direct administration, will be able to supply some industries and give remunerating work to thousands of people.

The hon. members of Saskatchewan and Alberta will no doubt address you on the natural resources of their provinces. I shall

therefore confine my remarks to a few sources of wealth in Manitoba. There is no need to discuss the fertility of its soil, which never fails to reward those who cultivate it, or of its dairy industry, its remarkable progress in poultry and bee raising or of its live stock trade. Manitoba has become highly reputed in these various spheres of agricultural industries, and what I might say would add nothing to what you already know. However, I wish to especially mention its mines and mineral beds still unworked. Who has not heard of its prosperous gold mines to the east of lake Winnipeg and to the north of the Pas? Their output is always on the increase and will continue so with better communications. There exist in those two districts mineral resources of all kinds. In the first rank is copper of which we possess the largest beds in the whole world; there is also to be found silver, nickel, iron, lead, zinc in sufficient quantities to attract capital and give very profitable returns. The famous mineral belt known as the Flin-Flon will soon be worked, thanks to the generous and willing co-operation of our Minister of Railways who had no hesitation in meeting the wishes of the Hon. Mr. Bracken, prime minister of that province, and with whom he came to an understanding which ensures the building of a railway which will serve that whole mining district. By the way, allow me, sir, to express my esteem for the Prime Minister of Manitoba who so energetically devoted himself to ensure the development of this new region. Mr. Bracken is aware of the untouched wealth of that district which he represents in the legislature, and he has faith in the spirit of enterprise and honesty of capitalists which this wealth will not fail to attract. Allow me also to extend to the hon. and sympathetic Minister of Railways for the Dominion the deep gratitude of the people of Manitoba for the strong co-operation which he gave to our provincial government in their endeavours to develop our province.

This railway will also facilitate the establishment of fisheries in this region still untouched and will at the same time open up new fields to settlers. I may add that Manitoba's sub-soil moreover contains deposits of gypsum, marble and of the beautiful stone which one admires in the interior of this building.

Allow me, Mr. Speaker, to congratulate the government and once more our energetic Minister of Railways, for the activity displayed in the completion of the Hudson Bay railway. The ocean port of Churchill will soon become, we hope, a great centre of