

search grants and the establishment of national research laboratories. He has increased the efficiency of the commercial intelligence service; during the past eight years the number of offices has been increased by 50 per cent and the personnel by over 100 per cent. Due to the efficiency of this department, which was reorganized last year, our exports have become 28 times what they were in the year of confederation.

3. Let us now consider how agriculture is represented. We have the genial Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Motherwell), who is a practical farmer and who was formerly Minister of Agriculture in Saskatchewan. He is very congenial and popular. The most important achievements of his department since he took office have been the winning of the fight against wheat rust on the prairies; the discovery of Garnet and Reward wheat, bred and developed by Mr. Newman, Dominion Cerealists, which varieties of wheat mature from a week to ten days earlier than marquis wheat and which have extended the seed belt of this country one hundred miles to the north, opening up vast areas hitherto supposed to be useless for that kind of agriculture; the eradication of bovine tuberculosis and the improvement in the Canadian hog. Canadian bacon has improved so very much in quality that Canada is eating very much more of it, and it compares favourably with the Danish article, which is supposed to be the best that reaches the market.

We also have the Minister of the Interior (Mr. Stewart), a farmer and a former premier of Alberta who, as the Minister of the Interior, returned the natural resources of the western provinces and who, as acting Minister of Immigration, cut out the assisted passage of immigrants, which step had been advocated for a long time throughout this country. The Minister of Railways and Canals (Mr. Crerar) was born and raised on a farm and was Minister of Agriculture in the Union government, resigning the year after the war. He was the leader of the Progressive party in the House of Commons until November, 1922, and has been president of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association since 1907. Upon the appointment of the present Minister of Finance the Prime Minister called him to take over the portfolio of Railways and Canals. He is working on the consolidation of the debt of the Canadian National Railways; he is concerning himself with the Montreal terminal; this year he will inaugurate the Welland canal, which is a marvel of civil engineering, and the Hudson Bay railway. He is a fair-minded man and a hard worker,

[Mr. Pouliot.]

although apparently he does his work in a very easy way.

The present Minister of Finance (Mr. Dunning) was vice-president of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association and the organizer and general manager of the Saskatchewan Cooperative Elevators. He is a practical business man. The Minister of Finance was born in England in 1885, and is not yet forty-five years old. This young immigrant, who came to Canada in 1902, was appointed provincial treasurer of Saskatchewan when only thirty-one years of age and became premier two years later. He resigned the premiership to come to Ottawa in the dark days of 1926, since when his varied experience, sound judgment and practical views have proved to be of invaluable assistance to the Liberal party, especially with regard to the building of the Hudson Bay railway and the Halifax, Toronto and Vancouver terminals, and the complete reorganization of the Canadian National Railways. Several times the minister has been offered positions in the business world at salaries ranging from \$25,000 to \$50,000 yearly, but with praiseworthy self denial he has refused these offers. Upon the death of the late Mr. Robb he was chosen Minister of Finance, and his first budget speech has proved the wisdom of that choice. It is the most fair to all, although the most technical budget, since confederation, thanks to the intelligent work of the tariff board, the wise recommendations of different members of the cabinet and many private members, and the clear vision of the new minister, who continues the splendid work of his predecessor in reducing the debt of this country as well as the taxes.

I have mentioned the ministers who particularly represent industry, agriculture and labour in the cabinet which, however, includes also several other men of great ability. The Minister of Justice (Mr. Lapointe) attended the conference in London last fall on the operation of Dominion legislation and merchant shipping legislation, with regard to the disallowance of existing statutory provisions requiring reservation of Dominion legislation for the assent of His Majesty; the present position as to the competence of Dominion parliaments to give their legislation extra-territorial operation and also the repeal of the Colonial Laws Validity Act. No one, I am sure, can forget his able leadership as acting premier in the first months of the hectic session of 1926.

The Minister of Marine and Fisheries (Mr. Cardin) is a very modest man who always chooses to remain in the background, although he is one of the most eloquent plat-