

of Trade all over the Province asking that a change be made and Statute labour abolished, and that construction of the roads and bridges should be all gathered together under one head. We had resolutions from the Union of Municipalities, which is supposed to represent the last thing in Municipal ideas in this Province, not only asking for what we afterwards did, but recommending a distinguished member of that Union as a possible member of the Road Board which should carry out the provisions of any law which might be made; both of which recommendations were carried out by this House and Government. We also had even resolutions from the Farmers Association of Nova Scotia asking for a change and the abolition of the old conditions and the adoption of new, and the constituting of some progressive policy in this Province under which, with the new conditions of greater traffic and increased prosperity we might have a better system of highways in the Province than we have ever had before; and we also had the press of this country, I think without exception, demanding that something be done to get rid of the old state of things and adopting a new.

Act Unanimous.

I want to say just here, Mr. Speaker, I consider it was a very fortunate thing for this Province that we were able to submit to this House an Act which passed this legislature unanimously. So far as our friends on the other side of the House were concerned, they were able to see the absolute fairness of the provisions of the Act, and they were able to interpret public opinion on the matter so that when the Act passed the House it received the unanimous assent of members sitting all round the benches. I say that was a very fortunate thing for the inauguration of the Highway Board, and for the people of this Province. There was another fortunate thing I consider and that was in the selection of the gentlemen who were called upon to become members of the Highway Board. I want here and now, to compliment my friend, the Honourable Leader of the Opposition, for to him was due the selection of two of the distinguished members of the Board. I wish to compliment him on the selection he made on that occasion, and to say generally of this Board that it is composed of the very highest class of men in Nova Scotia; men of independence, who have given a lot of time and thought to the road problem in Nova Scotia and to whom is due the credit very largely of formulating the report, the particulars of which I am about to call to the attention of this House.