

can take care of itself. If it be a paying road, of course it will be very much better kept up than if it were not, and it will be a first-class road from the fact that it will be a profitable one.

The next question that the address deals with is that connected with the fisheries. The way in which the clause is framed would lead one to believe that some negotiations are at the present moment being carried on between the Governments at Ottawa and Washington through Great Britain for the continuance of the Washington Treaty clauses with reference to the fisheries. Those who have read the proceedings of Congress must be satisfied that very little attention indeed is given to the too-late appeal made by the Canadian Government, or the Imperial Government for Canada, for the continuance of the treaty. The Government, during the years '83 and '84 were repeatedly reminded that that treaty was about to expire; that it was in the interests of the people of Canada as well as of the United States, since it was a source of envy and bitter feeling between the two countries, that overtures and negotiations should have been commenced for a continuance of that treaty. However it was allowed, like a great many other important questions, to drift, and it was only at the eleventh hour, even after the eleventh hour, that the question was really vigorously taken up. Then Congress had risen, and under the law of the United States the president of the power that was to deal with the subject could do nothing except receive the favors that were tendered to him by the government of Canada. The government of Canada, in the most generous spirit, said, "We do not desire to annul the treaty; we hope it will continue, and as a proof of our sincerity we will allow matters to go on as they are until Congress meets." What was the effect? Congress saw that Canada had opened her three mile limit to the fishermen of the United States and that no attempt was made by us to enforce the laws of this country. We on the other hand asked that they on their side should allow the treaty to continue for the six months; but the President of the United States met our government with a distinct refusal. He had no power to continue the arrangement, and the consequence

has been that it has been a one-sided treaty for the latter half of the year 1885, we paying the duty on fish going into the United States, and the American fishermen enjoying all the privileges that they have had in our waters during the past ten years. Now we are told that the Government will probably ask Parliament for a vote to raise a sort of police navy to protect our fisheries. I think it is extremely unfortunate, that if the treaty was to terminate, it was not terminated on one side as well as on the other; that this left-handed arrangement by which we are compelled to pay duty on fish going into the United States, while we give American fishermen all the privileges they have enjoyed under the treaty, has proved to be a mistake. They assume probably that Canada is not disposed to quarrel with them over this question of the defence of the three miles limit. We all know that it is a subject fraught with a great deal of trouble; that regulations of that kind are very difficult to enforce, and with the facilities that American fishermen have for reaching our bays in our fishing sections, they will constantly be encroaching upon our limit, leading no doubt to a constant irritation, an irritation that will not be favored by the people in England. The British Government will not care to be drawn into these quarrels. They have shown in the past that they are somewhat averse to being drawn into difficulties of that kind with reference to small commercial treaties.

A measure to give to the people of the North-West representation in Parliament is promised, I am very glad that the Government have even at this late period determined to give the people of that vast territory representation in Parliament. It has been rather a novel feature in the past that so large a body of British subjects should be governed in the manner they have been by orders in council, and I may say by departmental decrees. Had we had representatives in the North-West during the last two or three years in Parliament, possibly the serious trouble and the consequent loss of life and money might have been averted. It is one of the evidences at all events that the government recognize that the people should have their representatives in the parliament of Canada, because, as I said be