

that that statement can be successfully challenged, that Manitoba, had it had its lands from the beginning, would have had to honour the contract entered into with the Hudson's Bay Company.

I do not think it is necessary to say any more on that point except this, that when Saskatchewan and Alberta were formed, if my recollection serves me, that obligation was made part of the bargain; and I am told by the Solicitor General that when the bargain which has never been implemented was made with Alberta recently, in the last couple of years, part of that bargain was that the province in taking over its natural resources would fulfil the obligations of the Dominion towards the Hudson's Bay Company.

Now I think that I have, at least for the ~~near~~ moment, finished with the question of lands in Manitoba. I will now deal with the other natural resources, the forests, the water-powers and the minerals. So far as the minerals are concerned, the pre-Cambrian Shield has but been scratched. Those natural resources are being returned to Manitoba practically intact, with this very advantageous situation in regard to them, that vast sums of money have been expended by the Dominion in examining them and in opening them up. As regards the water-powers, I think it is admitted on all hands that the administration of the water-powers by the Dominion has been excellent, and that, although some of them have been alienated, the leases made in regard to their alienation, on the whole-- I speak subject to correction, but on the whole, have been advantageous, that the consideration given by the lessees has been adequate, and that when Manitoba has these turned over to it, the province will, no doubt, enjoy this adequate remuneration. I say I am speaking by and

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