

to recommend their transfer to Manitoba, and as a consequence and by precedent the surrender to the provinces to be created from the Northwest Territory, all the lands within their boundaries, then they would advise that the provinces holding the lands should conduct their own immigration operations at their own expense.

There is a question which I cannot let pass without referring to it; it is the question of how the territories should have been divided and the new provinces mapped out. As to the division and number of provinces, I do not think the present proposition is the best that could be put before us. I think it would have been much better to have removed the present western boundary of Manitoba to a point somewhere near Moosejaw, and then organize the rest, from this point to the Rockies, in one province, thus forming only two provinces, the northern limit of which might have corresponded with the 63rd or 64th degree of latitude north. Manitoba was entitled to that extension of its area. A mere look at the map shows the absurdity, at the present time, of leaving it with its present boundaries, when they are compared with the size of the other provinces. Besides, Manitoba has been the pioneer province of the west; it has opened the way for the creation of other provinces in that far distance; its people have been instrumental in bringing prosperity not only within its limited area, but to the whole western prairies. All this should have inclined the government to satisfy our claims in that respect. And then, as I said, it would have been possible to form only one province with the balance of those territories west of Manitoba as far as the Rockies. The advantage of such an arrangement would have been to reduce considerably the expenses and to simplify the machinery of government. We are too much governed in this country. No doubt, a federal government is the only one possible in Canada, if we want to maintain the unity of British North America. There are in Canada differences of origin, of opinions and of feelings which would not be satisfied otherwise. There must be different provinces. But at the same time we should try, when circumstances and conditions permit it, to lessen that provincialism, so as to leave the people somewhat free from excessive expenses and complicated government machin-

ery. Again, I say, we are too much governed. We have a federal government, we have provincial governments, county councils, local municipal councils, school trustees, and what others; so much so that the people of Canada are continually thrown into spasms on account of elections taking place somewhere. That is not good for the peace and harmony that should prevail amongst us nor for the quietness of mind, necessary to the proper working-up of the prosperity and the building up of the nation. And although the subject is not one to be discussed along with the measure that is now before us, I would like to be permitted to respectfully submit to our friends of the maritime provinces whether it should not be better for them and for Canada, to unite and organize their respective territory into one larger province, so as to save a portion of the turmoil of elections, and of expense to themselves and to the central government. Be that as it may, it seems to me the claims of Manitoba should have been satisfied, and those claims having been so satisfied, it would have been to the interest both of the people west of Manitoba and the people of Canada at large to have but one other province east of the Rocky mountains.

Before leaving that subject let me express the hope that if this Bill passes as it is, the government of Canada will at a near date recognize our claims to the territory east and north of Manitoba, up to Hudson bay, and annex that portion of Canada to our province. The other provinces which have been mentioned, Quebec and Ontario, can have no claims upon that domain, which almost as a matter of right belongs to Manitoba. It would also be in the interest of all parties concerned if an amicable arrangement could be entered into by the province of Ontario and Manitoba, by which the former would abandon to our province the districts of Lake of the Woods and of Rainy Lake, to be compensated by the addition to the Ontario territory of all that part of Keewatin extending northward to Hudson bay and lying east of the Severn river, this last river to form a natural boundary line between the two provinces from its mouth up to a point where it intersects the 92° of longitude, and then the boundary to be a line projected duly south