Government Reserves and Parks 6,239,000 acres

Reserved for Forestry, Parks and Pulpwood

Parish and River Lots..... Indian Reserves surrendered........... 1,166,314

A total of 61,326, 932 acres of Saskatchewan lands have been elienated by the Dominion Government up to January, 1927. These lands were alienated without the authority or consent of the Covernment and people of Saskatchewn and onnerming them we had no say. If an average value of only \$5,00 per sore was placed on these lands we have a value of \$306.634.660.00. At three per cent. interest this would represent a subsidy of \$9,199,039.80 per year, without taking into consideration our minerals and our water power.

According to said Sessional Paper 281 the Dominion Government still has in its possession 102,300,000 acres of Saskatchewan lands, surveyed and unsurveyed, which at an average price of three dollars per acre only, would represent a value of \$306,900,000.00.

Under these circumstances it must be evident to the most partial observer that the return of the balance of our unalienated resources and the payment of the subsidy even at its maximum of \$1,125,000.00 is very far from a fair or adequate settlement of the just claims of the Province of Saskatchewan against the Dominion Covernment by reason of the said alienations.

The amendment of our Constitution should also receive serious consideration at this time. Section 2 of the B.N.A. Act, 1871 states that the Parliament at the time of establishing a new Province may "make provision for the constitution and administration of any such Province". This has been construed to mean that the Parliement of Canada had an unlimited authority to devise for the Province of Saskatchewan any constitution it might think right. I am of the opinion that the Parliament of Canada had no such right; that the Parliament of Canada could not establish nor constitute any Province, except homologous in all radical essentials with the Provinces already provided for and whose status and rights are conferred by the B. N. A. Act, 1867. I, therefore, respectfully submit that Saskatchewn is entitled to the same status and rights as the other Provinces of Canada under the B. N. A. Act of 1867, and that in all cases where our constitution differs from that of the other Provinces of Canada the necessary amendments should be made in the Saskatchewan Act so that the Province of Saskatchewan be placed in a position of equality with the other Provinces of Confederation in the matter of its constitution.

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W.L. Mackenzie King Papers Memoranda & Notes

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