

tions of country in which no railroad has been built for over forty years. When railways were constructed they ran through an area entirely in forest. Settlement has been extending from the main lines for 20, 30, and even 40 miles, but the people have now no more railway communication than they had thirty or forty years ago. Now, some railroad lines are to be picked out. It is quite true, according to what the honourable leader has stated, that we can make additions to or substrations from the total. I suppose we may make aditions there?

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: No, I have not said that.

Hon. Mr. POPE: I did not say that you said it.

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: Or make substitutions.

Hon. Mr. POPE: I asked if where one line was dropped out we could not substitute another, perhaps a line in Quebec. Is not some accommodation to be given to the people in the old Province of Quebec? I appreciate the citizens of Saskatchewan for all they are worth—and no more. The citizens of Saskatchewan are no better than the citizens of the Province of Quebec, and no more entitled to consideration. Our people are native-born; they are not immigrants from some foreign country. If there is one thing that should appeal to the Government of Canada more than any other, it is the welfare of the men and women who are native-born Canadians. Under the circumstances, which I have not exaggerated but merely mentioned, I appeal in the name of the Province of Quebec to the hearts of the people of Canada, and particularly to the Senate of Canada, to include the Province of Quebec in the programme of railway construction, so that the native-born citizens of that province who live 30 or 40 miles away from a railroad may have an opportunity of getting nearer to the markets and to the centres of consumption. I think that I am speaking in a good cause. I am asking for simple justice and nothing more. The honourable leader of the Opposition—no, he is not in Opposition, but he should be—the honourable leader of the Government turns the back of his head to me. I am surprised, Sir, that you do not want to face me with warm and hearty sympathy. I am disappointed that my appeal to you does not indicate that you will recall your colleagues in the sacred Chamber down below, and consult them, and make it possible for the native-born citizens of Quebec, from

Hon. Mr. POPE.

which I come, to share in this splendid new railway policy of the Government to which you belong. It is a policy that proposes to build railroads anywhere, at any time; that proposes to finance them as they please, anyhow and in any way and at any time. We who live in the Province of Quebec never had any such proposition as this laid before us. In the old days we had to measure the distance; we had to say from where we started, and where we went to; we had to give the absolute mileage; we had to take a positive estimate of the cost; we had to form an organization called a company; we had to assume responsibility associated with the early financing of that enterprise—buying the right of way, and all that—before we could come to Parliament and get a miserable subsidy. Originally it was \$1,600 a mile, afterwards \$3,200, and still later \$6,500 a mile, if we could make the road cost that much. We made an effort to see that those roads were worth all that subsidy of \$6,500 a mile, and as a rule we won out. And now we find that it is possible for vacant places in Canada to be able to go forth and build a road without any organization whatever, without any disturbance to finance, without an appeal to anything, without a survey, without knowledge of distance, without guarantee of cost, without guarantee of mileage; that we can come to the Parliament of Canada and get a blank letter of credit to go forth to the world and get the money to build those roads. And I am living in the Province of Quebec, a native citizen of Canada, and yet we are refused a single mile to be included in this list. Did some honourable gentleman say 12 miles? Those 14 miles have been disputed here. I do not think they should be. I was going to say it was mean of the leader of the Government in this House to ask for only 14 miles out of one thousand; and to deny him that I think is too awfully mean. I think it is unworthy of this great Chamber to deny that. I think we should build those 14 miles. I am almost inclined to go and build them myself, but those 14 miles should be built, because it is not in keeping with the dignity of this body that we should refuse our leader a little link of 14 miles out of 1,100 miles of road.

Permit me to turn to the West. We had a delegation here this year which the honourable leader of the Government remembers well. It came from the Peace River Country, representing possibly 10,000 people today, but formerly 20,000 people. The Gov-