

cellency speaks of his visits made to different portions of the Dominion, since last session. These visits have embraced a very wide range, extending from the Maritime Provinces in the east, to British Columbia in the west, constituting pretty much the scope of the Dominion, and as His Excellency is known to be a very acute, close and accurate observer of men and things, any conclusions at which he may arrive or any opinions which he may express are entitled to very great consideration and respect, entirely irrespective of his high official position, and I am sure that this honourable House is profoundly grateful to him for the very kindly words contained in the speech expressive of his gratification at the manifestations of abounding loyalty and public spirit which were brought under his observation, during his tours. It is emphatically true of our Canadian people, that they are intensely loyal to the British Crown, and to the traditions of the great empire of which they form a part; and that they are characterized by a strong public spirit is abundantly evidenced by what they have accomplished, and not always under the most favourable circumstances. The next paragraph has such a magnificent ring of confidence and hopefulness and cheer about it, that I cannot consent to its mutilation, by merely treating of excerpts from it, and so I quote it in its entirety, "And notwithstanding the trade depression already referred to, I observe everywhere, unmistakable signs of that confident hopefulness in the future based on a thorough belief in the greatness of the resources of Canada, which is one of the characteristics of her people, and which furnishes a good augury and pledge of further development and progress." What leal hearted Canadian does not endorse that inspiring word picture of the condition of matters in his country? Yes, the true Canadian knows well, and appreciates to the full the value of his God given heritage. Where is the country that can compare with her, in the greatness and variety of her resources of sea and land, the teeming earth that yields such bounteous harvests, the untold riches of the mine, the exhaustless wealth of the deep? Little wonder that the true Canadian has confident hopefulness in the future of his country, despite any temporary depression that may exist.

Instead of aggravating that depression, by the expression in word or act, of hopelessness

or despondency, or adopting a course which has any tendency to belittle the glorious land in which we live, let us be of one mind about this at any rate, on whatever other matters we may differ, that we will do all that in us lies, to help this Canada of ours onward and upward through all opposing influences and obstacles, emanate whence they may, towards the accomplishment and realization of that magnificent destiny which her almighty maker has so plainly designated as hers.

In regard to the conference recently held in the city, with a view to the admission of Newfoundland into the Dominion, it is I think for many reasons very desirable that she should join the sisterhood of provinces, and so complete the autonomy of the Dominion. Her very important geographical position, relatively to Canada, her wealth of minerals, timber and fisheries, would under ordinary circumstances render her advent into the Canadian confederation a matter for general congratulation; and let us hope that the difficulties which at present stand in the way, may be finally overcome, and the path made clear for the accomplishment of the desired union. It is gratifying in this connection to note that it is proposed to ere long introduce measures in the Newfoundland legislature bearing upon the removal of some of the more important of these obstacles.

We all remember how much of our time was taken up last session in the endeavour to frame an Insolvency Act, which would meet the requirements of the country, and be generally acceptable, and the large number of experienced banking and mercantile men who for so long a period gave the matter unremitting attention, resulting in the bill reaching a stage when it was sent to the House of Commons, where it may possibly have amendments or additions made to it having a tendency to render it more workable.

It would appear that some amendments to the North-west Territories Representation Act are to be proposed, looking towards the providing for increased representation, should the census which is being taken by the North-west Mounted Police in their rounds, show that the population has increased to such an extent as to warrant it. Should events prove that the territories are entitled to an increased representation, it will furnish another index of progress and advancement.