

I can assure honourable members that the good effect of the Duncan Report has not been confined to the small actual savings in money that have resulted. Its most beneficial effect has been to bring the Maritimes back into full accord with Confederation, and to convince the people of those three provinces that once more they are really a part of this Dominion. There is no longer the feeling of isolation that so long existed, which was partly due, perhaps, to a lack of foresight and attention on the part of those who were sent here to represent our people in days past. In other words, the result of the report has been very largely psychological. Formerly in the Maritimes there was a feeling of unrest, of dissatisfaction, of depression; and secession was advocated because it was felt that we were never going to get the rights to which we were justly entitled. No country whose people are in that state of mind can prosper.

There is another matter in respect to which the report has not been implemented, although about three and a half years have elapsed since it was issued. Honourable members will see by referring to page 19 of the report that a good deal was said about cash bonuses to be paid to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. The report reads:

We recommend that immediate interim lump-sum increases should be made in the payments to the three Maritime Provinces as follows:—

Nova Scotia	\$875,000
New Brunswick	600,000
Prince Edward Island	125,000

These interim payments should be continued until the Dominion Government has had time to complete its investigation and reassessment.

In suggesting the foregoing sums we have fixed what we believe to be the minimum addition that the three Maritime Provinces should have in any such revision, particularly taking into account past history and the fact that in some aspects of their claim there is a retrospective or retroactive feature. They claimed that any revision should provide for a fixed sum in respect of the retroactive element. We are unable to recommend that form of payment, but have preferred to take the retrospective feature into account in naming a minimum.

And the report goes on to say that that is left to the consideration of Parliament. The revision that in 1926 was recommended to be retroactive has not been made, and the additional subsidies have not been paid to the provinces.

I desire to call attention to two other matters with regard to which there has been no attempt, so far as I know, to carry out the recommendations of the report. We expect the Government will follow the suggestions; we still have faith, although we

have seen no evidence of action. I refer now to the steel and coal industries in the Maritime Provinces, particularly in Nova Scotia. If honourable members will allow me, I shall read brief extracts. On page 36, under the heading "Customs Tariff on Coal," there is this paragraph:

Several features of the Customs Tariff in its relation to coal were brought to our attention both by the Government of Nova Scotia and by the operators of the coal mines. These we feel ourselves precluded from dealing with, since they are a matter properly to be considered by the Tariff Advisory Board; but we may be permitted to say that we are impressed with the need for reconsideration of the Customs Tariff in its relation to coal, anthracite and coke, and we recommend that the Tariff Advisory Board should be asked to give immediate consideration to the subject.

And on page 37, under the heading "Steel and Customs Tariff":

In respect of this matter, we do not conceive it to be our duty to express any opinion, since the question is, as we were informed by the Chairman of the Tariff Advisory Board, who met us at our request, at the present moment under the consideration of that Board. But we do regard it as our duty to record that the significance of this industry to the Maritime Provinces was forcibly brought home to us, not only in the manufacturing towns we visited in the Maritimes but also throughout the agricultural districts of the Maritimes. We record this in order to emphasize the need for prompt action.

And with regard to bounties, on page 38:

Having regard to the bounty system previously applied, and to this aspect of the application of the drawback, we recommend that a bonus should be given in respect of steel when Canadian coal is used in its manufacture, and that the bonus should be calculated on the basis of the present drawback for every ton of coal used in such manufacture.

In other words, there is a recommendation there that something be done to bonus the production of coal in the Maritime Provinces, particularly in Nova Scotia, and that a bounty be granted on steel when Canadian coal is used in its manufacture.

These are the four items to which I wish to draw the attention of honourable members. All these matters are important in the industrial life of the Maritimes, and in regard to two of them the Province of Nova Scotia is vitally interested and is counting upon the support of the Government. As I have said, we have got some benefits from the freight rates. We expect to have the report implemented to the last letter, and I can assure honourable members that when that is done the people of the Maritimes will be perfectly satisfied. They felt that the report, which was made by a tribunal presided over by a man of high standing, who was entirely uncon-