

they redeemed, and I need hardly appeal to the members of this House, as I could with confidence, to say whether the anticipations then expressed have not been more than realized in the results that have followed the adoption of that policy. In all this, I desire to take no personal credit to myself individually, seeing I was simply discharging a public duty, but I think the Senate is entitled to the credit of having taken up this question and urged it upon the Government at a time when the representatives of Halifax did not think fit to raise their voices in another place on the subject. Having gone into this matter at length on a former occasion, I do not now propose to descant upon the position of Halifax and the importance of this fortnightly service, especially in relation to the communication between Halifax and Newfoundland, the Island of St. Pierre and the West Indies. But before I sit down, I would respectfully urge upon the Government, that they will again re-consider the position of this matter, that they will not take away from Halifax a privilege that has been enjoyed by them for nearly forty years, especially in the summer season, and that they will not deprive the Maritime Provinces of the benefits of this important service. I hope the Government will make a favorable response to this appeal; at the same time, if they can give us the assurance that this fortnightly service can be continued without a subsidy, I shall be quite satisfied, but, without that, I would again urge upon them not to let this subsidy be withdrawn, but see that this fortnightly service of nearly forty years' standing, so essential to the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, is continued, especially during the summer season, when the weekly steamers are withdrawn from Halifax.

Hon. Mr. KAULBACH—I am obliged to my hon. friend from Amherst for the forcible and convincing manner in which he has brought this question, on several occasions, before the Government and this House. It was only by seeing the notice on the paper that I learned this grant had been dropped. I cannot believe it is the intention of the Government to drop the subsidy, unless they are assured that the service will be performed without the grant (which I do not believe); or unless

*Hon. Mr. Dickey.*

it should now happen that Halifax, persuaded as it has lately been that this Government would not only continue the privileges enjoyed for nearly forty years, but would make it the winter port of the Dominion, not only for mails and passengers, but by encouragement of traffic over the Intercolonial, the freight depot for the whole Dominion. It is quite clear, from the manner in which the hon. Senator from Amherst brought this matter up—supported as he was on all occasions by the members from the Maritime Provinces with the one exception—induced the Government to continue the grant last year, and it is quite clear that the strong appeals made in the Senate as to the importance of this service, has forced itself upon not only the attention of this House, but upon business men everywhere. Since Halifax naturally must become the winter port of Canada—the wharf of the Dominion—we should, by all means, encourage and keep up the mail subsidy, especially since Halifax is the distributing point for the arrival and departure of mails between here, and England and Newfoundland, and St. Pierre and the West Indies. I trust that the Government, after the forcible manner in which the subject has been brought to the notice of the House, and the abundant proof of the benefit derived, will not allow the service to be discontinued, unless the opinion of the hon. Member for Halifax should now prevail with the Government to the great detriment of the public.

Hon. Mr. NORTHUP—I can only endorse what has been said by both of the hon. gentlemen who have spoken. I can assure the Government it is a matter of great importance, not only to the Maritime Provinces, but to the Dominion. I have no doubt, seeing the good this service has done in the past, it will be continued.

Hon. Mr. POWER—This is a matter about which I believe there is no difference of opinion among the members from the Maritime Provinces in this House, and I should not have thought it necessary to say a word on the subject at this time, if the hon. Senator from Amherst had not intimated, that last year all the members from the Maritime Provinces, except myself, had endorsed this action. I am sorry that the hon. gentleman should have made that exception, because I endorsed his action as cordially and