-215-

"I think it is a better arrangement than to have handed over the lands to the provinces. So it appears to me, it is a good arrangement for the Province and a good arrangement for the Dominion. It is a particularly good arrangement for the provinces in this respect, that the revenue is a net revenue, the provinces have no expenses in connection with the administration of the lands, and it is a revenue that grows with the increase of population.

"I am pleased to say that there has been very little criticism in connection with this phase of the matter."

Continuing, points out that the provinces not owning their own lands, will not have the same temptation to squander them by acceding to requests for bonuses and guarantees as would be the case if the provinces were the owners of the public lands.

It is interesting to compare that with the ideas of Henry Clay which I placed before the Commission last Thursday in Document "O".

Peter Talbot (Strathcona) April 7th:

"Am convinced that the practical men who consider the future of not only the new provinces but of the Dominion as a whole, will be perfectly satisfied to have the lands administered by the federal government. We in the West believe that the present remarkable prosperity of the West is due mainly to the tide of immigration that is flowing to that part of the country, and we further believe that the immigrants that are going to the West are induced to do so chiefly by the offer of free lands."

Then Mr. Miller, in Volume 3 of 1905, page 4292, says:

## POOR COPY

W.L. Mackenzie King Papers
Memoranda & Notes

## PUBLIC ARCHIVES ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES CANADA