

this object has led to a conference between members of my Government and representatives of the Governments of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island as to the feasibility of joint action by the Maritime Provinces. The importance of affording facilities to the youth of our country to secure the practical training which such an institution is designed to supply cannot be too strongly emphasized. With the keen competition existing in all branches of industry under our modern civilization it is essential that our young people should possess the highest possible qualifications if we would continue to make the progress we hope for in development of the extensive resources of our Province. I have every confidence that your best intelligence will be exercised in the consideration of the measure that will be submitted to make possible the establishment of such an Institution.

The great interest aroused by the progress already made towards the Mineral development of the Province as a result of the stimulus of recent legislation, is a matter of sincere congratulation and encourages the hope that the vast extent and value of our mineral resources will bring to the people of this Province the wealth designed by nature for the enjoyment of our people in placing these valuable mineral deposits within our borders.

The advancement in agricultural methods and conditions throughout the Province during the past year has been unparalleled in our history as a people, and my Government is stimulated by the success thus won to even greater effort than has heretofore characterised their administration of affairs in this direction. The agricultural meetings so frequently held throughout the country districts, during the seasons that have gone, will, so far as possible, be increased in number and efficiency. In this movement not the least important agency has been the series of successful Agricultural Exhibitions in prominent centres of the Province, and I am pleased to be able to congratulate you on the success of the Provincial Exhibition held in the City of Saint John, and of the large exhibitions held in Gloucester, Westmorland, King's and Carleton Counties. Strong evidence of our progress and development characterized all these gatherings, while the large attendance evinced a widespread interest on the part of all sections of our population.

Supplementary to the efforts persistently put forth by my Government to develop the various natural resources and industries of the Province, steps have been taken to familiarize the people of Great Britain, and of other countries, with the desirability of New Brunswick as a home for intending settlers. In order more practically to effect this purpose, it has been deemed advisable to seek, through the agency of illustrative lectures, to set forth the natural advantages of this Province as a field for immigrants, and to furnish to the people of the old country distinctive information as to the natural resources, the industrial and social environments, the fertility of the soil, and the climatic conditions obtaining in this particular Province of the Confederation, as well as to the facilities with which homesteads can be here acquired, and I have confidence that the methods adopted will be productive of substantial good.

The claims of the Province against the Dominion Government arising out of the Eastern Extension Railway matter, have, by agreement between the two Governments, been referred to three competent and disinterested parties, mutually chosen, for final settlement and adjustment; their award to be made and handed in on or before the first day of June next.

The unsatisfactory state of the law governing the solemnization of marriage in the Province renders it necessary that some adequate remedy should be applied by the Legislature. A measure to that end will be submitted for your consideration.

The necessity of a revision and consolidation of the Statutes of the Province has for some time been manifest and will doubtless induce your