

Mr. McLEOD: In the Peace river section of the Rocky Mountain trench?

Mr. PAYNE: Yes.

Mr. McLEOD: Our office has not done extensive studies in there, no. The information which it is believed the company interested in development there has obtained is not yet available to federal departments.

Mr. PAYNE: Has the industry interested in development of the area undertaken tests of sufficient time and sufficient intensity to ascertain what reserves might probably be expected for reservoir storage on the Peace?

Mr. McLEOD: First, in so far as records of the flow on the Peace river are concerned, this branch has had stations in British Columbia for about 15 years now. It was recognized quite a long time ago that sooner or later someone would require information on Peace river flows, although when the gauging station program there was initiated in 1945 it was not known, of course, who it might be, or when the information might be required.

Likewise, in Alberta there are, I might say, broken records of the flow of the Peace river available at Peace River, and some, I believe, at one other station, of which I do not recall the name.

As far as the reserves or lands, and so forth, are concerned, which might be required for the creation of the reservoir which, we understand, is proposed by this company, that, of course, is essentially a matter between the company and the provincial government.

Mr. PAYNE: Oh yes.

Mr. McLEOD: Because there are no federal lands in that whole region, so far as I know.

Mr. PAYNE: The studies in the Peace river area—the flows you have taken of the Peace, and in that general area—are they, in any way, comparable to those you have undertaken in the Columbia basin?

Mr. McLEOD: No, nothing like as extensive.

Mr. PAYNE: What would be the comparative situation between these two?

Mr. McLEOD: Offhand, I would estimate that we have perhaps 20 key stations in the Columbia river basin in Canada, which are on the main stem and tributaries of the Columbia, including the Okanagan, the Similkameen, Kootenay, Kettle and Flathead—and, of course, the main Columbia.

Mr. PAYNE: They are all tributaries?

Mr. McLEOD: Yes.

Mr. PAYNE: They have been functioning for what period?

Mr. McLEOD: The oldest since 1902, and there are at least—

Mr. PAYNE: And those at flow stations?

Mr. McLEOD: —at least ten of them have been functioning for 40 years or more.

Mr. PAYNE: Those stations test what?

Mr. McLEOD: They give the actual flow of water passing the point at which the station is located, and usually also they give the water level.

Mr. PAYNE: In the area north of Prince George, and what is known as the Rocky Mountain trench, what studies and undertakings have you gone into relative to the flow in that area?

Mr. McLEOD: Very briefly, as you know, the Peace river system in British Columbia comprises the Finlay and Parsnip rivers, which join at Finlay Forks. The Finlay flows southward and slightly eastward, and the Parsnip river flows northward to their junction at Finlay Forks, and then generally eastward