

3. The better use of existing water supplies will require investigation and planning on a multi-purpose basis to achieve optimum use of the available water supply for all uses.

4. The diversions from adjoining river systems will require a high degree of co-operation between the three Prairie provinces and the Government of Canada.

5. The review of the B.N.A. Act by competent authorities suggests there is nothing in the Constitution which should prevent the investigation, planning and development of an interprovincial system on an integrated, multi-purpose basis.

6. A review of the legislative authority of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources suggests there is legislative authority to permit the Government of Canada to play an active role in the investigation and planning of resource developments on a multi-purpose basis.

7. A review of existing administrative machinery on both the federal and provincial level suggests the need for modifications in the existing framework.

8. There is a need to create through federal legislation a regional development agency competent to investigate and plan the development of the water resources of the Saskatchewan-Nelson Basin on an integrated, multi-purpose basis. This could be achieved by establishing a Prairie Provinces Water Commission with federal and provincial representation, or it could be achieved through a suitable federal agency that would carry on along lines previously approved by the province or provinces concerned.

9. The three Prairie provinces might consider establishment of provincial commissions comparable to the South Saskatchewan River Development Commission with authority over water development programs on a province-wide basis.

Honourable senators, this is probably a good place in which to leave the matter. I would propose that when this discussion is renewed in the fall, we examine first the constitutional limitations of a federal-provincial and national agency; secondly, that we examine in some detail the seriousness and

the cost of water pollution; thirdly, that we try to establish, if we can, how the cost of taking care of this water pollution problem should be met. It cannot all be met from industry, although industry may be one of the major sources of pollution. It is a national problem, a municipal problem, and it has to be met on a total and collective basis.

Finally, I would like to analyse in detail this tremendous, spectacular, North American water power alliance project, because it has tremendous implications, not only for western Canada but for the whole of Canada. Imagine that Northwest Passage through to the Pacific coast. This is one of the spectacular schemes of this NAWAPA. Imagine filling the great Rocky Mountain trench. My friend Mr. Herdridge from the Kootenay is worried about filling up his little part of the Kootenay, that this would be the squandering of land on a tremendous scale. If the decision should be at a later time to conserve water supplies and to put up a big dam in the Rocky Mountain trench, our first responsibility is to pump that water over the Rockies to irrigate the western prairies and take care of the millions of new Canadians who we hope will come to this country in the years to come.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Beaubien (Provencher), debate adjourned.

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

Hon. John J. Connolly: Honourable senators, I am informed that the debate on the resolution stage of the Medicare bill has begun in the other place. That debate may not be as long as was expected originally. Also, there is a possibility that the Income Tax bill can be disposed of in the other place later today. For this reason, it might be prudent for us to adjourn now until 8 p.m., when we will have some idea of the position. Even then, I may have to inform the house there is no prospect of receiving that legislation.

I therefore move that the Senate take recess now to reassemble at the call of the bell at approximately 8 o'clock this evening.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

At 9 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Hon. Mr. Connolly (Ottawa West): Honourable senators, my information is that the debate on the Medicare resolution, is continuing in the other place. The prospects are that it