

The Address—Mr. Hetland

I urge the government to bring this matter to the attention of the United States government where I am sure it will receive favourable consideration. If adequate compensation is obtained for the loss of the right granted to us forever in article II of the Oregon treaty, I suggest that it would be fitting indeed if that compensation were used to subsidize a further development of the steamship service on the Arrow and Kootenay lakes.

While it may be argued that I am somewhat local in my point of view, I think it must be admitted that this steamship service on the Arrow and Kootenay lakes and on other lakes in the interior of British Columbia constitutes a great tourist asset. As Canadians we would be making a great mistake if we permitted this service to lapse. Not only is it of value to the people there in making their living; it is of great value to the people of British Columbia and Canada generally as an unusual tourist attraction.

Finally, in order that the British Columbia point of view may be considered with complete knowledge and understanding as a result of direct contact with the people of British Columbia and a knowledge of British Columbia conditions, I urge again that the government consider appointing a qualified British Columbia resident to the joint international commission.

Mr. J. I. Hetland (Humboldt): Mr. Speaker, being a new member I hope that you will bear with me if at times I get out of order. I am a westerner from Saskatchewan, one of those fourteen members, and as such I am greatly interested in agriculture. Before I go any further I should like to say that we in Saskatchewan were greatly concerned about the health of the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Gardiner). During the time he was in hospital I was amazed at the number of people who came to me from all parts of my constituency and expressed great concern about the minister's health. The agriculturists of this country know that they have a champion in the person of the minister. Before June 27 a number of people from the different parties came to me and said that they were quite satisfied with the way the Minister of Agriculture had handled our produce and our agreements in the years past. Because those views were held they voted for me accordingly and I am here today.

I am glad that I won and I think that is natural for any one who tries to win a race or any contest. I have always been interested in the east and I think the west should become better acquainted with it. We in the west certainly need the east and I think you in the east need the west. I think it would be a good thing if we could meet more

often with people from the east. I have as deskmate the hon. member for Beauharnois (Mr. Cauchon), and if the other eastern members are like him at all I think we shall get on very nicely.

We have made a study of your problems in the east, particularly those of Newfoundland and the maritimes, and I think you should also study our problems, because that is the only method by which they can be solved to our mutual advantage.

I do not live very far from Saskatoon. We have a forestry farm near there, and it is a beautiful little spot. Thousands of people visit it every year. It has been suggested that a paved road be constructed to that forestry farm in order to keep down the dust. There is nothing more discouraging to a superintendent than to see fine grey dust settling on his flowers, his lawns and his trees. It takes a lot of moisture to keep them in good shape. I should like to offer a suggestion. If we cannot get a paved road, which naturally costs quite a lot of money, there is a great deal of oil in the constituency of the hon. member for The Battlefords (Mr. Bater), and I believe the government should consider oiling these gravel roads. The cost would be small. With a certain amount of money they could cover quite a large area. That would serve my purpose. I think we would attract more people by hundreds to that very beautiful spot.

It has also been suggested that little cards be printed for use when crossing the boundary. I happened to pass through Kingsgate about six weeks ago. I drove up to the customs office. A lady came out and said, "You will either have to eat those peaches or destroy them." Because of that, the ladies in my party ate too many peaches, and they were quite incensed. Therefore I believe the idea of printing little cards is a good one, telling about the danger of bringing in fruit diseases into this country.

I have been sitting in the house for the last week, and have been quite amused at the way some of the backbenchers get after the government. They remind me somewhat of backseat drivers. You know what that means. If a backseat driver keeps pushing and prodding the driver he can be almost a menace. When I say that, I refer to some members, not all. I should like to point out to those members that in the driver's seat we have a man quite capable of driving, the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent), a man who has good judgment. He will not break any speed laws. He will keep within the speed limit.

Mr. Knowles: He is not in that much of a hurry.