

Mr. MANION: Will the chief whip of the Liberal party (Mr. Casgrain) give us the particulars of this work? He will probably know more about it than the Minister of Public Works.

Mr. ELLIOTT: I doubt it very much.

Mr. MANION: I do not doubt it at all. I understand this is in the constituency of the chief Liberal whip. Perhaps he will be able to explain to the house fully what the expenditure is for.

Mr. CASGRAIN: This is a development similar to others that have been carried on in certain parts of Quebec and also in other provinces. Manicouagan is situated about 250 miles below the city of Quebec. The Anglo-Canadian Pulp and Paper Company and the Ontario Paper Company, Limited, have obtained from the provincial government a lease of all the timber limits in the watershed east of the Manicouagan river, the largest timber limits in the province on the north shore of the St. Lawrence. The two companies have an agreement with the provincial government, a copy of which was deposited with the Department of Public Works, under which the companies covenant with the provincial government to establish pulp mills at Manicouagan and have them in operation by 1931. The provincial government is assisting the two companies to develop the town by providing a road from the site to the wharf. During the course of this summer or early next year the projected town will have, it is estimated, a population of 4,000 or 5,000 people. It is claimed that the new municipality will be a source of revenue both to the provincial and federal governments because the pulp mills will give employment to a large number of people living in the vicinity. I may say that the provincial government has also helped the Anglo-Canadian Pulp and Paper Company to develop a place called Clark City on the north shore of the St. Lawrence very much along the same lines, and in that instance years ago, the federal government, under another administration, paid the whole cost of the wharf. The Ontario Paper Company, Limited, owns and operates timber limits at other places along the north shore, one in Shelter Bay and the other at Franklin. These two are the largest and most reliable companies engaged in the wood and paper industry in the province of Quebec.

[Mr. Elliott.]

Mr. MANION: I congratulate the hon. member on how much he knows with respect to this item. He has given us a great deal more information than the Minister of Public Works did.

Mr. ELLIOTT: He took longer.

Mr. MANION: Of course the minister was interested in taking a shorter time. Will the chief whip of the Liberal party inform us if the Clarks interested in Clark City are the same gentlemen who run steam boats down the north shore of the St. Lawrence?

Mr. CASGRAIN: The man who founded Clark City about twenty-five or thirty years ago was the uncle of the men who operate the steamship company and who own the Gulf of St. Lawrence Paper Company, Limited. The company at Clark City and the Anglo-Canadian Pulp and Paper Company, I may say, are financed by English capital furnished by the Rothermere interests in England, who own one of the largest newspaper concerns in the old country.

Mr. MANION: Are the Clarks who run the steamship line interested in this?

Mr. CASGRAIN: No, it is a different company.

Mr. MANION: But are they interested in this?

Mr. CASGRAIN: I do not think so.

Mr. POULIOT: But both gave their name to the city and the steamship company. I think the chief whip has made a very good defence of the item for the member for Charlevoix-Saguenay (Mr. Casgrain).

Mr. MANION: "Defence" is a good word.

Sir GEORGE PERLEY: Are there any operations going on there at present; are they making paper now?

Mr. CASGRAIN: At the present time these people cannot start to operate and cannot fulfil their contract with the provincial government, and no work can be carried on in that district until this wharf is built. In the course of a few months or a year there will be a town located there, but at present it is a wilderness with rocks, cliffs, mountains, hills and forest. Last summer the townsite was cleared up and laid out by a company under the control of these two companies; much of that work has been done, and I remember being told by some of the officers of these two companies that during last summer between 300 and 400 people were employed on this work.