

evenly spread over 2, 2½ to 3½ feet. When you get these huge bodies of water, such as behind the Quebec power dams, at the extreme limit of their effect, you may create rat habitats, but the great bulk of it is all useless, just as if the water were dried up, because the water is too deep.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions?

Mr. TUSTIN: Would that argument, or statement, also apply to the dams up on the Gatineau?

Mr. ALLAN: Yes, I think so.

Mr. TUSTIN: And you have no territory developed there?

Mr. ALLAN: No.

Mr. MACNICOL: Since Mrs. Neilsen represents the area in which the Beaver river flows, I might say that it got its name from being a beaver habitat.

Mr. ALLAN: Just a series of beaver dams that created this little chain of lakes.

Mr. MACNICOL: Is that area envisioned in your program for extending the beaver?

Mr. ALLAN: It would be one of the first areas to engage our attention.

The CHAIRMAN: I see that Mrs. Neilsen has already arranged that.

Mr. ALLAN: It is just a series of little bayous, where you have little land-locked pools or puddles all along, with the river running in the middle of it. It is very interesting. We considered the area at one time, but we abandoned it later on account of the difficulty of damming the Beaver river. As we said the other day, we have three small places like that up in Mrs. Neilsen's constituency and the adjoining constituency.

Mr. MACNICOL: West of that near Lake Labiche where the Beaver river starts, I walked over to the source of the Beaver by following a tiny little river. That country is beaver country, too.

The WITNESS: All the way up in the Peace River country there.

Mr. MACNICOL: And it goes right over to the lake Labiche, doesn't it?

The WITNESS: I don't really know.

Mr. ROSS (*Calgary*): And that would be all marsh land, close to the water, where the water would be two or three feet deep, so deep that it will not freeze on the bottom to kill the rats and yet deep enough that there is water remaining there all the time?

The WITNESS: Water deep enough so that the rats can live there the year round and sufficient so that there will be water there for them even after the winter frosts set in. It must be marsh land and the marsh land must be close to a source of water where you have natural water supply. The normal run-off from a small watershed would not give you an adequate supply of water. You can get a lot of water in the springtime, but that is what is called phantom water; you have a considerable quantity at the time of the spring run-off, by the end of August it drops from 16 to 36 inches and that does not leave sufficient water for the rats to thrive on. We must insure an adequate supply of water for their purposes or they die.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions on this?

Mrs. NIELSEN: You are right there, we used to see them migrating past our place, the rats migrate particularly during a dry season in search of water.

The WITNESS: That is right.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, are there any questions? Mr. Allan has finished what he had to say.

Mr. MACNICOL: There are some questions I believe from Mr. Ross.