

Mr. MURPHY: In the Riding Mountain national park.

Mr. BROWN: Does he live there?

Mr. MURPHY: I have not kept track of him, but my officials assure me that he and his family are living in the park at the present time.

Mr. BROWN: Since when?

Mr. MURPHY: I suppose since the park opened in the spring.

Mr. BROWN: Is Mr. Smart not living in the town of Neepawa?

Mr. MURPHY: No.

Mr. LUCHKOVICH: I beg to differ with the hon. member for Dauphin and the hon. member opposite with respect to their claims in connection with the scenic beauty of parks; the most beautiful park in Canada is Jasper park. The hon. member for West Edmonton took the words out of my mouth when he spoke of the strategic value of building a road through that park. There are about forty or fifty miles of road to be built in order to connect Alberta with British Columbia and the coast, and if the minister would put two hundred or two thousand men to work on that road, he would not only be doing much to help the park but he would attract more tourists to this park from other parts of Canada. I am thoroughly in accord with what the hon. member for West Edmonton said with regard to Jasper park.

Mr. FRASER (Cariboo): Mr. Chairman, I should like to supplement the remarks of the hon. members for West Edmonton and Vegreville with regard to Jasper park. These remarks would apply also to Mount Robson park in British Columbia, because the two parks adjoin one another. Mount Robson park is just west of the interprovincial boundary, and Jasper park is just east. The road of which mention was made would be very easy to construct. The Grand Trunk Pacific construction people built a road through the park in order to transport supplies from Edmonton down to the Fraser valley. That roadway is still there and the new road probably could be built on the same location, or at least very close to it. The road from Jasper to the west end of Mount Robson park would be about fifty miles long, and would connect with the road system of British Columbia. One part of the road would go through Mount Robson park, down the North Thompson river to the city of Kamloops, where it would connect with the interprovincial highway system. The other part would continue down the Fraser

river from Mount Robson park towards Prince George, where connection also would be made with the interprovincial roadway system. Neither of these roads is completed, although the one from Mount Robson park down the North Thompson will be completed this summer if the provincial government completes the program of road construction which it has in view for the present season. Much of the work on this road was done last winter in connection with unemployment relief, and I notice that both these roads are in the program announced within the last few days by Premier Tolmie of British Columbia for unemployment relief. I do not know of any way in which more work could be supplied than by the construction of these roads, which are necessary in order to carry on the development of British Columbia. There are good lands contiguous to them, as well as mining prospects and timber.

I consider that the key to the situation is the transfer of Mount Robson park to the federal authorities. During the early session of last year the former Minister of the Interior told me that he was perfectly willing to take over this park from the British Columbia government, and Premier Tolmie has advised me that he is anxious to turn it over to the federal authorities. There is nothing to prevent the present government going ahead and completing the transaction and building what would be one of the finest highways on the whole North American continent. The hon. member for Gloucester shakes his head, but I want to tell him that compared to British Columbia New Brunswick is not in the picture at all as far as scenery is concerned.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): I agree with that statement.

Mr. VENIOT: I disagree.

Mr. FRASER (Cariboo): But that is the fact, just the same; I suggest to the minister that nothing will provide more unemployment relief than the completion of that work. It is in the interests of all concerned—British Columbia, Alberta, and the dominion as well—that the park be taken over without further delay and that the work be undertaken and proceeded with vigorously, because there is a great deal of work for the unemployed even in that construction of fifty miles. In addition it will assist the British Columbia authorities to construct necessary roads as a matter of unemployment relief. I hope the present government will not be in any way backward, but will insist on the completion of this transaction so that this very necessary work may be carried on.