

We have made, and are at the present time, making extensive additions to the coverage in British Columbia. We have carried out a study of the Fraser River basin in co-operation with British Columbia and have improved the hydroelectric coverage of the drainage basin very extensively, and we did the same with the Columbia River basin in connection with the studies for the Columbia River Treaty. So we are carrying out co-operative studies with the provinces wherever there is an urgent need or the provinces wish our assistance in extending the coverage which we do provide.

Mr. FULTON: In connection with the study in Northern Ontario and the Saskatchewan and Mackenzie; is that last one, the Saskatchewan and Mackenzie, being studied jointly?

Mr. PATTERSON: These are possibilities for the diversion of Mackenzie River water into the Saskatchewan drainage system. This is to determine what could be done if it was found desirable to do it.

Mr. FULTON: Well, are those the only two studies at the present time, joint studies between federal and provincial governments that are currently proceeding? Is the Fraser River one finished?

Mr. PATTERSON: The Fraser River Board has completed its report on flood control and hydro power on the Fraser River but the hydroelectric coverage which was initiated in connection with that study is being continued and will provide very useful and necessary data for the multipurpose uses there are for water in that basin.

Mr. FULTON: Are there any other current studies? I do not mean the prospective potential; I am talking about now the availability of the resource. I do not mean pollution.

Mr. PATTERSON: We are working out at the present time an arrangement with the Atlantic Power Development Board and the provinces for a more complete hydrometric coverage of the Atlantic provinces.

Mr. FULTON: That is just in the discussion stage, is it or is there any work going forward?

Mr. PATTERSON: There is work going forward in the improvement of that coverage.

Mr. FULTON: Who takes the initiative, Mr. Patterson, in suggesting these studies? Is it the policy to wait until the province makes the suggestion, or does the federal authority have a look at the situation, and then come forward itself with a suggestion to the provinces that certain studies should be carried out?

● (11.30 a.m.)

Mr. PATTERSON: Well, there is not any fixed pattern in this, Mr. Chairman. On occasion the province may indicate a desire for some study in some area with respect to something of their knowledge that they realize is going forward. We, on our part, take the initiative with respect to various international studies that are carried out where there is an international problem.

Mr. FULTON: What I had in mind was is there a policy or a philosophy under which you are working that there is a responsibility at the federal level to initiate. You would have to have discussions with the provinces and it would have to go forward on a co-operative basis? I mean, is there anybody taking a