

*Supply—Resources and Development*

is at all realistic. Before the minister finishes with his estimates I hope he will be able to tell us that something is to be done. The maintenance of monuments, historic sites and national parks is not going to feed these people or cure our unemployment situation. It is not enough to arrange for things to go into our museums, because that will not solve the problems that are developing today.

I consider the minister to be a capable man who has had practical training. He is from Nova Scotia, and I have a lot of respect for him, because I believe he is loyal to that part of the country. I hope he will be able to tell us that some permanent measures are to be taken to relieve an unemployment situation which is more or less permanent in character.

**Mr. Winters:** If hon. members consider that they have had ample opportunity to discuss the administration item, perhaps we could move on to the detailed items, when the answers to the questions raised by the hon. member for Cape Breton South will become apparent. Considerable amounts are provided for projects in Nova Scotia, and in most cases, if not in all, a consideration for initiating the project was the unemployment that existed.

**Mr. Gillis:** Will the minister give me the number of one of those items?

**Mr. Winters:** A large amount of work is to be done in the Cape Breton national park, by way of highway construction, and so on. There is also the trans-Canada highway program, although Nova Scotia has not signed as yet. A considerable amount of money is being allotted for housing under the dominion-provincial program, and would be available to any province, including Nova Scotia, if it cares to use it.

**Mr. Rowe:** I hope I am not out of order, but I feel that this first item should permit a discussion of our natural resources. So far no mention has been made of fire protection for our forests, and I am beginning to think that we have overlooked the importance of our great forest resources. During the last ten years spectacular changes have occurred in the development of these resources, and it might be said that we sometimes failed to see the forest for the trees.

Members representing both rural and urban ridings have stressed the importance of agriculture to this country. We are spending perhaps \$60 million or \$70 million under the agriculture items, and in addition there are the subsidies that are being paid to

advance the development of our great agricultural industry. But we should not forget our forest resources and the industry that is dependent upon them.

I notice there is an item covering the forestry branch, and I suppose further discussion could be carried on under that item. Under our present constitutional set-up the provinces have to do with property and civil rights, but in the general development of our country there has been overlapping in connection with many services, such as health and agriculture. At one time or another some of these matters were more specifically provincial in character, but I fear of late we have had what amounts to duplication of services.

Our forest resources and our forest industry seem to have been forgotten so far as this house is concerned, and so far as this and previous governments are concerned. I would emphasize that there is little apparent change this year. Although there is some increase in the vote for the forestry branch, the total expenditure is still something under \$3 million. We should realize what the forestry industry means by way of employment and national development, by way of the creation of national wealth and favourable balances of trade. In my opinion too little attention has been paid by our national government to the protection of our forest resources, to their development and to their conservation. Not enough attention has been paid to this growing industry.

I appreciate the responsibilities that the provinces have, and perhaps this matter is more specifically provincial than some of the other items. However, it might be of interest to outline some aspects of our forest industry. One out of every ten carloads of freight moving across the country is made up of forest products. Twenty per cent of Canada's trade is made up of forest products. Thirty-eight cents out of every United States dollar received for commercial exports represents forest products.

In the last twenty years we have more than doubled our exports of pulp. Our pulp production has doubled in ten years, and we now supply twenty-seven per cent of the world's needs, whereas less than ten years ago we were producing only sixteen per cent. We now provide fifty-seven per cent of the world consumption of newsprint, where previously we supplied only forty-one per cent. The production ten years ago was something like 3,300,000 tons, whereas today it is 5,200,000 tons. The importance of this in actual dollar value is enormous.