

Business of the House

to meet the ever changing requirements of the world markets and of the appetites of the people of the world. I feel confident that that is what can be envisaged in this particular part of the resolution to which I am going to direct my attention.

I am also particularly interested in the suggestion that some of these desired results will have to be brought about by means of joint arrangements, with provincial governments, because I live in a district to which this is particularly applicable. The Peace river country is divided among different spheres of jurisdiction, namely the two provinces of British Columbia and Alberta and the Northwest Territories and, of course, the federal government. Many of these territorial divisions were arbitrary, ill-advised and probably established at a time when the people who drew the maps had no conception of what was involved geographically or economically. Consequently our area has suffered not only because of its inaccessibility but because of this division of authority.

I read a news item the other day indicating that there had been some suggestion that a new province should be established in the Northwest Territories. To my way of thinking it would be far more satisfactory and desirable to carve out a new province partly in the province of Alberta, partly in the province of British Columbia and partly in the Northwest Territories but as a realist I know that will not happen. In the belief that we must take the machinery of government that we have and adapt and mould it to fit the times and to suit human requirements, I think that through the medium of this resolution there is a vehicle to achieve the result I have in mind.

We have a very excellent precedent for this sort of thing. In 1933 in the United States there was established what has become well known all over the world as the Tennessee valley authority, popularly known as T.V.A. I have had some interest in this matter for some time because I feel a comparison can be made between what was done there and what I believe should be accomplished in my area and which I am confident this resolution can achieve with the proper measure of co-operation.

In the short time before adjournment, Mr. Chairman, I am going to read two or three extracts from a book written by David E. Lilienthal, who was for many years the chairman of the Tennessee valley authority, in order to indicate that his thinking resulting from his experience can aptly be applied to conditions in our own country. In establishing this authority President Roosevelt sent a

message to congress which I think by proper paraphrasing can be made comparable with the terms of this resolution and what has been said about the resolution by the minister. Speaking of the legislation which created the Tennessee valley authority, the president said as quoted in Mr. Lilienthal's book:

—it enters the wide fields of flood control, soil erosion, afforestation, elimination from agricultural use of marginal lands, and distribution and diversification of industry. In short, this power development . . . leads logically to national planning for a complete river watershed involving many states and the future lives and welfare of millions. It touches and gives life to all forms of human concerns.

If you paraphrase by using the word "provinces" instead of "states", I think the words in this passage can be considered to have application to many parts of our country. The president suggested, as quoted by Mr. Lilienthal:

—legislation to create a Tennessee valley authority—a corporation clothed with the power of government but possessed of the flexibility and initiative of a private enterprise. It should be charged with the broadest duty of planning for the proper use, conservation, and development of the natural resources of the Tennessee river drainage basin—

There are differences and we must adapt them to our conditions. The Tennessee valley authority, of course, was envisaged as a public authority for the development of power. We may well find that in the development of an area such as ours private power may be required, but this project with its integration of the resources of farm, forest, mines and river power is something which I think applies well in our case.

Progress reported.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Batten: May I ask what the business of the house is to be for tomorrow and Friday?

Mr. Monteith (Perth): I can only reiterate what the acting house leader said last night, that the budget debate will be resumed tomorrow and if that is completed we will continue with the motion to set up the committee on broadcasting. In any event, we will continue with that on Friday.

Mr. Batten: Is the minister in a position to give any indication now of what the business will be for the early part of next week?

Mr. Monteith (Perth): No, I cannot do that.

At six o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.