

would not be warranted in making a very much bigger expenditure than for the construction of a trail for our own forestry people, which would not, of course, provide adequate facilities for automobiles or horse traffic.

Mr. SPEAKMAN: I appreciate the difficulty in that regard, and I am not urging this with particular force on that account. I realize that it is somewhat out of the line of ordinary expenditure under this item. I did discuss the matter with the minister last year, and as he is familiar with it, I shall not discuss it further now except to point out again the great disability under which a community of some fifteen hundred or two thousand people lie when they have no communication with the outer world except by railway, and the great advantage it would be to them, as well as to the farming district lying east of that territory, if some road communication could be provided that would enable the people of Nordegg—I have that town in mind particularly because it is the one large town, comparatively speaking—to purchase their supplies of farm produce from the farm district lying fairly adjacent to it. I do not intend to discuss this matter at any length, because the minister is familiar with the circumstances, but I would be glad if he would remember when the opportunity arises again to take it up and see if anything possibly could be done under this item. I am quite sure that it would be money well spent, and the expenditure would be greatly appreciated by a very large community.

Mr. GOOD: I think there is no more important work being carried on by the Dominion government than this work of forest conservation. I am greatly pleased to hear the minister state that if he had the money he would recommend a vote twice as large for this purpose. I am very much surprised, however, that he has not succeeded, or at all events tried to secure for this purpose a little slice of that \$5,000,000 that went to Quebec harbour. One-fifth of that amount would go a long way toward carrying out this exceedingly important work throughout the Dominion. I hope that on some future occasion the minister will be more successful in securing part of this money that flows in some directions so freely.

Mr. POWER: In order to obtain some benefit from this work, this timber must be shipped from somewhere, and you must equip the port of Quebec in order to ship it.

Mr. GOOD: That raises another question, and I shall not deal with it at the moment. I might remark, however, that there does not seem to be any difficulty so far in connection with facilities for shipping lumber from Quebec.

In regard to the destruction from fire, that seems to be the most important aspect of this question. I came through a section of the province of Quebec about two years ago, on the south side of the St. Lawrence from Quebec to Montreal, and I was astounded at the destruction of forest in that territory at that time. For nearly the whole distance, or the greater part of it, we were passing through a dense cloud of smoke and blackened timber everywhere. That seemed to me very strange in that part, which I thought one of the best settled and the best protected parts of the province of Quebec. Those who have passed through that great stretch of territory north of lake Superior and in northern Quebec will realize the tremendous destruction from fire, and I do hope the minister will devote all he can secure to this particular purpose. I would be very glad indeed to support a larger vote for this purpose. I do think, as I pointed out a few minutes ago, that there are other savings that could be effected which would enable us to vote a larger amount of money for this extremely valuable work.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): Does the air protective service come under this vote?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): No.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): The preamble of this vote declares that it is for surveys of forest resources, and so forth. I raised the question this afternoon when we were discussing the item of topographical surveys just what was covered by these surveys of forest resources. By whom are they carried out, and what do they cover?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): That is the definition of cruising; it is done to ascertain the quantity of timber.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): Is it not true that a good deal of that cruising can now be eliminated by the use of the photographic maps prepared by the topographical branch?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): No, this is to ascertain the quantities of timber. The aerial service indicates where the timber is to be had.

Mr. SPENCER: Is this survey being done in the three prairie provinces or in all the provinces?