

Supply—Northern Affairs

that if the minister is so anxious to get an inventory of these resources what is needed is an acceleration of geological, magnetometer and electromagnetic surveys to find out the areas where there is a potential and give the information to private industry so that they can go there and drill the holes that will give you an inventory. You do not get an inventory by looking at a map and drawing a lot of coloured lines on it. You do not know how much ore is in the ground until you drill and block out the bodies.

The minister said that we did nothing prior to his taking over the department. I want to call as my witness with respect to what the former government did the same hon. gentleman, the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources. I have here a booklet entitled "This is the Arctic" issued under the authority of the Hon. Alvin Hamilton, Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources. The present minister, speaking about what has been done over the years, had this to say as found on page 24:

Since the second world war, government activities have increased enormously in the far north. New schools, new airfields, entire new town sites are being developed. Geological, topographical, and aerial surveys have been or are being completed. Large areas have been accurately mapped for the first time. In summer, ships plow through the ice floes bringing supplies to distant weather stations and medical attention to isolated Eskimo groups. In all seasons, aircraft of the Royal Canadian Air Force criss-cross the barrens and the bush, the lakes and the frozen seas.

This is what the present minister says has gone on since the second world war. He says it in an official booklet published last year.

An hon. Member: Where was it printed?

Mr. Hardie: The Queen's Printer. Let us take a look at this statement of the minister. New airfields were constructed before he took over the department recently, airfields which naturally were built by the former government to make it possible for the air line companies to reduce their freight rates and to reduce the cost of living and the cost of production in that part of the country.

An hon. Member: Who got the contract?

Mr. Hardie: Private enterprise. I will go further. There was not only a reduction in the cost of production but the cost of drilling and exploration necessary to find out where our minerals are located and to do the job the minister wants to do, to give us an inventory of our resources and to find out the extent of our ore beds.

The minister says in his statement "Geological, topographical and aerial surveys have been and are being completed; large areas have been accurately mapped for the first time." I ask this house, are these not methods

[Mr. Hardie.]

by which we find the areas where minerals are located? In fact we must indicate to private enterprise where they should look for these minerals. The statement also goes on to say that the former minister built new schools and new townsites. This clearly indicates that the Liberal government saw the need not only of material development but also of social development, a policy which I think all members of this house will agree was a sound and practical policy.

We also find that some ships ply through the Arctic ice floes and that the Department of National Health and Welfare has done a great deal in regard to the health of our Eskimos and, I might say, in regard to the health of the Indians and the white people by providing grants with which to build hospitals, nursing stations in many areas of the Northwest Territories. I hope the minister can persuade his cabinet colleague, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, to extend those services to those areas where they still do not exist and where we feel they should be provided. Nurses and doctors are located in various areas at this time, but I hope the minister will talk over this matter with the Minister of National Health and Welfare with a view to providing an extension of all such services.

The hon. members of this house can readily see that the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources has been talking out of both sides of his mouth. When he puts out an official document printed by the queen's printer, like this one, he tells the truth, but when he barks in committee and in this house in the manner of a bull seal for the benefit of the 200-odd little seals in training that I see on the other side of the house and over here to my left he says things which will make the little seals flip their flappers, or flap their flippers.

We have heard a great deal about the railroad. In the speech from the throne we were told that a railroad was going to be built in the Northwest Territories and the hon. minister told this house—well, I will give it to you later, because I cannot find it at present, but since we have another hour and a half I will find it. We have, however, heard the government indicate to the people of Canada and particularly to the people of Peace river, northern Alberta and the Northwest Territories, that this government was going to bring in a bill to build a railroad this year. What do we now find? We are not to get any bill, so the Prime Minister says. The minister told the Leader of the Opposition on July 7 that the former government had done nothing about this railroad, but I want to tell him that the