

*Supply—Northern Affairs*

Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources. It has been mentioned on a number of occasions that the ideas developed by the minister of northern affairs and the interpretation he gave to the visionary aspects regarding the desirability of northern development were factors of considerable importance in the winning of the election, and in winning the imagination of the northern people. I am very happy about that, and willing to give all the credit that is due to the minister for northern affairs.

The desirability of northern development has been for too long ignored, and I should like to refer to one aspect of this question with which I am sure the minister is familiar. It is one which affects my part of the country. It has been pointed out on a number of occasions that northern Ontario has enjoyed a certain amount of initial development, but that this development has never been proceeded with by previous governments. The vision and the possibility of development in northern Ontario and in the area immediately north of that province have been brought to the attention of some of the mining companies, and we are very happy that the minister has examined the situation and that something can be done. At Belcher island large deposits of iron ore have been found. When these deposits are developed we expect that shipments will be flowing from Belcher island in Hudson bay southward to James bay to Moosonee, and it is on this subject that I wish to speak this afternoon.

As the hon. member for Port Arthur ably pointed out, we in northern Ontario have continually given of our natural resources so that development might be possible in the industrial areas of southern Ontario, and particularly in the cities of Toronto and Montreal. Our mining industry has contributed greatly to the expansion of those areas, and in the past we have been faced with the situation that everything has been flowing out of these areas and very little has been coming back; the trade and commerce was flowing in only one direction.

As a result of the development which is in prospect and, in addition, the interest which the provincial government of Ontario has shown in this northern area, I believe something can at last be done. I visualize not necessarily a city at Frobisher of 5,000 people under glass, or whatever would have to be arranged, but certainly a large commercial centre in that area. I visualize a port being built in the near future at Moosonee, in co-operation with the provincial government; that the flow of iron will be coming down from Belcher island and

Ungava, and that on the return journey ships will be carrying goods which have been manufactured in the industrial areas of southern Ontario, goods which have come by the shortest route, over the Ontario northland railroad up to Moosonee. Certainly with the development of atomic energy, ice breakers will be able to make Moosonee, when it is developed, and Churchill all year round ports. We will then come to the second stage of development, and secondary industries will be introduced to handle the iron products either on the way from the mines or after they have made the return trip. All this can come about if the minister of northern affairs is serious with regard to the need of the development of northern Canada.

At the present time such a development can take place only by means of the methods we have used in the past. We have a mining industry, and this industry has done a great deal to benefit Canada. Certainly nobody should fail to recognize the contribution that mining throughout northern Canada has made over the years. This is also true of the lumber industry, and we can go back to the days when the white pine industry of the Ottawa valley stretched well up into northern Ontario. Now the timber is gone and the product is no longer available.

Something has been said about the need for recreating this natural wealth by rejuvenating the forests and replanting where necessary to perpetuate this form of life. But the mining industry does not deal with this type of renewable resource. When a mine is worked out it is done, and this applies not only to the ores of northern Ontario but also to Yellowknife and the uranium developments in the far north. The products are no longer available, because they have a vanishing point. We have to do something about the parts of the world which are affected in this way, and one of the problems has been the introduction of secondary industries.

Industry itself, and the commercial enterprises of Canada, have faced this problem from a very one-sided point of view. They have looked at an area and said that to develop secondary industries there must be a population which will consume the major portion of the products which it is intended to produce. This is a concept which has worked in many parts of Canada, but it has failed to work on almost every occasion when northern development hinged on natural resources. For this reason we had ghost towns increasing in number in days gone by. This is true also of the economy and way of living of the people who existed in the far north, and I am speaking of the Indians and the Eskimos. We