

that time. That modest experiment through the drought of 1925 changed the stability of that country, and gave some prosperity to the people who lived there.

We have also in the west the Eastern Rockies Water Conservation Board which is designed to protect these sources of the great rivers of the western plains.

Again, if honourable senators look over the international scene they will observe that many international quarrels are over water and water conservation. In India and Pakistan the tension started or was aggravated by the control of the Indus River. I have flown over that country from the source of the Indus to see what has happened. This river literally disappears into the sands of the desert as it goes along. The India-Pakistan conflict, while embracing other issues, is one illustration of tension over the use of water. All honourable senators are familiar with the battles between Israel and Egypt over the Nile River and the irrigation of the Negev Desert. There is the same situation between Sudan and her neighbours.

Wherever you go today you will find tremendous water conservation projects, and tremendous tree planting projects to prevent runoff and soil erosion. I was in China a few weeks ago and I travelled 2,100 miles from the Chinese border to away beyond Peking, and I saw the most massive reforestation program I have ever seen anywhere in the world. People were carrying water up the mountains by hand to feed the shrubs because they have not our system of mobile pumping stations which make it possible to irrigate above the dams. In other words, water is one of the greatest and most controversial resources we have to deal with in the world today.

In the last few years we have been hearing of one of the most spectacular programs in the way of expenditure of public funds that has ever been heard of. I refer to The North American Water and Power Alliance, a scheme which if implemented will call for an expenditure of \$150 billion, and one that is mainly concerned with our water. This is something that we have to keep in mind, and I intend to say more about it at another time.

We were all rather sad to learn yesterday that a man who has had a tremendous amount to do with conserving Canada's water supplies, the late General A. G. L. McNaughton, died. He was a man who made

a tremendous contribution in the conservation of Canada's rights, particularly in the field of water resources. Just one month ago at the Learned Societies' meetings in Sherbrooke, General McNaughton and Senator Moss from Idaho read papers on this project. If time permitted I would have liked to quote something from those papers, but I do not propose to do so this afternoon. Great interest was shown in the two sides of this issue of what to do with Canada's resources, and how they might be developed. The fear that Canadian resources might be exploited with disastrous results for Canada was discussed in some detail by these two men at that particular conference.

**Hon. Mr. Connolly (Ottawa):** If the honourable senator does not mind an interruption at this point, I wonder if he would indicate whether those papers are published, and if so where they can be found.

**Hon. Mr. Cameron:** They will be published in the proceedings of the Learned Societies. Fairly good summaries of them appeared in the *Financial Post* of June 18, and a preview of them appeared in the *Montreal Star* of June 8. As I say, I should like to leave a more detailed discussion of this tremendous project to a later time, because it has great implications not only for western Canada but for all of Canada. Many Americans today are talking very seriously about this tremendously imaginative project that will cost \$150 billion and which would completely change not only the economy of the American west and southwest but even the situation in the Great Lakes, and have a tremendous effect on our Canadian Rocky Mountain Trench area as well.

A friend of mine, who is the President of the Alberta Society of Professional Engineers, wrote a letter to the Prime Minister and some other people not long ago, from which I should like to quote in part. It is a letter written by John F. McDougall of Edmonton, and it reads in part:

This country of ours is richly endowed with natural resources such as petroleum, natural gas, coal, metallic minerals, forests, fisheries and fertile soil; but the most abundant and valuable resource of all is water. Water is the one ingredient common and essential to every industry and every manufacturing process.

In spite of water shortages in localized areas there are many persons to whom