

respect to certain reports that I think are available and that he might have ready to bring down when this item is taken up. To preface what I was going to ask, I received a sample of the tar sands about the middle of March, and a certain person on his way to Chicago called and picked this parcel up, about a foot square, and took it to Chicago and had it analysed by an outstanding chemist there. He said that the extraction of oil was quite easy, that there was no difficulty about it, and he showed also that in the white sand there was a trace of gold, which was something new, something that had not been heard of so far in connection with tar sands. This person said that the government here in Canada had employed a Doctor Egloff in Chicago to do research work in connection with this tar sands development. My question is this. Is there a report from Doctor Egloff and, if so, will the minister give it to the committee when the item comes up next.

Mr. CRERAR: I do not know whether we have such a report. There was a concern in Chicago, Universal Oil Products, that specialized in this sort of work. That is the only concern there that I know of that had anything to do with it. What was the name of the gentleman?

Mr. PERLEY: Doctor Egloff of Chicago. The person to whom I have referred says that this professor had been employed by this government to do certain research work and that there was a report available on the subject which would be interesting. I have never heard of it, and I would ask the minister to look into this matter and, if such a report exists, to let us have it.

Mr. CRERAR: I am advised that the gentleman in question is with Universal Oil Products of Chicago, which company is doing research work on bitumen. Perhaps we might let the item stand.

Mr. JOHNSTON (Bow River): I understood that the minister would make a statement on tar sands. I would suggest that he give that statement now and let the item stand, and in the meantime we could examine his statement so that we might be prepared to discuss the question when the time comes around. I should like to have his statement and have a chance to examine it, and then we could have the debate later on. I am very much interested in this subject, having spoken on it on a number of occasions. I was in the minister's office and I went through a large file in connection with it. I understood that he would make a full statement on this subject, and if he would make this statement now and then let the item stand until such time as he desires to bring it up again, I think that would meet the convenience of hon. members.

Item stands.

Investigations of petroliferous deposits and of potential petroliferous areas in Canada, \$145,000.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: This has to do with the investigation of petroliferous deposits in various areas in Canada. I suggest that we might have spent a little more and done a lot of the work, in the Northwest Territories and the Yukon, which is apparently being handed over lock, stock and barrel to other authorities. On May 5 of this year the minister tabled an order in council, P.C. 2904, having to do with the handing over of all rights for the exploration of oil fields of the Yukon and the Northwest Territories and practically all the oil-bearing territory of that area. At that time he gave a very full report in explanation of the first part of the order in council. It is interesting to note that in this agreement with the United States it is arranged that the United States government is, under this order in council, entering into a contract with a Canadian company for further exploration and development of the oil industry in that territory. Apparently there has been quite a bit of preparation going on with regard to organizing and getting that order in council ready, because I find that order in council P.C. 742, which was passed on January 28, 1943, states that the governor in council:

... on the recommendation of the Minister of Mines and Resources and pursuant to the powers conferred by the Dominion Lands Act and the War Measures Act, is pleased, hereby, to make the annexed regulations for the disposal under permit of petroleum and natural gas rights, the property of the crown, not disposed of under lease or permit specifically reserved by the crown by P.C. 4140, dated 18th May, 1942, to be effective immediately, notwithstanding the provisions of section 75 of the Dominion Lands Act.

On February 12, 1943, P.C. 1138 was passed whereby:

The regulations for the disposal of petroleum and natural gas rights, the property of the crown in the Yukon territory, shall no longer apply to the area defined as follows.

And they take in the Yukon—a portion of it at any rate—and a portion of the Northwest Territories. Later, on March 26, 1943, there is an interesting order in council whereby:

The regulations for the issue of oil and gas permits and leases in the Northwest Territories shall no longer apply to the area defined as follows:

1. The whole of the Yukon Territory.
2. Then follows the description in regard to the Northwest Territories, which takes in a part of the mainland of the district of Mackenzie, west of a line commencing at a point on the shore of Beaufort sea on the east side of Mackenzie river, distant seventy-five miles from the centre of the main channel of the east channel of Mackenzie river at the south point of Richards island, and a line following that down.