

*Adjournment Debate*

will be an oncoming increased demand for heavy water in this country. It has been the government's decision that when the time comes for an additional heavy water plant—that is to say, additional to the one at Gentilly—it should be placed either in Manitoba or in Saskatchewan. The choice of a heavy water plant site is dictated by two economic factors: first, by the deuterium content of the water supply which, as the hon. member has mentioned, is favourable from the standpoint of Manitoba, and second by the cost of the power that is available for extracting the deuterium from normal water systems, which is an advantage that the Estevan site has in Saskatchewan. But the

Estevan site is subject to the difficulty of not having adequate water supplies.

Under the circumstances, I think it will be interesting if, through programs administered by my colleague, the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (Mr. Jamieson), there is an extension of the water supply from the Saskatchewan River system down to Estevan where there is a possibility of a plant. But the site mentioned by the hon. gentleman, I think I am correct in saying, in the Winnipeg River region of eastern Manitoba is indeed a very competitive one and will receive very active consideration by Atomic Energy of Canada and the government of Canada at the relatively early date when we expect an additional heavy water plant will be required.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.28 p.m.