

*Natural Resources—Development*

should consider granting assistance in the development that is taking place.

It is necessary to develop within any area a climate attractive to capital investment. If we are going to have the development of our natural resources we must create a climate which will bring about the capital investment needed to develop the natural resources. Last year \$1,200 million of new capital came into the province of British Columbia. That is a large sum of money that has been invested in the province, and this is due to the proper climate for industrial development.

I was glad to notice from a press dispatch that we are going to have some help in the west in the form of human resources. It is said that the minister of immigration has a plan by which many Britons will be able to come by air to western Canada for a set sum of money. We assure these people that they will be most welcome. Human resources are absolutely necessary for the development of natural resources.

I should like to interject here for the benefit of the Minister of Finance that in the development of natural resources in the north it becomes necessary for management to offer certain concessions to labour in order to have them remain on the job and help to carry out this development. A protest was made to the government in respect to the taxation on these concessions. I hope that in the near future the minister will help us to develop our natural resources by taking cognizance of the fact that it is necessary to give some consideration to those people who are working in outlying districts away from hospitals, schools and other amenities.

Referring further to our natural resources, particularly to the Cariboo, I should like to say that at the provincial level there must be a full return to the people of the province from the utilization of the natural resources in any particular district. The provincial government must see that there is a sufficient return to the people for parting with these natural resources. That is a provincial responsibility and it goes along with resource development. In the last year or two we have witnessed negotiations between the federal and provincial governments resulting in tax agreements designed to more or less distribute the wealth of Canada from the have provinces to the have-not provinces, and in that way the return to the people of a province in respect to natural resources will be reflected in benefits to all of Canada.

One of the great natural resources in the Cariboo is in the form of farm lands. We have good land in the Quesnel area, up

through Prince George and in the Peace river block. It is my hope that once again agriculture will get a fair share of the national income. As this land is developed and used for the production of foodstuffs to be consumed in Canada I should like to see the people working in agriculture get a fair share of the national income. It is necessary that they get just exactly that in order to develop our natural resources.

Then a word with regard to the timber resources of northern British Columbia. It has been stated in this house, and it still stands true, that Prince George is the white spruce capital of Canada. I think most hon. members are familiar with the fact that the Sloan commission has been sitting in British Columbia for some time investigating land tenure as far as timber is concerned, sustained yield programs, silviculture practices and other related matters. This is the second commission that has been set up in British Columbia, and was made necessary by changing times and methods in the handling of timber.

Plywood plants are more numerous in these later years, and there have been plans for great expansion in the pulp and paper industry up in the Quesnel area. There is a plywood plant operating there now, and there is a pulp mill on the drawing board. We expect to have a pulp mill in the Peace river block in the not too distant future. Much research has been done in this regard up to the present time.

We have great water resources in British Columbia, and Cariboo constituency has not been left out of the picture in that regard. In the development of our water resources I submit that we must be mindful of the fishing industry. The world population is increasing very rapidly, and the fishing industry may become a most important factor in the feeding of that population in the not too distant future. So I think we must be ever mindful of the fishing industry when we consider the development of power.

In the field of gas and oil we all know of the great developments in the northern part of Alberta and in the Peace river block of British Columbia. There is a great amount of natural gas available for consumption at the present moment, with more reserves on hand. A pipe line to Vancouver and on into the United States is being built at the present time, and I shall have something to say on that matter a little later. In connection with gas and oil I emphasize that it is necessary that the province guard the people's rights so they may have a fair return for these natural resources. This is being done.