

of the country, its attractiveness without being touched by the hand of man; second, its accessibility, because if you cannot get near it at all, it has no value from the tourist standpoint; third, the facilities, which involve roads, bridges and the whole problem of transportation. Then there are other facilities provided for those who endeavour to reach these points, and that involves the physical facilities and the courtesy and general treatment received by the tourists. The railways have taken care of one side of the problem, that is the reaching of the natural scenery, making the natural scenery accessible along their routes. They have provided facilities and ways for reaching the natural scenery. But we have spent millions of dollars in the national parks, to make accessible the natural beauties of this country. We have provided through our national railway, and the Canadian Pacific have provided through private capital, the facilities to enable people to come here and enjoy the scenery.

For the sake of illustration I mention Jasper park on the Canadian National. We spent large sums of money to make it possible for tourists to get into that park. There is a highway that leads from Edmonton west to Jasper, and it was in very bad condition. We endeavoured to secure from the railway the utilization of part of an old grade where the rails had been taken up during the war and not put down again because they were not required. The province has cooperated in that work. Then it was proposed to carry the highway through the park, and we projected a new road connecting Jasper park with Banff park. That work was done by a number of the unemployed single homeless men, and they have now reached Summit. Only the other day a gentleman told me that undoubtedly from a scenic standpoint it was the most beautiful spot in America. That we have by the utilization of those who were out of work. We paid them the going wages during the summer months, and they have carried that work to completion except for forty or fifty miles.

That, I think, is an illustration of what the right hon. gentleman has in mind. Whether or not a commission of seven or five or whatever the number of men may be in Ottawa would be able in any way to assist in bringing about closer cooperation between the province, the dominion, and the municipalities it is difficult to say, but it can be brought about by the action of the mayors of the municipalities, the premier of the province, and the Prime Minister of the dominion acting through the appropriate departments.

What I feared in looking at this paragraph was that it was composed of words that when

analyzed did not mean anything practical, and the question of tourist trade under this paragraph I found it a little difficult to appreciate, but if the right hon. gentleman says that that is what is in mind, certainly there is room for coordination of effort with respect to the tourist trade. Each city has its own way of dealing with that problem, and of course they are all rivals; there is no getting away from that. The communities are competitors for the tourist trade, and as long as it is a competition in courtesy, kindness, consideration and hospitality, and not a competition to see how much they can take out of the tourists for the least possible outlay, it is a good thing for the country, but sometimes it has been found that the competition has led to very bad results for the country as a whole. But I am quite content if the right hon. gentleman assures me that the purpose of the paragraph is as he indicates, although I would never have so understood it had he not stated that that was the purpose. Last year we had a committee appointed under the direction of the Minister of Railways, shortly to be Minister of Transport, and it is to be hoped that he will be able to do something along the line of developing our tourist trade. We have spent a considerable sum in advertising in magazines, in the press and on hoardings, and in a little advertising over the radio, and the results last year were highly satisfactory because we were enabled to receive so large a favourable balance in the tourist trade in our relations with the United States that it had an effective result upon the adverse invisible balances in our dealings with that country. As I say, if this legislation will be of any help in that direction I am certainly very glad to give it my support.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: May I say to my right hon. friend I am particularly pleased that he has mentioned the very project he has, namely the construction of the road from Banff to Jasper because it will illustrate exactly what was in my mind with regard to this clause. Only to-day I spoke to the Minister of the Interior about the very road my right hon. friend has referred to, and asked if it were not the intention to have the road completed from Banff to Jasper. Apparently the work is not finished, as my right hon. friend assumes. It has progressed a certain distance, but it is far from finished. While in the mountains, during a recent visit to the west, I went to see the work which was being done. My feeling is that the route is one of the most promising to be found anywhere in the Rocky mountains. The scenery is quite exceptional.