

this bill, which is to validate an agreement between the government of Canada and the government of Alberta in regard to these natural resources. When the resources of Alberta were returned to that province in 1930 we hoped that since Alberta was so rich in coal and falling water through power and hydro-electric energy, the government would lay down some national policy for this country in regard to water power. As you know, we in central Canada are largely dependent upon American coal; yet during all the years between the two wars nothing was done to relieve that condition, although in 1923 I had a motion that was discussed for two days for a national fuel policy so that all coal should be developed under our flag.

In this case the Calgary Power Company developed the resources on the banks and bed of the Bow river. Back in 1930 we hoped that some definite national hydro policy would be laid down concerning water power, not only in connection with this particular province but for the whole country. As you know, Mr. Speaker, the water power available in Canada totals some 46,000,000 horse-power, of which only about 7,000,000 or 8,000,000 horse-power have been developed, and part of that development is only seasonal, during certain months of the year. In view of the difficulty we have had getting the splendid Alberta coal in central Canada I had hoped that in the long period since 1930, when the Alberta Natural Resources Act was passed, the government might have laid down a long range national hydro-electric policy in connection with the water powers of Canada.

As far as this particular agreement is concerned, the three sites named in section 1 were developed by the Calgary Power Company. Now under these agreements in the future two of them are to be developed and operated by the dominion, and the other at Ghost site is to be operated by the province. Has Alberta no provincial policy of its own, regarding the water power of that province? Is there any provincial control in these schedules over rates? Two sites are to be operated by the federal power and the other site by provincial power. Is there any federal control over those two sites, and over the company, in connection with the rates they may be allowed to charge? Then, in the second schedule is there any control by the province in respect of the rates, or has this province laid down a hydro-electric provincial law in that respect?

British Columbia was the last to enter this hydro-electric power-at-cost project, and now there is a power-at-cost policy of hydro-electric sites for the province of Alberta. We

[Mr. Church.]

were in hopes that the government would lay down a national hydro policy in 1930, when the natural resources of Alberta were considered. I had hoped that in the fifteen years since that time the government of Canada would have written into these agreements some control over rates and some policy as to national hydro. I find, however, that there is no such provision.

The minister now in charge of the department is a most capable one, and I do urge that he consider a national power policy for the country so that we may preserve water-power facilities for the common good, and so that we may protect ourselves from the cold winters we have had in the last few years.

Mr. A. L. SMITH (Calgary West): Mr. Speaker, I shall detain the house only long enough to find out if my understanding of what is taking place is the correct one. I have read the bill and the agreements, and I understand they merely put in statutory form the arrangement arrived at between the two governments and the Calgary Power Company. Is that correct?

Mr. GLEN: Correct.

Mr. SMITH (Calgary West): I take it that all the moneys which come to the dominion are for the Stony Indians on the reserve. Is that correct? May I express the hope, since this matter is in the minister's department, that these moneys or such other moneys as the dominion government may have will at long last do justice to that band of Indians, who have worked very hard to get along on nothing more than a stone-heap. That is where they live to-day. I hope the government will consider the purchase of some arable land at the east end of that reserve for the benefit of these splendid men and women. When I describe them in that way I am not speaking too strongly. The house should know that not a Stony Indian has been convicted of any breach of criminal law in more than fifteen years. I wonder what other part of the country can make that claim.

It is my sincere hope that we shall look at this thing broadly. They are raising all the cattle there they can possibly raise; they could not feed another animal, because there is only one high meadow of about 400 acres. Half the band is now off the reserve simply because they cannot make a living on it.

This is not a matter of politics, because all hon. members have been interested in it. But we have been permitting a terrible injustice so far as that band of splendid people is concerned; and I feel sure that the minister will see that justice is done for the benefit of these worthy citizens.