

*Supply—Mines and Technical Surveys*

Having outlined my point of view in a few brief remarks, and the point of view of the gentleman who wrote this brief, I wish to ask the minister a few questions. I trust he will answer them when he replies to the remarks made on this item.

First, of all, has anything been attempted with respect to an inventory of mineral assets in Canada under the jurisdiction of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys? Has any effort been made to establish a code of rules or procedure with a view to taking an inventory of our mineral resources? Has the department undertaken an inventory of mineral resources even on a limited scale anywhere in Canada, either under its own steam, shall I say, or in co-operation with any province? If so, where were these inventories taken. If any inventories have been taken, does the minister consider them reliable? Would the minister say that he stands behind information given in documents published by the federal government as to the reserves of minerals in Canada at this time? In minerals I also include coal. Does the minister think this information can be taken as reliable by the Canadian people?

I hope the minister will give the committee any other information he can with respect to any consideration his department has given this question of getting reliable information regarding our total natural resources. That is the only basis upon which I think we can plan the development of these resources in the future. The minister knows that the forestry inventory has been a great help to the forest industry, and it will be a continuing inventory. It will be the basis for the planning and policies of provincial governments and private industry.

I am very interested to know whether there has been any discussion on this subject or any moves in this direction under the leadership of the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys or on the part of any provincial government, to his knowledge.

**Mr. Kindt:** Mr. Chairman, I rise at this time to say a few words on this extremely important topic about which several hon. members have already spoken. I have listened with a great deal of interest to the speeches of those who have preceded me on this subject.

I was particularly interested this morning in listening to the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys giving statistics showing the natural resources which are available in this country. One of the figures which impressed me particularly was the 15 per cent increase in the proven reserves of oil and gas in western Canada. In addition to the resources which we already have in this

field this is a tremendous and astounding increase. It naturally leads me to raise the question as to the speed with which private industry with government assistance is developing and taking full advantage of these natural resources.

First of all I look at markets. With regard to the question of markets for these mineral resources—and after all one is inseparable from the other—if we discover these resources we must certainly find some way in which to manufacture them into finished products and then to market the manufactured product. We must either manufacture the raw material in Canada or, if we cannot do that, find markets for the raw material elsewhere.

I for one favour the proposition of manufacturing and starting industry in Canada as far as possible. I do not wish to deal with the various aspects of markets for raw material in Canada or abroad. That may be a subject which can be discussed at greater length on some future occasion. However, at this time I do wish to say a word or two about industrialization, because industrialization in western Canada is near to my heart. It is one of the things to which I have given a tremendous amount of attention. As an economist I have assisted in the location of a number of industries in western Canada for the purpose of developing the natural resources there. Therefore I feel that what we need is industry in western Canada to develop our natural resources.

In other words, we all know that private industry is doing a good job in the development of these natural resources, but I say that in relation to the tremendous quantities that are there to be developed, private industry is developing them at a snails' pace. The time is not far in the future when we should look critically at the rate at which these natural resources are being developed. With regard to government assistance in the form of capital to assist the development of these resources, I believe the time has come when this type of assistance should be given. We need more corporations such as Polymer corporation in the west.

When I suggest that social capital should be used for the development of industry the boys over in the corner may say, "That is socialization". Certainly it is one form of socialization, but it has been indulged in for years by governments of this country and other countries. It did not make them socialist. These hon. members have no prior claim on the words "socialism" or "social". As a matter of fact, if you take socialism as it is taught by the orthodox socialist, I agree with Stephen Leacock who once said: