

Conservation of Natural Resources

enterprise system that this work will best be carried on and the highest measure of employment will be created.

That does not in any way overlook the abuses that have threatened some of our resources in the past. Nor does it in any way lessen the weight of my own contention that we should use our resources with the utmost care. I do believe, however, that it is the function of government to supervise, and that the actual processing and manufacturing can be carried out by private enterprise to the greatest advantage of our people. For that reason I do not intend to support the subamendment.

The motion by way of amendment is clearly intended to assert the proposition that under adequate plans for conservation and supervision we believe we should rely on the enterprise and energy of free men and women in building up the various activities of this country.

There is one other point I wish to touch, and it was raised by the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Low). He raised the question whether this motion which I have moved by way of an amendment in any way interfered with the plans for leasing the property now leased in different parts of this country, as distinguished from outright grants. I want to leave no doubt that I am not putting forward any proposition that any plans or any policy for the development of our resources should at any time be permitted to infringe upon the jurisdiction of the provincial governments over the resources that have been placed under their control.

Some of those resources are leased in different parts of the country. Others have been granted for development. I think it is quite clear that the dominion government and the parliament of Canada must not interfere with the rights of the provincial governments and the provincial legislatures to determine how they will deal with their own resources. For that reason I would point out to the hon. member for Peace River that I naturally am not only supporting but emphasizing that the plans worked out in any province for the handling of their resources must be respected and preserved.

I can only once more point out what I said in my earlier remarks, that I had hoped the proposal put forward would be regarded as a constructive proposal, and that it need not be looked upon as criticism of what has happened in the past under this or any other government. We have entered a period where there is going to be a tremendous demand on our resources because of the unusual world demand. That demand is going to be enormously increased, as was

pointed out by the hon. member for York West (Mr. Adamson), who placed before this house figures showing that in the comparatively near future there is going to be such a serious deficiency of raw materials in the United States that pressures are going to mount to a still greater level for the supply of raw materials from Canada.

We wish to co-operate with our friends and neighbours in every way, but I repeat what I said at the outset. In presenting this motion I believe the first concern of the government of Canada and the parliament of Canada should be the welfare of the people of Canada. I believe, therefore, that there should be a clearly stated policy that while we are prepared to export our resources under arrangements that will meet proper demands in keeping with the resources we possess, at the same time we should make sure that in every way possible those resources will be processed and manufactured to a very high level so that wages can be paid to Canadian workmen and so that employment may be expanded and increased throughout the whole of this country.

The house divided on the amendment to the amendment (Mr. Coldwell) which was negatived on the following division:

YEAS

Messrs:

Argue	Knight
Beyerstein	Knowles
Blackmore	Low
Bryce	Queleh
Coldwell	Stewart (Winnipeg North)
Fair	Thatcher
Gillis	Wright
Herridge	Wylie—17.
Jones	

NAYS

Messrs:

Abbott	Catherwood
Adamson	Charlton
Anderson	Chevrier
Ashbourne	Churchill
Aylesworth	Corry
Balcom	Croll
Bater	Decore
Beaudoin	Dewar
Benidickson	Dickey
Bennett	Dinsdale
Black (Chateauguay- Huntingdon-Laprairie)	Drew
Black (Cumberland)	Dube
Blanchette	Dumas
Blue	Eyre
Boucher	Fairclough, Mrs.
Bradette	Ferrie
Bradley	Fleming
Brisson	Fournier (Hull)
Brooks	Fulford
Brown (Essex West)	Fulton
Browne (St. John's West)	Gagnon
Bruneau	Gardiner
Byrne	Garland
Campney	Garson
Carroll	Gauthier (Lake St. John)
Carter	Gauthier (Lapointe)
	Gauthier (Portneuf)