

Lethbridge Northern scheme, and there is the Taber scheme. There are three large beet sugar factories flourishing now in this part of the province. The South Saskatchewan River project is about half finished. It will cost between one and two hundred million dollars. A huge dam has been built there, three miles wide and 210 feet high, and behind it is a long lake stretching for about 140 miles. Of course, much of this water evaporates or goes away by seepage, but the lake will provide pleasure boating and other forms of recreation and much of the land can be used as picnic sites. The area will be excellent for the preservation of wildlife, and the land is well suited for producing sugar beets, grain and livestock. More particularly, power will be available for the farming districts, as well as for the cities of Moose Jaw and Regina.

Many of the streams from the Rockies have been damned by the Calgary Power Company to produce hydro-electric energy. In Manitoba and Saskatchewan many ambitious schemes have been promoted or are in the process of being developed.

In Alberta an efficient staff of some 100 persons, including eminent engineers, is engaged in the study of water conservation. The staff is not altogether happy about many of these schemes because the headwaters of many of the streams are in Alberta, and there is a danger of the demand for water exceeding the supply, and the future needs of the province may be jeopardized if too much water is being used. However, that is a problem for the Prairie Water Board, which is composed of representatives from each province and also from the dominion.

Just one more point. Canada is rapidly becoming an urban nation. At the time of Confederation half of its people were on farms. I learned recently that only about 11 per cent of our people now live on farms. Therefore, as cities enlarge there will be more and more demand for water and electric power.

Honourable senators, I will close by saying that care must be taken regarding water supply, because all down through the long history of the world the decline and fall of nations has gone hand in hand with the misuse of water supply. Water is our most valuable resource and its depletion would be more disastrous than the depletion of oil, minerals, or even lumber. Marketing boards need to be set up to dispose of our products—and that can be done. Quite a number of processing plants are in operation, but a few more may be required to preserve the food supply. I hope this activity will be continued. People who dwell in dry farming areas live a lonely life, whereas those who dwell on

irrigated land enjoy the pleasures of community life and, most important of all, they are able to produce food of the very kind that is in so much demand throughout the world.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Grosart, debate adjourned.

DIVORCE

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE—DEBATE ADJOURNED

The Senate proceeded to consideration of the reports of the Standing Committee on Divorce, Nos. 2 to 306, which were presented yesterday.

Hon. Arthur W. Roebuck moved that the reports be adopted now.

Hon. Jean-François Pouliot: Honourable senators, I spoke yesterday on this matter, when I asked that consideration of these reports be deferred until the next sitting. I wonder if my honourable colleagues would allow me to proceed with the discussion, for I have a few remarks to make and it will not be possible for me to complete them today.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: Go ahead.

Hon. Mr. Pouliot: I must take you into my confidence. For the benefit of the new senators, at the last session I appealed to my colleagues who were here on April 17 last, the day before the last day of the session. I draw your attention to page 522 of Senate *Hansard* for Tuesday, April 17, and also No. 39 of the *Minutes of the Proceedings of the Senate* of the same date. At that time the session was about to end, but we did not know when the end was to come. We knew nothing of what was going to happen. There were a lot of papers on the table, nobody knew what was in them, and then we were told that they were reports from the divorce committee. They are to be found in No. 39 of the *Minutes* to which I have referred. Then the honourable senator from Toronto-Trinity (Hon. Mr. Roebuck), as appears at page 522 of Senate *Hansard*:

... presented the committee's reports, Nos. 307 to 340, and moved, with leave, that they be taken into consideration now. Motion agreed to.

I was present with my colleagues. I do not blame anyone else; I blame myself for having let that occur. I did not know what it was at all, and I was here. I was a party to the adoption of those reports, and I did not say a word. First reading was then given to a number of divorce bills.