

In order to make it possible for them to know where to go in order to obtain labour, an office was established in the nearest village, I believe in Consul. A man was put in charge of the employment office; people were asked to make application for work, and the contractors go to that office for their employees. They were instructed to take them in the order that these people applied for work. I understand that this undertaking was carried out, and that persons from those communities were given employment in so far as they were able to supply the type of labour required.

Mr. FAIR: In the case of the Bartman dam, there were two tenders, one from the Poole Construction Company for \$19,332.50, and the other from the special municipal areas board for \$19,155.60. This contract was let to the Poole Construction Company. Why was that done, when there was a lower tender?

Mr. GARDINER: The other tender in connection with the Bartman dam was from the special areas board of the government of Alberta. The Poole Construction Company is an organization well equipped to do that kind of work. The tenders were considered somewhat late in the season, and as far as we were able to find out the board had little if any equipment with which to proceed with the work immediately. There was another reason why it was considered somewhat doubtful as to whether we should give consideration to the board's tender. At that time we had not established the principle as to whether or not we should put the government in competition with others who were tendering in connection with works of that kind, and since this was the first case we had to consider we decided to give it to the contractor, since there was a difference only of two or three hundred dollars.

Mr. FAIR: I do not think this was very good business, because the dam built by the Poole Construction Company washed out. On the other hand, the special areas board built a dam six miles further along which was able to withstand the high water that wrecked the other dam. So I say it looks like a case of one being on the patronage list, perhaps, while the other was not.

Mr. PERLEY: Does the project for the water supply for the city of Moose Jaw come under this vote, and is it intended to undertake that work, which was announced by the hon. member for Moose Jaw during the provincial campaign. According to a Regina newspaper which came to hand this morning, a motion was introduced in the city council

of Moose Jaw on Monday evening last by a certain alderman—

—requesting J. Gordon Ross, M.P. for Moose Jaw, to make a public announcement regarding the Saskatchewan river water project to supply the city with an ample water supply. Announcement was made prior to the recent provincial campaign by Mr. Ross that the project would be completed this fall providing the Patterson government was returned to office.

What authority had the hon. member for Moose Jaw to make that announcement during the campaign? Has any work been done on this project and are any engineers on the job? During the campaign the hon. member stated that engineers were on the job and had been making a survey. How many engineers were there, what was their report and will the contract be let by public tender?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Before the minister replies I hope my right hon. friend and the committee will permit me to put a motion which will enable us to continue sitting without adjourning at one o'clock. I move that the committee rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again this day.

Progress reported.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

SUSPENSION OF INTERMISSION FROM ONE O'CLOCK TO THREE O'CLOCK, P.M.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister) moved:

That there shall be no intermission at one o'clock in the sitting of the house this day.

Motion agreed to.

SUPPLY

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Sanderson in the chair.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Special—Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act and water storage, \$3,500,000.

Mr. GARDINER: In reply to the question of the hon. member for Qu'Appelle I may say that so far as the department, or the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act organization is concerned, we have no undertaking to place water in the city of Moose Jaw; nor have we any understanding with anyone that we shall do so. At certain places throughout the west we are undertaking to establish water storage. That is, at some future time we may store in different places water that can be used for irrigation purposes or as a water supply for people in the neighbourhood. At the moment we have under consideration the placing of water storage at Caron, Saskatchewan, which