

feet high, so that a substantial amount of power would be required to pump water over the bank; but, once over the bank, it would flow by gravity seventy miles to Caron and a further twenty miles to Moose Jaw, or ninety miles to Moose Jaw and 120 miles from the river to Regina. The topographical situation is peculiar, in that once the water is pumped over the river bank it will flow by gravity 120 miles east. It is not a difficult engineering problem, although considerable power would be required to elevate the water.

From 1914 to 1919 both those cities suffered from shortage of water. I have ascertained from an examination of the reports of city engineers that at no time did they have a sufficiency of water as we would regard it in Ottawa, where every citizen averages 117 gallons a day. Regina would scarcely know what it means to have that much water per person for domestic purposes.

By 1919-21 the situation was so bad that the cities, the province and the federal government cooperated in making a very careful survey, after which the report from the combined engineers recommended that a conduit should be built to convey water from the South Saskatchewan river to the cities. I examined the report carefully and I did not see where a dam was recommended to be built, but I presume a dam must have been included, because the report states that the whole works would cost approximately \$6 million. I do not see how it is possible to render any real and adequate service to those two cities unless a dam is built across the river to provide an adequate reservoir from which the water could be pumped. In 1929-30, again, there was low water and the people suffered considerably. In 1930 Regina engaged an outstanding New York engineer, Mr. N. S. Hill, and he was associated with Mr. R. O. Wynne-Roberts of Toronto. These two engineers made a thorough survey and reported that, to supply a permanent and adequate amount of water to the two cities, it would be necessary to bring it from the South Saskatchewan river. In 1930-33 Moose Jaw city engineer was consulted, a very capable man. I met him last summer and discussed the matter with him and I know his qualifications. I refer to Mr. A. W. Ellson Fawkes, and in association with him there was a local financial man, Mr. A. E. Martin. They recommended the building of a dam across the river near Riverhurst and conveying the water by conduit to the two cities after pumping it over the river bank. They proposed to pay for the construction, operation and maintenance by irrigating 500,000 acres of irrigable, but low moisture land, between the river and

Regina, and from the profits thereof they would have defrayed all costs. Nothing, however, was done. That last proposal was made eleven years ago.

By 1936 the water situation, after having been investigated and pronounced wholly insufficient for the growth of the two cities, was again thoroughly discussed. I have a whole sheaf of clippings from the *Regina Leader* and the *Moose Jaw Times*, as well as reports to the city councils of both cities, all indicating the magnitude of the problem and the necessity for the development of an abundant, permanent and adequate supply of water. A citizens' committee was appointed; they associated themselves with the province and with the federal government and a plan was proposed in conjunction with the prairie farm rehabilitation board. The P.F.R.B. men have done a splendid job in the west, and later on I shall have the pleasure of speaking of the good work they have accomplished. The P.F.R.B. engineers made a survey of the situation, as it would appear that from the beginning it was recognized as the business of the federal government. You cannot expect two cities in the financial condition of those cities out there, and having regard to the financial position of the province of Saskatchewan and the magnitude of the whole problem, alone to undertake a project of this magnitude. As an easterner I know what the government has done in the east and I endorse it; and as an easterner I take the stand that the time has come when the federal government must take a greater interest in assisting such projects in the west. We have built here canals that have cost between \$650 and \$700 million, and I endorse these, too. What have we spent in the west on canals? A paltry \$2½ million. In Montreal we have built a bridge costing \$20 million, and I endorse that; but where have we built a bridge of that kind in the west? I say, therefore, that if it does cost ten or fifteen or twenty millions to erect works equal to the provision, for those two cities and the municipalities between Regina and the river, of a permanent, adequate and abundant supply of water, it is something that merits the support of everyone. I am sure that every board of trade, every chamber of commerce, and eastern members of parliament would be glad to support whatever the government might determine was required to give those two cities an even chance with others. If they go down through lack of an adequate water supply, if the people move out of them, it will be a tragedy that will have its repercussions in the east as well. That is why I say as an eastern member—and I know that all eastern members will agree with me in this—that provision should be made for