

*Supply—Resources and Development*

And then the section goes on:

—and the conservation and development of the resources of Canada . . .

Then subsection 2 reads:

The minister may co-operate with the provinces and with municipalities in carrying out any development programs.

Subsection 3 reads:

In carrying out his duties and functions under this section the minister may consult with and inaugurate conferences of representatives of producers, industry, science, labour and provincial and municipal authorities.

At this particular time in Canada's history it seems to me that this question of developing and using our resources is of the utmost importance, particularly the new resources which have been recently discovered such as the iron and titanium in Quebec, the iron in Labrador, the oil and gas in Alberta, and also uranium which is so essential for the development of atomic energy.

**Mr. Winters:** If the hon. member will permit me to do so, I should like to say that I think that this matter would more appropriately be discussed under the estimates of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys.

**Mr. Green:** No, Mr. Chairman, I think that the responsibility rests with the Minister of Resources and Development. It is not only a question of mining the iron or these other commodities; it is a question of the development of Canada with these resources, and that comes directly under the minister in the same way that he has responsibility for the trans-Canada highway, which is in reality a development project.

I believe that these new discoveries of natural resources are the most important ones that we have had in Canada since confederation. Granted that it would take some time to work out a policy as to how they can best be used, I think the time has now come when the government should be able to tell the Canadian people what the policy is to be with regard to these resources. The minister himself, speaking at St. Catharines in February of this year, pointed out the great importance of the discoveries of iron ore and oil; and Donald Gordon, the new president of the Canadian National Railways, had this to say last year, on October 13, 1949—

**Mr. Winters:** I wonder if the hon. member will permit me to say again that this department is not responsible for the development of iron ore, oil or any similar resource that can be depleted. We are responsible for the development of resources of the renewable type. If it were a matter of building roads

to facilitate the mining of iron ore or that sort of thing, it might be a different problem. But the development of the ore body, let us say, and the utilization of the ore, is not a function of this department.

**Mr. Green:** I submit that the minister is responsible for policies having to do with the use of these resources. The very name of his department, the Department of Resources and Development, indicates that. I am afraid the position is that there is no policy whatsoever, and the responsibility comes back to this particular minister.

**The Deputy Chairman:** I do not know whether the estimates of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys have been before the committee of supply. I do not think they have. The Minister of Resources and Development has said that it is not his responsibility. I would suggest to the hon. member that he wait and discuss the question when the estimates of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys are before the committee. Even if in the opinion of the hon. member it should be the responsibility of the Minister of Resources and Development, the minister has twice said that it is not. I do not think we would be saving any time by continuing to discuss these questions.

**Mr. Green:** Surely, the Department of Resources and Development has some responsibility for the use of Canadian resources. The Department of Mines and Technical Surveys may be involved in the actual mining of ores, but I am not concerned about the mining. What I am worried about is what is going to be done after this iron ore is mined. What is to be done in the way of using the iron ore to produce steel? That certainly does not come under the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys.

**Mr. Winters:** That is more appropriately a matter for the Minister of Trade and Commerce. I suggest again that it does not come under the jurisdiction of this department.

**Mr. Green:** I am submitting that the minister is quite wrong. It is a matter of the development and use of our resources, and that certainly comes under his department, in the same way that he is responsible for various resources of Canada. Whatever dominion responsibility there is rests with this minister whose estimates are before us today.

**Mr. Mitchell:** On a point of order, I may say to my hon. friend that he is in the right church but in the wrong pew. I think he should take the minister's word for it. There will be ample opportunity to make a speech when the question involved is before the