

main line of the Canadian National between Winnipeg, Saskatoon, North Battleford and Edmonton. There is no argument that the road would not be a paying one. Not only have we seventy miles of grade ready for the steel—and it will not be in that condition very much longer if it is allowed to remain as it is for many more years; in fact, a great deal of work will have to be done on it now to put the roadbed into proper shape—but about forty miles of that road have not been graded. I would like to see those forty miles graded and the seventy miles that are graded, steeled. When those jobs are done, we shall have railway facilities for the people in that part of northern Saskatchewan and they will be encouraged to go ahead and open up more fully that splendid, productive area out of which will come a great deal of trade. The best class of hogs and of cattle are raised there; there are lumber and timber, fish and fur, and further north there are mineral areas. All in all, the districts tributary to this road have a great future and the people who have settled in them could make that future still brighter if they had the necessary railway accommodation.

In conclusion, may I say that I believe we have been told in the house time and again by the Minister of Labour (Mr. Gordon), who is also Acting Minister of Immigration, and other members of the cabinet, that the government has a wonderful back to the land policy. They want the people to go back to the land. Where were the people to go in western Canada but largely into these northern areas? Much of the land there had not been taken up, they took the government at its word, they went north, they have started their settlement duties, they have a prodigious job on their hands, and the least the government can do would be to come to the rescue of those who have taken them at their word with regard to this land policy and have settled in these northern areas, and who must have railway accommodation if they are to make the best of life in that part of Canada. So I hope many hon. members will give this resolution their support; and that the government will find it possible in the coming months to take some of the money that they propose to make use of perhaps in building public works, and apply it to railway construction in northern Alberta and northern Saskatchewan. I think it would be the worst kind of folly for the government of the day to spend fifty or a hundred million dollars in building bridges and roads and public works all over Canada where many of them would not need to be built and have

in the northern parts of western Canada thousands of settlers crying out for railway relief and nothing be done in the way of railway construction. I would say that the construction of branch line facilities opening up these new areas is the question of the hour, and if any money is to be spent on public works during the summer months it should be spent on railway construction.

Mr. A. U. G. BURY (East Edmonton): I do not intend, Mr. Speaker, to trespass on the time of the house to any extent. The hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Kennedy) was very properly congratulated by previous speakers on his courage and persistence in bringing this question of the Peace River outlet year after year to the attention of the government and of the house. I trust that some time or other, and we hope in the not too distant future, he will reap the reward of his persistence and realize the hopes which he has expressed in this house.

The hon. member for North Battleford (Mr. McIntosh) rising to support the motion gave an excellent exhibition of the way in which a man can make one point for the motion and two points for something else; one point for the problem of the Peace River outlet, and two points for the railway problems of his own constituency. Were I to follow the same line and take my hon. friend as a precedent for what I do I should occupy the time of the chamber in dealing with problems relating to my own constituency. I purpose, however, to confine myself entirely to the motion of the hon. member for Peace River. May I say in that connection, however, that it is very wonderful the way in which the memories of some hon. gentlemen operate. They are so keen and so quick to perceive and recall pledges that were given by their political opponents and so absolutely oblivious of the equally strong and clear and emphatic pledges which were given by their own leader and members of their own party.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): That is not correct. I said all the pledges given by the leaders of all the parties.

Mr. BURY: I said some members, I did not say all the members of the opposition. My hon. friend has not yet attained that position of preeminence in his party that when I speak of some members of the Liberal party or the opposition he must necessarily be referred to.

They are so quick to see the mote in their neighbour's eye notwithstanding the disadvantage of the lumber yards that occupy their