

The Address—Mr. Hansell

of them are practically complete. What the other provinces do in connecting these three highways is their own business. But I do say that there is no reason in the world why a country as wealthy as Canada in natural resources, and in what-have-you—we have everything—should not have one of the best highways on this continent running from coast to coast. We have all the gravel we need; we have all the cement we need; we have all the sand we need; we have all the oil we need; we have all these component parts that go into the paving of a highway and—

Mr. Johnston: No American dollars.

Mr. Hansell: We have not got enough of somebody else's money, a sort of crazy idea, I think. Perhaps Bernard Shaw was right when he said that if some race of people from some other planet could look down upon this earth and discover how we were running things, especially if they looked at Canada and the Liberal administration, they would conclude that this little planet would make a good lunatic asylum for the rest of the universe.

We have all sorts of materials; we have manpower. There is gradually becoming an unemployment problem in Canada. I am not going to paint the picture too dark. We have all sorts of materials, we have all sorts of manpower, but somehow or other we cannot get enough figures in bankers' books to be able to effect the exchange of goods to the extent that we can have that cement or that asphalt or whatever it takes to make a highway across there.

You know, we have a lot of brains in Canada.

Mr. Cruickshank: You would never know it.

Mr. Hansell: But somehow or other we have not enough brains to make financial figures fit the physical facts. We believe we have some in this corner of the house. But if governments and administrations want to stumble on in their stupidity about this thing, let them do so. The day will come when force of circumstances will perhaps change the minds of even the Liberal administration.

May I ask that the government stop playing around with this all-Canada highway business. Perhaps, as the hon. member for Red Deer (Mr. Shaw) reminds me, that will be one of the planks in their next election platform. We want to see something materialize a long time before the next election rolls around. There is no reason why that highway cannot be started almost immedi-

[Mr. Hansell.]

ately. It is granted that winter might hold up some parts of the country. There is no reason why that highway cannot be completed in one or two years. When I say "that highway" I do not mean a lot of gravel on some prairie trail. I mean a highway to be proud of, a highway throughout Canada such as there is from Toronto to Hamilton or from Calgary to Edmonton or through the Crownsnest pass so far. I want it to be a real highway, so let them stop playing around with this thing. Let them get down to business and tell the world. Let us tell our American friends that if they come to Canada they will be able to get home safely.

I was in Vancouver this summer on a little vacation. I must say I went by way of the United States because I felt that with my wife and family we could ride more smoothly and enjoyably on a United States highway, at least between Spokane and Seattle, than we could on the present route through British Columbia.

Mr. Cruickshank: That was after the 27th.

Mr. Hansell: My friend reminds me that I went there after June 27. It was the end of July, and I still found a tremendous lot of wind and fog out in British Columbia. The air was not a bit clear. As a matter of fact, when I was looking around for information they said to me, "For goodness sake don't go through the Fraser valley because the fog and wind are so thick and hot there that you will never get out alive". I am sure it could not be that bad because our friend the member for Fraser Valley is here with us again to delight our hearts with his comments; and since democracy has spoken we are of course pleased to welcome him back. I must confess that I did speak in his constituency. What was I speaking about? Oh, the all-Canada highway. In order to safeguard the welfare of my family when I went to Vancouver I decided to go by way of Spokane and Seattle because I did not want to risk driving that route over those mountains where you can look down a few miles with not a stone to keep you from going over the side. I put up at a small tourist cabin in Vancouver, and became engaged in conversation with an American tourist who gave the appearance of an outstanding gentleman. He said, "I see you are from Alberta. Which way did you come?" I replied, "I came by Spokane and Seattle." "Oh," he said, "you did not come on this Big Bend road?" I said, "No, I have never travelled that road." "Good for you", he said; "I came that way, but I shall never, never travel that road again."

That conversation reflects the impressions gained by an American tourist. I am not