

my business, and since I am going to confine my remarks to these two cities and the adjacent municipalities, just as I could speak for a score of other districts throughout Canada, I wish to say that from the riding of Davenport there goes each day to those two cities not less than one carload of goods made by the workers of my riding, by people I know, many hundreds of them, who make these goods to be shipped out to build up the cities of Regina and Moose Jaw and other adjacent municipalities in Saskatchewan. Since they have purchased not less than one carload a day for forty years—it may be longer than that but I will say forty—it means that we have shipped out not less than fifteen thousand cars, and taking the average as twenty tons to the car, this means that 300,000 tons of freight have been shipped from Davenport riding to help build up that area of the west. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, the people of my riding owe a lot to the people of Regina and the people of Moose Jaw as well as to the people of other cities all over the west, but I want to confine my remarks to those two cities and their problems. I shall speak for them because I know that if they could have water in abundance and permanently it would be greatly to their advantage. They cannot procure it to-day from the sources upon which they now draw for their supply. An abundant supply of water on a permanent basis would result in many new industries going into those cities.

I read a few days ago that because of lack of water Moose Jaw is likely to lose the shops of the Canadian Pacific Railway. That would be a calamity; it must not be allowed; they must be given sufficient water. If by obtaining an abundant water supply the population of Regina could be raised to 150,000 and of Moose Jaw to 75,000, what would that mean to my workers in Davenport riding who make agricultural machinery, radiators, boilers, valves, fittings, furniture, tools, electric and plumbing goods, and one hundred and one other lines? It would mean more orders, more business, more jobs, and not only for Davenport riding but all across the country, because as those towns and cities grow they will provide, as they have done for years, orders for eastern manufacturers and invite to their communities branches of industry and new manufacturers that will build up their populations. The more they grow, the better it will be for the whole country. If such measures are not taken I would fear that the unity of this country would be affected.

A man said to me, what concern is it to Canada whether Moose Jaw or Regina gets water in abundance or not? Well, it has been

[Mr. MacNicol.]

Canada's business from the very inception of those cities. It was the federal government which selected the site of Regina, and from the very first the major trouble was that of an adequate water supply. In 1894 the government of the Northwest Territories appointed Mr. J. S. Dennis, an engineer, who made a survey from Regina to the South Saskatchewan river and reported that that river was the only potential source of an ample and permanent supply of water. After Mr. Dennis' time, in 1905, the government of the Northwest Territories went out of business and the province was formed. After it became organized, in 1911 it faced the water problem, and three different groups of engineers made surveys in that year from Regina and Moose Jaw to the South Saskatchewan river. The first survey was made by Mr. T. Aird Murray, a celebrated engineer, who pointed out something which is very important in reference to the flow of the South Saskatchewan river, namely, that the federal government, being in control of interprovincial rivers as well as international rivers, should set aside a permanent division of South Saskatchewan river water so that 100,000,000 gallons a day should be allotted to these two cities. That amount represents only 185 cubic feet per second, and is only a comparatively small flow, but it should be safeguarded. The next man who made a survey in 1911 was Mr. W. J. Francis, an eminent engineer. He recommended that a dam be built across the river near Riverhurst, where a suitable foundation could be found—and that is perhaps the most important part of any dam—and that a conduit—I suppose, a British Columbia fir conduit—be constructed to convey the water from the river to Regina and Moose Jaw. In the same year another engineer, Mr. B. Russell, who is still living, made a survey, and he, too, recommended that a dam be built across the river and a pump and conduit constructed to convey the water from the river to Regina and Moose Jaw.

Mr. Dennis reported fifty years ago, but nothing was done. Messrs. Murray, Francis and Russell reported thirty-three years ago, but nothing was done, except, I assume, talk. In 1913-14 the federal government made a survey and obtained a report that the only permanent and adequate supply of water obtainable was from the South Saskatchewan river. In 1913-16 the provincial government nominated a commission to make a survey, and it reported that a ditch should be built to convey water from the South Saskatchewan river to the two cities.

I have examined very carefully the whole area. The river bank at that point is 310