

*National Capital Commission*

either provincial or municipal prerogatives, without imposing undue or unreasonable burdens upon activities of either jurisdiction, but also without assuming obligations proper to the provinces or the municipalities concerned. As there is no single authority in control of planning and development, rural or urban, within the national capital region, it can be easily appreciated that the realization of a national capital plan implies the co-operation of federal, provincial and municipal authorities.

For this reason, in formulating its recommendations in 1956, the joint committee was of the opinion that the over-all or master plan should be submitted to both the Ontario minister of planning and development and the Quebec minister of municipal affairs. It was felt that if agreement was possible, this should be regarded as the background against which details of the master plan should be dealt with as they arise.

It was thought advisable also that an appropriate representative of the government of Canada should consult with the above mentioned provincial authorities with a view to determining ways and means of implementing the plan, and it was felt that this objective could be achieved in such a way that it would be fair to all concerned.

I am convinced myself that if this procedure is followed the official adoption of the national capital plan would be possible. This would be a definite declaration of intention to carry out the different projects of the master plan; it would give them strong legal status; and it would more or less crystallize the use of land affected thereby. Then it would be an easy matter, in fact a matter of formality, for the municipalities within the national capital region to enact comprehensive and up to date zoning bylaws.

A few minutes ago my friend the hon. member for Carleton mentioned that he was very much in favour of the federal district commission going into the project of buying the necessary land for the green belt, but he said that we would have to be careful so that developments would not leap-frog outside of this green belt. He mentioned a few municipalities. He mentioned one municipality which would be in the green belt, namely Bells Corners. I think he is right. I think there should be a severe and clear zoning bylaw that would govern construction within those municipalities, especially within those municipalities which are within the green belt.

In the interests of a proper development in the national capital region zoning bylaws should also be enacted by the municipalities outside the green belt. In

order that those municipalities would be in a position to enact fresh bylaws I think that we have good reason to say that there should be co-operation between the three levels of government, namely the federal, provincial and municipal; and the province of Ontario in this case should be approached and the master plan brought to their attention. They should approve the plan so that in the future those municipalities involved which are located within the national capital region would be able to pass the necessary bylaws so that construction and development could be proceeded with in good order and in accordance with the plan prepared in advance.

In the annual report of the federal district commission, for 1957, I was pleased to read the following paragraph at page 8. The paragraph is entitled "Liaison with Municipalities" and it reads as follows:

Discussions and negotiations between the municipalities within the national capital district and the federal district commission, on both policy and technical levels, have had a mutually beneficial effect for such municipalities and for the over-all development within the national capital region.

I hope that such close liaison between the commission and the municipalities within the national capital region will be maintained. It is to be hoped, also, that similar progress may be achieved on the provincial level. The officers of the federal district commission are to be congratulated for the very excellent form used in the preparation of their annual report for 1957.

In reading these reports those who are interested in the progress of the federal district commission will be able to note that emphasis has been placed on those subjects which were classified in the report of the joint committee of 1956 as top priority projects. It is true that a relatively slow start is being made with respect to these projects but I am of the opinion that the federal district commission, if it is invested with the proper authority and if it is given the necessary funds, will do its utmost to see that there will be a realization of these plans within a reasonable period of time.

It was indicated in the report of the joint committee that under the provisions of the national capital plan of 1950 some portions of the central plan appeared to be of more urgent character than others. Those projects which involved the expenditures of very large sums of money and which were given special consideration by the joint committee are to be found in part 5 of the report as follows: Firstly, the elimination of the causes of pollution of the Ottawa river; secondly, the completion of the ten-mile section of the Queensway within the city of Ottawa; thirdly, the completion of the second stage of the