

complaints—and they have been very vigorous complaints, as Mr. Côté appreciates. The government of Alberta also has registered a detailed complaint with regard to the national parks policy as now outlined and I think that the committee might do a service by also allowing a representative from the Alberta government to appear. As the Committee appreciates, these three national parks are the largest ones and are the only parks with permanent townsites. There is a total of only about 8,000 people living in the three parks. They claim they are second class citizens, that they do not have the rights of other citizens living outside the park, and they have been asking for an opportunity to present their side of the story.

The CHAIRMAN: Well Mr. Horner, there will be no objection to having any witnesses appear and I am sure the Minister, with whom I shall take this matter up upon his return, will make the necessary arrangements to have representatives of their group appear before the committee.

Mr. HORNER (*Jasper-Edson*): Well if the Committee is going to hear these people we will need some time because they are some distance away. They are having a meeting this Saturday. Certainly if they can get their grievances redressed through this Committee it is going to save them a considerable amount of money.

The CHAIRMAN: There will be no objection on the part of this Committee to these men appearing, if they are available.

Mr. HORNER (*Jasper-Edson*): I will transmit that to them.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Southam, you are next.

Mr. SOUTHAM: Mr. Chairman, my question is not supplementary to what Mr. Horner has raised in the Committee. I would forego my position if there are any other questions along this same line.

Mr. DINSDALE: Mr. Chairman, if Mr. Southam is going to pursue a particular line of discussion I would like to ask Mr. Côté some general questions on the national parks program. As one who wrestled with the problem over a number of years I would like to have a few points clarified.

I think Mr. Côté appreciates that the park problems in western Canada is somewhat different from the park problems in eastern Canada and it seems to me that this is where the difficulty, which Dr. Horner has drawn to our attention this morning, has arisen. In other words, the western parks, or the two parks which Mr. Horner has specifically referred to this morning developed this townsite before they were national parks. They were originally railway centres and their position is rather peculiar in this respect. Now, other western parks like Waskesiu and Riding Mountain are in somewhat similar situations although they are not permanent townsites. I would ask Mr. Côté if it is still the intention of the parks branch to proceed with the zoning policy that would take into consideration what you might call these peculiarities of western parks. Now I mean by the zoning policy one which would attempt to unscramble the yoke over a reasonable period of time; recognition that these permanent townsites exist; recognition, further, that some of the area of these national parks has been put to recreational uses that are not quite compatible with the definition of national parks as laid out in the act; and further, recognition that