

that the federal policy be exercised as far as possible through the ownership and use of property. The major objectives now required appear to be capable of a reasonable measure of fulfilment by these means, plus co-operation with the bodies having jurisdiction in the provincial and municipal field.

Acquisition of Land

The acquisition of land by the Commission involves the use of power of expropriation. When the Federal District Commission Act is being revised we would recommend that the expropriation legislation be also considered, and that the principles on which compensation to an owner whose property is expropriated be re-examined and revised to remove any existing injustices. We recommend that power of expropriation be used where necessary after other means of acquisition have been exhausted.

PART VII

Financial

(a) In the provision of monies to cover the current cost of operation and maintenance for Federal District Commission properties we believe that the practice providing for a fixed statutory grant should be discontinued. In its place we recommend that the Federal District Commission submit its budget annually to Parliament indicating the nature of the work to be undertaken, the cost thereof and the annual income to be derived from rentals and other sources.

(b) We would agree with the recommendation of the Federal District Commission that expenditures under the National Capital Fund be withdrawn from the jurisdiction of the Financial Administration Act.

(c) Much evidence was adduced by the Federal District Commission as to the adequacy of the annual payments into the National Capital Fund. Since 1948 these payments have amounted to 2½ million dollars per annum. Evidence supplied by the Commission indicates that if this annual amount were doubled the increase would do little more than compensate for increases in costs of the capital expenditures of the Federal District Commission over the level which prevailed therefor for 1948.

As noted previously, certain projects in our opinion should be brought to fruition at a date earlier than contemplated by the Federal District Commission in view of the monies available to it from the National Capital Fund. Accordingly it would appear to be reasonable to recommend that from 1957 onward, the payments into the National Capital Fund should be commensurate with present conditions as to increased costs of materials and wages, and if the views of the committee with reference to the acceleration of certain projects be accepted by the government, then the payments into the fund should be increased accordingly subject always to the approval of Parliament.

In view of the continuing development of the National Capital we recommend that a Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons, to deal with the matter be appointed more frequently.

A printed copy of the Evidence adduced is appended hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

F. W. GERSHAW,
*Joint Chairman representing
the Senate*

ARMAND DUMAS,
*Joint Chairman representing
the House of Commons.*