

*National Parks Act*

gulf-shore highway. But what happened? After exhaustive studies and models being erected at the National Research Council, on-the-spot surveys by engineers and scientists, it was found that the small Rustico harbour, an integral part of the park, could not be bridged. So the connecting highway was built, except it did not cross the bay that is in the park. Therefore, it does not connect, so that people who move from the beautiful and historic Anne of Green Gables sector at Cavenish to the eastern portion at Dalvay Beach now face a 12-mile detour.

So while we find in Prince Edward Island that we are not able to get a crossing from our island to the mainland, we also discover it is apparently impossible to bridge the mouth of a very small fishing harbour. How difficult this is to explain to the public, even though those in opposition should try wherever possible to justify the administrative processes whereby the country is administered. It is hard to explain why the feasibility studies on the bridge were not done before the expensive, so-called connecting highway was laid. How difficult it is to explain to the people of Canada, the people of P.E.I., that while the U.S. can get a man on the moon, and the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. can place equipment on or around Mars and Venus with great precision, all the forces of the government of Canada cannot cross Rustico harbour. In ten years they have not been able to get across that harbour, and this I find difficult to explain.

I also believe that in the face of the growing popularity of P.E.I. as a tourist centre—and it is one of the most expansive and expandable industries that we have—we need, not a diminution of our present park but its extension; and we need that which has been given to other provinces, a second park. Nova Scotia, our friend and neighbour, has a new park and there is reference in the bill to its development. But years have elapsed since the second P.E.I. park entered the discussion stage. Now let us have it in the production stage. In a burst of objective detachment I suggest that that park be built in a constituency other than mine. I say that because the whole of the north shore of my constituency is already an integral and beautiful part of our national park; therefore, I would think that my colleague from Cardigan (Mr. McQuaid) would have some suggestions to make as to other very beautiful areas on the coast.

One of the serious things which is happening in this country is that far too much  
[Mr. Macquarrie.]

waterfront in coastal areas, around lakes and along rivers, is falling into private hands and quite often into the hands of people who are not Canadians. The "No trespassing" sign is going up and up and up, and more and more Canadians are unable to get to the beauty and restful opportunities of the seashore.

● (8:30 p.m.)

I read some startling figures not long ago about the very small portions of the eastern seaboard of the United States, from Maine to Florida, which were available for public use. The article stated how foolish that was and what a terrible deprivation it was to the American people. Anyone who has endured the rigours of Revere Beach knows how overcrowded is the east coast of the United States. How wise the Australians were in virtually prohibiting the acquisition of beaches by private persons!

Before it is too late I would suggest that whatever is done in administrative niceties, we should move very fast to preserve more of the water line, more of the beach areas for the people of Canada as part of their rightful heritage. Before it is too late, let us acquire the right for all the people to get to the glorious sea coast.

In all these things I think we must maximize the possibilities. We are moving rather slowly, but we are moving forward with some development of regional expansion programs. The national park on Prince Edward Island has a very fine, important and delightful development and that is the increase in the deep sea fishing excursions right in the heart of the park. There is Cove Head harbour, where many people look for a delightful opportunity to haul home some of the groundfish which upon reaching the shore they can cook and enjoy in some of the lovely campsites. Yet this harbour, under the plan fathered by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion, has been downgraded to secondary status.

It is a strange thing, but it is always difficult to try to convince people that a government is acting intelligently when with its right hand it says, "Down" and with its left it says, "Up". To diminish the opportunities by downgrading this harbour, and at the same time suggesting a program of expansion when extra funds from other departments are put forward, is incomprehensible and wrong.

Before any effort is made to shuffle responsibility, I hope those who have the authority now will look at these parks and