

*Government Administrative Policies*

went out to the parks a few years ago and held public hearings. Whatever recommendations it may have made, they have been ignored. Whatever representations were made by the townspeople in the parks, they were ignored. As a matter of fact, life got tougher for them.

More and more tourists are travelling through the parks. Now that the Yellowhead Highway has been built through Jasper there is no way of rubbing it out. Scores of thousands more tourists travel that route. If members visited the area during the next two months they would see the difficulties tourists have to face because there has been a reluctance to keep up with progress in providing them with decent facilities. The government spends thousands of dollars on tourist promotion with regard to the two principal national parks; but when people arrive there, what do they get? Unless they have made reservations months in advance, they find it almost impossible to get accommodation. They have to bring their own trailers and tents, but there are not enough facilities for these. The facilities that are there are of good quality—I will not dispute that—but they are not sufficient to cope with the situation.

With regard to public health and welfare services that are provided in the province of Alberta, and considering the availability of senior citizens' homes and all that sort of thing, I believe there should be some form of local self-government so that an appropriate authority could be established to handle these matters, for instance in the townsite of Banff. It is no answer to say that such an organization could be established outside the limits of the park. What would this mean in Jasper, which is 25 miles from the park gate? They wanted laundry facilities in Jasper. What were they told? They were told to establish new laundry facilities at Hinton, 50 miles away. That is incomprehensible. There are many difficulties which require a far more intelligent, humane and human approach.

No one wants a Coney Island, unrestricted type of development in the parks. But it should be pointed out that these are huge parks. Only a very small portion of them is required for development to handle the millions of tourists who go through the parks. I do not have faith in the administration of the parks, at least so far as those two particular parks are concerned. I do not speak about those in the Atlantic provinces or about what may be developed in Quebec—and I hope we will see some more national parks in Ontario.

My concern at the moment is with regard to the national parks in Alberta, which comprise the great majority of the area of national parks in Canada. They are of tremendous size. The government simply cannot tell the people of that province that they must develop other parks, because practically all the eastern slope of the Rockies from Edmonton south to below the international boundary is taken up with national parks. All the best areas have been pre-empted. We want to develop them for winter skiing; we do not want them to remain just as game conservation areas.

● (8:40 p.m.)

Over 90 per cent of these parks will never be touched and can be kept as wildlife reserves. On the other hand, let us have a little bit of reason. I have heard people say we should erect a ten-foot fence around the national parks, put a great chain and a padlock on the gates, lock it and throw away the key. This is an extreme view, of course, but one held by some people who have something to say about the administration of our parks.

Now I want to say something about immigration, Mr. Speaker, and I put forward two items. First of all, I think our present immigration program is based on the wrong conception, the conception that Canada will go scouring the world for the better educated, better trained individuals of other countries. In other words, Canada says to the world, "Give us your best people; we will take them". In this day and age, Mr. Speaker, that just is not possible. In this country we have absorbed scores of thousands of people who came here without any discernible skills, though some of them picked up skills here. But they all possess the desire to work. We should check today to see how many of their children are going to university. They are property holders and in the main they live a good life and are happy. Of course, there are exceptions but most of them have proved to be good citizens.

We say now, Mr. Speaker, that this category of potential immigrant must be kept away; that we do not want them. There is a complete disregard of regional requirement in the policy. We have very narrow selection criteria and a selection system that is difficult for the officials to interpret. I am sure they go through all sorts of agonizing periods before making judgments, but I think they are getting the wrong people and placing them in the wrong areas. I am objecting to govern-