

was procured by the federal district commission at low cost. The actual work of the commission deserves the highest praise. They have performed their work efficiently and inexpensively to the taxpayers of Canada. They have one other duty which has not been emphasized much to-night in the development of the area, and which is important, namely the coordination of the work as between the different municipalities. The duties of the commission in coordinating the activities of the different municipalities in internal developments which are within the jurisdiction of the municipalities are important ones. They are not ones which involve any expenditure of public funds.

Perhaps I need not say any more to-night. I wish to thank hon. members at large for the expressions of opinion which we have had to-night. Generally speaking, I believe that the approach was fair, and I am particularly pleased to see hon. members from outlying areas view this bill for what it is, namely, an attempt to supplement and complete the legislation dealing with the development of our national capital.

Mr. H. R. ARGUE (Wood Mountain): I find much in the bill with which I am in agreement. I am sure I should like as much as any other member to see Ottawa beautified. However, the emphasis to-night seems to have been put on making it a capital city for tourists to see, especially tourists from other countries. Most of the people whom I represent will never have an opportunity of being in Ottawa because they will never have sufficient money to buy a railroad ticket to come this far; therefore, I think we should consider beautifying not only Ottawa but other parts of Canada as well.

I notice that the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Fournier) made several references to beautifying Hull. I also noticed that the hon. member for Temiscouata (Mr. Pouliot) emphasized that slum areas be cleared. When the government gets around to beautifying Ottawa I hope that it clears the slum areas in these two cities, which, in my opinion, will add to the beauty of this area more than any other single thing. If we want a beautiful nation for tourists from foreign countries to observe we might start by beautifying the slums in Halifax. We might try it in Montreal. Riding on the Canadian National railway trains from Montreal, one sees acres and acres, if I might put it in that way, of slum areas which are indeed a disgrace to this nation. So I say, when we are trying to beautify Ottawa, let us also attempt to beautify other parts of Canada.

The single thing to which I most object is the timing of this bill. If I may use the argument that has been used time and again by government members, an argument with which I am to some extent in agreement, we are indeed in an inflationary period. The government does not need to take my word for it. Donald Gordon says so, and anything Donald Gordon says just must be so. Here we are contemplating the expenditure after March 31 next of upward of \$3,300,000. At the same time, when the workers of this country want an increase—

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. The hon. member is totally out of order. The bill before the house is to amend the Federal District Commission Act. It does not concern labour conditions at all, and I would ask the hon. member to confine his remarks to the principle of the bill.

Mr. ARGUE: I accept your ruling, Mr. Speaker, but I was just saying that if \$3,000,000 spent in the beautification of Ottawa is not inflationary then \$3,000,000 spent in any other way, whether it be for the wages of labour or anything else, is not inflationary either. You just cannot have it both ways. I support this bill if it is implemented at a time when the inflationary period is over.

Mr. REID: Would you mind telling us where the \$3,000,000 comes in?

Mr. ARGUE: There is a provision in the bill which says this amount may be spent after March 31 next. The hon. member can read the clause for himself.

Mr. REID: That has been there for years, but they have never spent the \$3,000,000.

Mr. ARGUE: That is all right; they are given authority to spend it. I shall support this bill when the old people of Canada are treated properly. I shall support this bill when the workers of Canada are given decent wages.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. I have not permitted that kind of debate, and I will not permit the hon. member to go farther. I would ask him to be kind enough to speak on the principle of the bill which is before the house.

Mr. ARGUE: I am attempting to keep within the confines of this bill, because when money is spent, no matter what it be spent for, it is not going to affect just the city of Ottawa. We all know that. It is going to affect the whole nation. Until I am convinced that something better is being done to improve the conditions of all people in Canada whether