

*National Parks Act*

Under our system they are entitled to make a profit; that is why people are in business; when they cease to make a profit they go out of business. What happens when they get old, or want to sell their businesses for other reasons? They cannot transfer their property as they could normally do under any provincial administration. The government has said they cannot do this unless they agree to change their leases. This is the element of duress, and this is what will continue under the great new corporation which is proposed, a corporation which will be headed by another Liberal as sure as my name is what it is and as surely as the constituency I represent is called what it is. It will be a bunch of Liberal hanky panky and a Crown corporation which can get away with a lot of patronage.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Woolliams:** I hear hon. members opposite applauding. They are looking for the call already.

What kind of leases do these people get? Here is one which they said was against public policy—it would be awful, they inferred, if we showed the people this. It was made on the 4th day of March, 1968 between Her Majesty the Queen in the right of Canada and the Mountaineer Motel Company, a small corporation behind which were three business people who had got together to build a motel on land expropriated at Lake Louise. What does the lease say? Remember, they have got these people hooked, now, for a loan with the Industrial Development Bank; moreover, they have put in at least \$200,000 of their own cash. Finally, these people get an interpretation of the lease they have signed. It does not matter what the parliamentary secretary may have to say about this; the minister should be here. Read the lease, beginning at clause 16, where it says the lease shall terminate if the lessee fails to perform, observe or keep any of the covenants and agreements herein contained, or violates any of the provisions of the National Parks Act or regulations issued pursuant thereto. There is no provision for compensation in such an event. Who interprets the lease? It is the corporation which will interpret the lease. Who says that the lessee has made a mistake? It is not a court of law. It is the corporation or the minister. It is one of these authorities which will say: You have violated these laws, so you are out.

The tenant may reply: I do not intend to get out; I shall go to law. But it takes a long time to go to law when the Department of

[Mr. Woolliams.]

Indian Affairs and Northern Development is involved. While the tenant is going to law his place is shut down, the interest payments on his mortgage continue, and he continues to be liable for taxes. So, whether he wins his lawsuit or not, he has lost his investment. And he has lost it as a result of hanky panky, because the Liberals or the corporation run by Liberals, are going to do things that way.

As I have just mentioned, a tenant can be thrown out on the grounds that he has broken a park regulation. When I was engaged in some litigation on behalf of leaseholders I had an opportunity to look at these regulations. Mr. Speaker, there is a whole volume full of them and they are so complicated that the words spoken by Browning about one of his poems apply to them very well—"When I wrote it, God and I knew what it meant; now, God alone knows what it means." These regulations are so lengthy and so confusing that there is not a lawyer in Canada who understands them. If you pick one and say "This means so and so", some official will pick up the book and find another regulation which states the opposite. Yet, if a tenant breaks any one of these unknown laws, his lease can be cancelled and he receives no compensation. To do this will be within the power of this great new corporation the government proposes to set up under this bill.

**Mr. Nesbitt:** Shame.

**Mr. Woolliams:** It is a shame. It is a disgrace. And what makes me sad, today, is this: I know that as I stand here speaking I am wasting my time, because this measure will be piloted through the House; it will be considered in the all-powerful Liberal committee and in the end it will be dished up with very few changes. This is what a dictatorial government intends to accomplish, and once it is done it will be extremely difficult to undo.

I have drawn attention to the kind of leases which this corporation will be handing out. Recently, the department has been advertising land in the parks and no one will take it. Do hon. members know who is coming into the picture now? Imperial Oil! Imperial Oil is an international company controlled by Standard New Jersey and the other Standard companies in the United States.

Responsible for these things is a government which began by saying it would keep foreign capital out of Canada. Today, they are handing over our national parks to big international conglomerates. Why is this happening? It is because no Canadian in his right