

Supply—Northern Affairs

parks and would also attract far more visitors if some of it were put into buildings of the sort that I have mentioned such as youth hostels, ski cabins and things of that sort. I would hope that, in making up the estimates in future years, the minister would keep that matter in mind. I think I noticed an item of \$53,000. Was that the amount the minister mentioned?

Mr. Lesage: The answer is yes, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Harkness: \$53,000, for a residence at the cave and basin. That seems to be a little bit excessive.

Mr. Lesage: There is a heating plant.

Mr. Harkness: That includes a heating plant as well as a residence.

Mr. Lesage: Yes.

Mr. Harkness: That is a heating plant for the residence?

Mr. Lesage: For the bathhouse; the heating plant is for the bathhouse.

Mr. Harkness: For the bathhouse? Is the water not hot already? It was when I was in it last. It pours out of the rock quite hot. I do not see that you need any heating plant. As I say, no doubt it will add to the amenities there and so on and particularly to the comfort of the caretaker. However, it is quite a large amount of money and I would think that some of it or perhaps the whole amount might much better be spent on this other type of construction that I have mentioned.

Mr. Noseworthy: Will the minister tell us why each year we are asked to appropriate twice as much for Banff, which is served by the C.P.R., as we are asked to appropriate for Jasper, which is served by the C.N.R.?

Mr. Harkness: It was the reverse in previous years.

Mr. Noseworthy: Not last year.

Mr. Lesage: I am told that it varies. Some years the expenditures at Jasper are higher and some years the expenditures at Banff are higher. It happens that this year it is higher at Banff. But in the Banff expenditures let us not forget that there is \$600,000 for the Banff-Jasper highway. Last year there were a few hundred thousand dollars on the Jasper-Banff highway because the reconstruction was made at the Jasper end. Hence it was under Jasper. This year it is made on the Banff end so it is under Banff.

The Chairman: Shall the item carry?

Mr. Noseworthy: I am serious.

Mr. Lesage: I believe that is the best explanation I can give.

Mr. Noseworthy: What I notice here is that both last year and this year the amount for Banff is really more than twice that for Jasper; that is the situation in the last two years.

Mr. Lesage: I do not know what the hon. member is talking about. Is that construction or maintenance?

Mr. Noseworthy: It is on pages 379 and 380.

Mr. Lesage: On page 380 I see that in 1953-54 the proposed expenditures for Jasper park were, in round figures, \$640,000 and for Banff they were \$530,000, which is less.

Mr. Hodgson: They did the work at the opposite end of the road.

Mr. Harkness: Will the minister give the figures as to the number of visitors to Banff and to Jasper? I think those figures would provide a sufficient answer to the hon. member for York South.

Mr. Lesage: Yes; I can give those figures. The total number of visitors at Banff in 1952 was 582,434; at Jasper, 104,047.

Mr. Harkness: More than five to one.

Mr. Lesage: That is right.

The Chairman: Shall the item carry?

Mr. Hodgson: No. I should like to ask the minister about these cars. At page 379 I see an item "Acquisition of Cars and Trucks, \$141,950". How many cars and trucks does that represent? If the minister has that information handy I should like to have it.

Mr. Lesage: I will have to pick them out of each park in order to give the total number. Is there any particular park in which the hon. member is interested?

Mr. Hodgson: No. I just wanted to know how many vehicles it represented.

Mr. Lesage: I can give the hon. member some examples. I will take the largest park, namely Banff park. That will give a good indication, without listing all the equipment. Under this heading in Banff national park there are six 5-ton dump trucks which are replacements.

Mr. Hodgson: They were replacements? They are new but they are replacements?

Mr. Lesage: Yes, they are replacements. The hon. member will realize that this new construction and maintenance of roads takes a great many of these trucks.

Mr. Hodgson: That is right.