

Oral Questions

NATIONAL PARKS

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF PROPOSAL TO INCREASE ENTRANCE FEE TO PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND PARK

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, may I address a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development? It is in reference to the deplorable proposal to impose a \$2 entrance fee to the Prince Edward Island national park. Having had an opportunity to assess the special difficulties such a levy would impose on the people of the Island, is the minister now prepared to add to the good sense of his year's moratorium the deeper wisdom of a full abandonment of this iniquitous and nefarious scheme to keep the people of Prince Edward Island from their own beaches?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): In the final part of his question the hon. member did say I have arrived at an agreement for a year's delay because of the acquisition of buffer lands to which I referred in replying to the hon. member for Calgary North. The residents of the parks are not subject to this fee, nor are people whose work requires that they go through the parks. With those exceptions it is our intention to follow through with the plan.

● (1150)

CAPE BRETON HIGHLAND NATIONAL PARK—REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF INCREASED ENTRANCE FEE

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question with reference to the Cape Breton Highland National Park where these exorbitant fees are also being put into effect. In light of the fact that the only road that can be used goes through the Cape Breton Highland National Park, and there is no other way you can get through unless you go by water, would the minister consider eliminating what the hon. member for Hillsborough has said is an iniquitous tax, because of the fact these people are already paying taxes to the province in the way of sales taxes and licence fees, and only one-third of the highway is involved with the Cape Breton Highland Park?

Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in reply to a previous question, people who live in the park and people whose work requires them to go into or pass through the park, as is the case in some towns and villages in the Cape Breton Highland Park, will not be subject to the fee, or if it is required that they pass through the park to get to their homes.

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ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

REASON FOR PROTECTION FOR MINISTER OF LABOUR—POSSIBILITY OTHER MINISTERS OR PERSONS INVOLVED IN HAMILTON HARBOUR INVESTIGATION BEING PROTECTED

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Mr. Speaker, I intended to direct my question to the Solicitor General,

[Mr. Buchanan.]

but in his absence I will direct it to the Acting Solicitor General. It concerns the rather surprising and alarming story today that the RCMP are providing police protection to the Minister of Labour. Could the Solicitor General advise whether that protection was requested by the Minister of Labour or provided as a result of investigations of the police into the Hamilton Harbour matter?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I think I will simply say to the hon. member that certain reports came to the attention of the police and appropriate action was taken.

Mr. Nowlan: Mr. Speaker, would the Acting Solicitor General advise whether any other ministers or any other persons involved in the Hamilton Harbour investigation are being provided with police protection?

Mr. Lang: Not that I know of, Mr. Speaker, but I will have to take a look at the matter.

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HOUSING

ALLEGED CHANGE IN UNDERTAKING OF MINISTER TO INVITE MEMBERS TO CMHC FUNCTIONS—MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, the question I want to put to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs is really supplementary to a question of privilege which came up a week ago last Tuesday, but I have not been able to get to the minister as yet. This is a very important matter, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that the minister recently stated in a letter—

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has already taken some time with a bit of a preamble. I would really think in the interest of other hon. members who want to pose questions that the hon. member should just ask his question.

Mr. Dick: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the minister sent a letter to Liberal members of parliament and not to members of other parties in this House indicating he will invite them to preside in place of him at certain functions where CMHC funding is being provided in their ridings, providing speech notes and ground transportation, and in view of the fact he is asking—

Some hon. Members: Order, order.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Will the hon. member put his question to the minister?

Mr. Dick: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that he is asking those people—

Some hon. Members: Question, question.

Mr. Speaker: Order please. The hon. member for Northwest Territories.

Mr. Dick: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker.