

care of the increasing influx of visitors. There should be an interchange of personnel between Head Office and the field so that each will understand the viewpoint and problems of the other. The services given by Information Bureaux in the parks should be improved. Sufficient numbers of competent resident engineers should be appointed. Salaries and wages should be brought in line with the remuneration offered by private enterprise.

(5) Substantial appropriations should be provided for the improvement of Historic Parks and the restoration and marking of Historic Sites.

(6) To make the National Parks system more truly representative, we should have large National Park areas located conveniently to the chief centres of population. An international memorial park and a national zoological garden have been recommended. The Province of New Brunswick has had under consideration the setting aside of an area for a national park in that province.

(7) More adequate arrangements should be made for the dissemination of information about the National Parks. We try to answer our correspondence promptly and in an adequate and friendly manner. The shortage of stenographic staff has made it necessary to depend more and more on folders which answer most of the questions usually asked. We continue our efforts to make these outstandingly attractive.

We are working in closest possible co-operation with agencies which can promote the fullest enjoyment of our National Parks. The support which we receive from the Canadian Travel Bureau, the National Film Board, the Canadian Exhibition Commission, the public transportation companies, and from provincial tourist and travel bureaux is cheerfully acknowledged.

Any statement of this kind about the National Parks would be incomplete without a word of grateful appreciation of the excellent assistance which those who are promoting a better understanding of Parks and Parks' problems receive from the daily press and the other periodicals of our own country and for that matter from similar media in the United States and other lands.

We find that by supplying public men, members of service clubs, and other public-spirited individuals and organizations with information about our National Parks, we are able to promote a better knowledge of these great areas and a sympathetic appreciation of the holiday advantages which they have to offer.

May I conclude with the remark that Canada's varied and remarkable facilities for recreation must be regarded as a natural resource to be developed under wise guidance for the benefit of the greatest possible number of people. They are a natural resource, even as our mines, forests, and farm lands are natural resources, yet they possess one outstanding difference—they are not exhausted by use. Scenery, climate, beautiful surroundings, and wildlife can be "sold" over and over again; can be drawn upon in perpetuity without any impairment of the original capital provided adequate maintenance, supervision, and protection are continued.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any questions that the committee would like to ask of Mr. Gibson? He has only touched upon those recommendations respective to the park, but has given us a lot of other information in the statements. Therefore I think we have the basis for asking some questions.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Does the area that you mentioned in Elk Island include the full area

Mr. GIBSON: Yes.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: There is one other question that I should like to ask. When I left the department there was a good deal of concern over what the timber