

Supply—Resources and Development

of the buffalo. But the natural enemies today of our wildlife are the greatest menace we have to meet in preserving the one thing that makes the Rocky mountain area and the western provinces the tourist Mecca and the unique place they have become for the sportsman.

Item agreed to.

366. National parks and historic sites services, \$10,138,886.

The Deputy Chairman: Before we begin discussion on this item I would remind hon. members that there was a general discussion on the first item, and a discussion as to what procedure should be followed. As hon. members know, the discussion in committee of the whole must be strictly relevant to the item or clause under consideration. Notwithstanding the general discussion which was allowed on the first item dealing with departmental administration, some hon. members seem to think that there should also be a general discussion on the first item of any branch of the department. The hon. member who has just taken his seat was discussing wildlife generally and in my view he was not in order. The item now before us deals with national parks and historic sites, but I do not think there should be a general discussion under this item. Then later on there is an item in connection with the national museum of Canada. Then we take up northern administrations.

To have a general discussion on the first item of every branch is not in my view within the spirit of the general practice of having a discussion on the first item. There are experienced members in this house who surely can assist me and tell me whether my view is right. I do not see how we can have a general discussion on the first item of each branch if speeches in committee of the whole are to be strictly relevant to the item or clause under discussion. In my view what should be discussed under the items are the details at the back of the book, instead of having a general discussion.

Mr. Hodgson: Item 365 was not passed.

Mr. Harris (Danforth): I have profound respect for the views you have voiced, Mr. Chairman, but with all due deference I ask you to give consideration to the magnitude of this next vote, which is for \$10 million. That is a lot of money in any man's language. I think you, Mr. Chairman, might be considerate enough to allow us a little latitude because of the size of this vote.

Mr. Adamson: On a point of order—

Mr. Coldwell: I think perhaps one of the unfortunate features of dealing with these estimates is that so many hon. members are attending committees when general discussion occurs. I am never very long if I can help it, but I rose to say that I regret I was not in this committee this morning when the hon. member for Royal discussed this particular item 366.

Mr. Hodgson: We are on 365.

Mr. Fournier (Hull): 366.

The Deputy Chairman: 366.

Mr. Hodgson: I tried to get on my feet on several occasions.

Mr. Fournier (Hull): One at a time.

Mr. Hodgson: I was on my feet when you carried it.

The Deputy Chairman: I think it should be decided whether we are to have a general discussion on the first item of each branch after having had a general discussion on the first item, departmental administration.

Mr. Adamson: On a point of order—

The Deputy Chairman: The hon. member for Rosetown-Biggarr.

Mr. Coldwell: I understand that a tribute was paid to a great man who had a great deal to do with marking our historic sites and I want to say that this country owes much indeed to the late Dr. Webster. I hope the new minister will endeavour to see that more of our historic sites are marked before it is too late.

Mr. Fulton: Will the hon. member permit me before he launches into a discussion of this particular item 366? I should like to point out that two members were on their feet when item 365 was called carried but I did want to ask one or two questions on that particular item.

The Deputy Chairman: I have already said that 365 is carried but we can revert to that item and the hon. member can ask his questions after the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggarr has completed his remarks. I should like the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggarr to indicate whether or not he agrees with what I have said about general discussion.

Mr. Coldwell: I quite agree with what the chairman has said. I make a plea that the minister endeavour to see to it that more of our historic sites are marked. I notice the hon. member for The Battlefords is in his seat and I think perhaps he will rise later on to say something about this matter. In Saskatchewan such places as Battleford, Duck Lake, Batoche and other places have historic