

Yukon and N.W.T. Government

Please substitute "north".

—"and which bring meaningful change for the west, that the Liberal Party can truly become the party of national unity"—

Mr. Nielsen: Let's opt in.

Mr. Dinsdale: Yes, let us opt into confederation. That expresses a viewpoint which must be clear—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member but I must remind him and the House that his time has expired, unless he has the unanimous consent of the House to continue.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Dinsdale: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and hon. members. I will not trespass at length on the generosity of the House. I wish to make a brief reference to the Northwest Territories because its need, as the hon. member has indicated, is at least as great as the need of the Yukon. It has farther to go, Mr. Speaker. I underline this point, make this suggestion to the minister and hope he will accept it: next year, along with Manitoba—the keystone province which was carved out of the Northwest Territories in 1870—the Northwest Territories will be celebrating their centennial. I do not think you can give them a better birthday present than listening to the good advice of those hon. members who have spoken this afternoon.

The hon. member for Northwest Territories took issue with the hon. member for Yukon in denying that the shift that has taken place is merely one of bureaucratic exercise from Ottawa to the capital of the Territories, Yellowknife. I think the problem as outlined by the hon. member for Yukon was accurate. Once again he is supported by a statement made after the very heated and critical response to the statement the minister made in the Yukon. An article in the *Globe and Mail* of Thursday, November 13, 1969, reads as follows:

At the council meeting after Mr. Chretien's announcement, Norman Chamberlist, the leading Liberal on the council, put blame more on the Ottawa civil service than on the minister. "The civil service of Canada wishes to maintain the empire it has built up in the northern areas. The colonial status it has had for 100 years is being maintained."

I believe that touches on the precise point the hon. member for Yukon was trying to make today. I think it is quite valid, notwithstanding the criticism the hon. member for Northwest Territories levelled at that point.

[Mr. Dinsdale.]

The northern Canadian vision has now become a reality as a result of the development that has taken place. The Pine Point railway line has brought about a tremendous upsurge of development in the lower Arctic areas. The prospecting for oil in the high Arctic has focussed attention on this unexplored and largely unknown area of Canada as never before. We have had almost continuous discussions about the *Manhattan* and Canadian sovereignty in the north to conclude that great venture. I should like to conclude my remarks by referring to something that appeared in that great "Canadian" magazine, *Time*.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Winch: Did the hon. member say "Canadian"?

Mr. Dinsdale: Yes, in quotation marks. It appeared after the Prime Minister's visit to Yellowknife. On page 14 of the August 16, 1968, edition of *Time*, "Canadian" edition, we find this interesting quotation:

Scout Jamboree at Yellowknife. 550 Boy Scouts from Alaska and all parts of Canada—

• (3:10 p.m.)

That was very interesting to read because the Scout movement got under way, as I think the hon. member for the Northwest Territories will recall, largely on the initiative of Air Force personnel stationed in the north. It grew rapidly, particularly among the native people, because it attracted their imagination immediately. Here is the punch-line of the quotation: "Few were unmoved by Trudeau's northern vision". Where there is no vision, the people perish. I hope, Mr. Speaker, that the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) has really captured the vision of northern development in the reasonable terms that have been placed before us this afternoon. If he has captured it, I hope he will communicate it to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. If he has not captured it and if that is a euphemistic statement on the part of *Time* magazine, I trust the minister will in turn communicate it to the Prime Minister and his colleagues in the cabinet.

Let us get away from negativism. Let us accentuate the positive. We have here a golden opportunity to move forward to greater autonomy, independence and responsibility. I would much rather trust the elected representatives of the Yukon and Northwest Territories in terms of quality, zeal and capacity than some of the members of this House. These elected representatives are a pioneering