

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): My hon. friend has made an assertion that the Brewsters control the park; I state most emphatically that they do not.

Mr. BENNETT: I said that they controlled the patronage.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): They do not.

Mr. BENNETT: While the hon. gentleman was talking about the road foreman, I was talking about the Brewsters. The returning officer was appointed for West Calgary on the recommendation of the minister. He was sent up to do customs work at Banff last summer; his principal business being to find out how the people were induced to vote at the next elections. I know the committee that sent him up. The name of the man in charge is Mr. Young, who is the head of the Liberal organization in Calgary. The road foreman has been there not only under this administration but previous administrations, and is retained because of his fitness for the job. These people who control the patronage have endeavoured to direct the lives of men and women with respect to the work they do. It is a similar condition to what obtained regarding the canal here in Ottawa, when men were forced to join the Liberal association in order to obtain a job. I know of men who have had to join the Liberal association in Banff in order to obtain work, and I protest against that practice.

An hon. MEMBER: It is not worth it.

Mr. BENNETT: I agree with that remark. After all, there is such a thing as individual liberty and rights to be granted to even poor workingmen. Such liberty as we enjoy has been obtained through fighting for it. This condition is brought about by the fact that local matters are not under local control. If a man wants a position he has to kowtow to these people. The same conditions obtain in the other parks. I have visited Jasper park and find it the same. Local control would solve this problem. If such a situation existed in a municipality like Calgary or Edmonton, the town council and mayor, being amenable to the voices of the citizens, would endeavour to cure and remedy it, but that cannot be done in this instance. The hon. minister knows very well that there was patronage in Banff park long before he was minister.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): Yes, I know a great deal about that.

Mr. BENNETT: I stated quite frankly that that was so. This distant control is

fraught with grave disaster, and in the past it has caused considerable trouble; in some instances the results have been little short of scandalous. I believe this road foreman was in the park shortly after I went to western Canada. He knows more about those roads than anybody else in that country, and that is the only reason he has not been removed. It would cause a row if he were, and therefore they have not tried to do it.

Mr. POULIOT: If it is a fact that the principal business of that man was to find out how the people were induced to vote, I am very much amused to see that the leader of the opposition is dissatisfied with his report.

Mr. STEVENS: Mr. Chairman, apropos of what has been said already, I would call to the attention of the hon. minister a situation which I think should receive some consideration. Section 5 states:

Every park warden and any other park officer designated by the minister shall have all the powers of a police constable.

Under the system of administration there are justices of the peace, who are really officers of the park administration; there are constables, or people with the power of constables, who may be wardens or employees or anyone who might be named as having that power. In order to realize the extent of this section, it is necessary to turn to section 8. The old section of the act reads as follows:

Any person violating any provision of this act or any regulation made hereunder shall, in addition to any civil liability thereby incurred, be liable on summary conviction to a penalty of not more than five hundred dollars, and in default of immediate payment of such penalty and of the costs of prosecution, such person may be imprisoned with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding six months.

The new section reads as follows:

Any constable or any person having the powers of a constable under the provisions of this act or regulations hereunder may,—

(a) on view, arrest any person—

I would direct the attention of the Solicitor General (Mr. Cannon) to this section:

—found committing an offence against this act or regulations hereunder or found committing within a park any unlawful act;

(b) without warrant or other legal process at any time enter and search any building, premises, structure, camp, vessel, boat, vehicle, conveyance, or other place, and open and examine any trunk, box, barrel, parcel, or other package or receptacle, whether within or without the boundaries of any park, where he has reason to believe there is—

And so on. This is what really perturbs me about this whole system. Here is a community, the park, with officials appointed by the government and responsible to a depart-