

Supply—Resources and Development

through my constituency. I refer of course to David Thompson. Regardless of the fact that both provincial and federal governments have had departments dealing with historic sites, one cannot find a single monument or cairn erected at any point over the whole length of the Columbia river to indicate its discovery by this great explorer. There is nothing to show where his encampments were made, or anything of the kind.

Neither the provincial nor the federal government has done anything to record the historic work of that great explorer. I cannot understand why as a nation we are so slow in marking the points in this country having historical significance, because in relation to the extent of our other expenditures the amounts required in this instance would be small indeed. It would not cost a great deal to erect cairns bearing bronze plaques for the information of the public. Will the minister tell the committee whether there is co-operation between the federal and provincial departments concerned with the preservation and marking of historic sites? What determines which government shall carry out the restoration or marking required?

Mr. Winters: The marking of historic sites is the function of the department acting on the advice of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. Where the site in question is of national significance in the history of Canada it is handled in that way. There are many other sites of course which have only local significance, and in those cases provincial or municipal governments take the proper steps to commemorate the occasion. I can assure the hon. member that there is co-operation in the matter of marking sites.

Mr. Herridge: Would the minister consider the discovery of the Columbia a matter of national significance?

Mr. Winters: I do not think anyone could overlook the significance of the Columbia river in the national development of Canada. Whether or not its national significance historically comes within the administration of this department is something that would have to be determined by the historic sites and monuments board.

Mr. Gillis: I do not wish to break up this friendly discussion, but I find it hard to understand why the only subject under discussion now is that of museums and historic sites. We are discussing the first item in the minister's department, which has reference to departmental administration. While I do not wish to detract from any of the glories of the past, still I am not too much interested in them.

[Mr. Herridge.]

I have gone over the minister's estimates, and I should not like *Hansard* to go out leading people to think, Well, this is the department responsible for the future development of Canada and for mapping out our potentialities from coast to coast; this is the department which will follow the government's policy regarding the future development of the country, as announced by many of the ministers, that it will support the system of private enterprise where it works, and, where it fails, supplement such private enterprise by government action.

I was surprised when going through the minister's estimates to find very little about the development of the resources of the country, or the supplementing of free enterprise where it has failed. True, there is a good deal about water, about the Arctic, about scientific surveys, and all that sort of thing; but there is nothing concrete in his estimates that fits in with the picture across the country as I see it today.

I am disappointed in that. For instance, in the matter of housing, for which the minister's department is responsible, I find very little. His statement has indicated that he has taken an interest in this subject, and that he has a program; but in the estimates before us one would imagine nothing is being done by the department in the matter of housing.

Mr. Winters: Why would my hon. friend come to that conclusion?

Mr. Gillis: Because I have read the estimates. I cannot see in them anything which would show that the minister has a program in mind.

Mr. Winters: I believe that as we go through the estimates the hon. member will find that his point will be covered—certainly in respect to housing.

Mr. Gillis: I hope so. If we are honest with ourselves, if we go across this country today and visit the industrial sections, we will find great anxiety in the minds of those who are operating industries about markets for the future. There is in every section a process of laying off help, and a bad unemployment situation is developing. The government did have a shelf of public works that was intended to fit into the picture so as to absorb the unemployed until international trade problems could be ironed out. They have shelved that public works program, and I have no hope of finding anything in the minister's estimates to cover the situation in areas where unemployment is not seasonal or regional; and I refer particularly to the maritimes. I do not think the discussion we have had on this administration item