

Supply—Northern Affairs

great many more tourists and therefore many more tourists' dollars. Certainly the condition of that road was so bad up until recently that it caused a great deal of damage to the tourist industry. This is therefore one project which is likely to pay for itself and it is likely to provide a return on the money already invested there. But if the road is allowed to remain as it is this investment will be lost. From that point of view I do not think the fact that this project is going to be so costly should deter the parks branch. Even if the road is not surfaced I would suggest that the number of maintainers could be increased. A great deal could be done just by improving the maintenance of the road. As the road was last year you would get a fair stretch which would enable you to travel at about 50 miles an hour. Some would go even faster than that at, say, 60 or 70 miles an hour, which I agree is much too fast. Nevertheless, no matter what speed you were doing, you would suddenly strike very bad chuck holes which would almost shake the car to pieces. Short of paving the entire road, what I think could be done is to increase the number of maintainers and graders. In other words, you could have much better maintenance at a relatively low cost and I hope that this will be done so as to eliminate the very rough conditions which existed last year.

Mr. Lesage: I can assure my hon. friend that the superintendent of parks, who is on the floor of the house at this time, has listened very carefully to the hon. member's remarks and instructions will be issued accordingly. We are spending a little more on maintenance this year, but this is a very difficult task, because the old road has a poor base. That is why we have to rebuild the road and that is why it is so costly. However, I have taken particular note of the hon. member's remarks and he can be assured that steps will be taken to avoid a recurrence of the conditions he has described.

Mr. Harkness: I might just add that I drove back from Jasper park and the road was in much better condition.

Mr. Lesage: Much depends on the weather.

Mr. Harkness: No, the maintenance men had been over the road fairly recently and I think that proves my point, that a few more maintenance men on that road would make a great deal of difference. There is one other point I would like to raise and that is in regard to the item which deals with buildings as well as roads and parks. The item amounts to approximately \$800,000 and I would like to ask the minister what type of buildings are included in that item.

[Mr. Harkness.]

Mr. Lesage: For each park?

Mr. Harkness: No, but I would like to know the situation particularly with reference to the Banff, Jasper, Kootenay and Yoho parks, and I would especially like to know if this item provides for any more youth hostels such as I described an hour or so ago, and also if it provides for any of these ski huts or anything along that line.

Mr. Lesage: No. Neither one. Not this year.

Mr. Harkness: I am sorry that it does not provide for any of those buildings this year. I would hope perhaps that the estimate might be moved around a bit. I do not know just what construction has already been started, if any, but I would hope that some buildings along that line might be provided for. The minister was going to give me what buildings are provided for in those mountain parks.

Mr. Lesage: Yes. Here are a few. For instance, in Banff, construction of a combined caretaker's residence and heating plant at cave and basin bathhouse, \$53,000; water and sewer installation, centralized service, \$57,500; construction of a park warden's residence for the Banff district warden—the present building is old and rotting—\$11,000. The replacement of kitchen shelters at Tunnel mountain camp grounds at a cost of \$8,000; the completion of a staff quarters building at the east gate of the park, \$12,000; construction of a patrol cabin on the Howse river in the vicinity of Howse river pass trail, \$5,000. There is \$25,000 for the continuation of reconstruction of the Norquay road this year, sanitation, cutting and hauling of mature and diseased timber and operation of saw-mill and planer, \$20,000. The others are small items.

In Jasper, construction of headquarters warden's residence, \$19,852; construction of lookout cabin at Maligne lake, \$2,500. In Kootenay national park, construction of a garage and a maintenance compound area, \$107,000; construction of a semi-detached staff residence at Radium townsite at \$23,000. There is a truss bridge in Yoho, at Mile 4 from Yoho valley road, \$72,000. Extension of existing administration office in Field townsite; \$15,000; and various other small construction items.

Mr. Harkness: My only comment on that would be that I do not doubt that all these buildings will be useful and so on, but I would think that some of the money that is appropriated for these various residences would really be much better spent and would give a greater return to the Canadian people as far as enjoyment is concerned—and that is what the parks are for—in the use of the