

*Proceedings on Adjournment Motion*

the air, soil or water. I hope we have now overcome this unproductive thinking which has been an impediment to the establishment of the park.

On March 11, as reported at page 6458 of *Hansard*, I was told by the minister in this house that the federal government had reached an agreement with the Premier of Newfoundland and that they would go ahead with the establishment of a park at Bonne Bay. Here we are, Mr. Speaker, three months later and there is no agreement. With the new Department of Regional Expansion working in co-operation with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development we have the machinery to transform an underdeveloped area, a high unemployment area, a have-not area into one of the most prosperous areas of Newfoundland, if not the country; one that would have far reaching effects to further the economic expansion of the economy of western Newfoundland.

The Deputy Minister of Regional Economic Expansion has said this:

What we have to do is to find the key points of strength which, in that particular region, can be used to get a different process started, to stimulate the kinds of growth that will in turn set other growth factors to work. We have to get an interaction of forces for movement instead of stagnation.

I ask the minister through you, Mr. Speaker, what are we waiting for? Who is the culprit that is stultifying progress? The citizens of western Newfoundland have formed themselves into responsible bodies who want to get involved for the good of the province. Every last citizen in western Newfoundland realizes the value of creating a national park in Bonne Bay. I know the federal government and the minister want to go ahead with the development. Can the minister disclose, sincerely and objectively, how we can finally muster enough gumption to remove the obstacles which are so obvious, and get on with the job for the good of Newfoundland and Canada. I implore him to do so.

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr.

Speaker, I would like to thank the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall) for his presentation. I must tell him that in the summer of 1965 the federal government and the government of the province of Newfoundland started a study in co-operation in order to establish a second national park in Newfoundland. Since that time we have proceeded with the study of the land.

I admit that it is going to be a great national park. I have not yet visited the area, although I hope to visit it soon but I have seen a great many pictures of Bonne Bay and agree with the hon. member that it is some of the nicest scenery that we have in Canada. It is probably one of the best scenic locations that we have in eastern Canada. It is going to be a good match for the national park at Forillon.

As far as the problem of the possibility of mining in the park is concerned, this is one of the objections we had to cope with in December, 1968, when the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources advised us that there was a potential mine there. After that, I was in touch with the Premier of Newfoundland and we reached an agreement that will permit my department to keep on with the work they started last year. This summer the people of my department will carry on the work on the ground in order to make more progress in respect of this project of a second national park in Newfoundland.

• (10:20 p.m.)

I am quite optimistic that within a few years we will have a second national park in Newfoundland. Every Canadian who will have the occasion to visit Newfoundland will find that the federal government has always been at the forefront in the development of tourism and has put the best features of Newfoundland in evidence by establishing some good national parks in that province.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 10.25 p.m.