

Supply—Northern Affairs

summer months. This is a situation that I think should receive some consideration from the minister. His reply read in part as follows:

No special forestry camps have been operated by the national parks service since 1939, when a number of such camps were established in the parks under the national forestry program. The national parks service, however, does employ students over 18 years of age on various forestry, trail construction and maintenance, and engineering projects in the national parks each summer. The number of students employed on such work is not fixed but varies with the requirements for maintenance and development work in the individual parks in any year.

I would ask the minister to give consideration first to reducing the age limit from 18 years to 17 years. Out in western Canada our students grow up very quickly, and a lad 17 years old is just as capable of doing a man's work as a lad 18 or 19 years old. I therefore feel we have a point there. It would certainly be appreciated by me if the minister would give our 17-year olds consideration. I noticed a number of students in the gallery today. There is no doubt that a good many students will be looking forward to this coming summer. I think it would be a wonderful move on the part of the parks department to create camps that would get the boys out of the city in the summer months and give them a good healthy education with regard to the administration and the upkeep of our national parks.

There is just one other point. I wish to express my congratulations to the Calgary Olympic development association on obtaining the Olympic games, or at least obtaining consideration, because I believe the final decision will not be made until 1963. As far as the Canadian Olympic committee is concerned, Calgary has been approved as the site for the Olympic games, and I should like to offer my congratulations. I am sure all the residents of East Kootenay would be more than pleased to contribute their share in order to make the Olympic games a success in the event that they should come to this area.

Mr. Clancy: I should like to take a few minutes to speak on historic sites under item 283. Personally I think our historic sites and monuments in Canada are a national disgrace. You flash by on the highway and you see a rather rustic sign, two posts and two garbage cans, and when you pull in from the highway you cannot read the sign anyway.

However, I should like to get back to a local problem, and I wish to speak about old Fort Pelly. In these remarks I should like to associate myself with the hon. member for Mackenzie. Two years ago old Fort Pelly was recognized as an historic monument, but that was where it ended. I should like to point out to the committee that old Fort Pelly

was the boundary line between the Hudson's Bay Company on the upper Assiniboine and the Northwest Company from Montreal. Hendry first surveyed the site. The important thing about this is that it is an historic site and this is history in the making. This is a local problem, but it is history in the making. I would not claim there is anyone alive today who remembers the first log being laid at old Fort Pelly, but in the upper Assiniboine there are men who were born in that area, and there are a few left who opened up that country. I think this site is worthy of being preserved as a national monument.

I was very interested last year to learn that some of these historic sites were being preserved and restored under the winter works program. I am sure the local associations in this area and in the province would be quite willing to supply a great deal of the material if a bit of a lead were given by the particular section of the department that these matters come under. I would be willing to hazard the guess that it would not cost the federal government too much money. Just a little lead is needed, so why not make some of these projects part of the winter works program? I am sure the materials could be gathered locally and would be donated freely by the local people. It is just a matter of hiring and paying wages to a few men during the winter. We are losing a chance to pick up personal knowledge, because the day is fast approaching when these men will all be dead.

We have a Canada Council which spends millions of dollars bringing European culture to this country. I appreciate that, having been born on the prairies, where we had none. But I do think a little bit of money could be spent in preserving a portion of our own Canadian history.

Mr. Winch: Mr. Chairman, before the minister replies to all the advice that has been given him and all the questions that have been put to him I should like—I hope, without repetition—to add my words to those which have already been expressed by the hon. member for Vancouver-Burrard and the hon. member for Coast-Capilano on this matter of Garibaldi.

I have had an interest in the development of this area for some 30 years. I have spoken on it year after year in the British Columbia legislature and year after year in this House of Commons. Unfortunately we do not appear to be making any progress and I think the time has come for all the shilly-shallying between the federal government and the province to come to a halt, for something definite to be proposed on the development of Garibaldi.