

*Proceedings on Adjournment Motion*

part of the province I would be very eager to hear the explanation for it, especially concerning delay on individual plots of land. I would urge the department to work out an arrangement with the province of Nova Scotia whereby the vast amount of land already acquired could be transferred to the national government so that work on that part at least could begin.

It is very important that we have this new national park in operation and fully equipped by 1967. That will be a year in which there will be a great inflow of American tourists to this country, and it is important that we have the park well advanced at that time.

I might also say I am pleased to see that the original plan has been expanded so as to include a physically separated area along the coast in Queens county, which will provide beachland as part of the park. This is something to be commended, but if there is any delay in the acquisition of land in that area I would urge the minister to work out an agreement with the province whereby construction in other areas of the park could begin as quickly as possible.

If the province of Nova Scotia has not acquired all the land, then I hope it will take action to have its agents step up the pace because I see no reason, after this passage of time, why all the land should not already have been acquired by the province.

**Mr. John N. Turner (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources):** Mr. Speaker, I want to echo the enthusiastic applause which greeted the rising of the hon. member for Halifax (Mr. Regan) this evening. I am sure it was a tribute by his fellow members to his industry in representing the city of Halifax

and the province of Nova Scotia in the courageous and conscientious way he does.

In answer to his query I must say that the province of Nova Scotia has not yet transferred to Canada, free of encumbrances, title to the lands which it agreed should form the national park in that province. By way of explanation I might say that where the title to the land lay with the crown in right of the province there was, of course, no difficulty. However, clear title has still to be obtained from private individuals and concerns in respect to some of the potential park area before that land can be transferred outright to the crown in right of Canada. I understand that the province is still proceeding with such acquisition and that this acquisition involves negotiation with the owners.

I shall inform the minister of the constructive suggestion made by the hon. member, that where there has already been a substantial block of land assembled by the province of Nova Scotia it should be deeded immediately to the Canadian government so that plans for the park may proceed. Though the land has not yet been transferred to the federal government, the national parks branch officers have been on site, taking surveys of the land and preparing development plans so that the federal government will be ready, immediately upon transfer, to initiate the park immediately, so as to satisfy, I hope, the legitimate ambitions of the hon. member to have this park ready for the people of the country, as an added glory to the province of Nova Scotia, by the anniversary of confederation.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 10.22 p.m.