

Mr. PETERS: I do not really see why we have to leave unless—

The CHAIRMAN: Well, there are some of us who have other commitments for this hour.

Mr. PETERS: One of the problems that face us in the federal field is the silly argument that is used about split jurisdiction and constitution, and all that jazz. I think that the people in Newfoundland—and to some extent the people in the Maritimes and certainly in the agricultural field in Manitoba—have overcome this by co-operation. I know the Northeastern Ontario Regional Development Council is no longer an association. It is really a child of the Ontario government planning department. What co-operation has been provided by the provincial government to assist in the development of the designated areas? Some of this area is designated. Timmins was designated previously but then I think they were incorrectly undesignated. Sturgeon Falls is now designated in this area. Manitoulin Island is designated. What co-operation is being provided by the provincial people in the designated areas as far as the council is concerned?

Mr. DELVILLANO: Mr. Chairman, they have said that they will co-operate completely with us in any suggestions that we have in regard to these places. Now, what co-operation there is between them and the federal government, I do not know, but the Minister has addressed us and Mr. Hewitt and Mr. Cram will remember at one of our meetings he said that he wants the full co-operation of the three bodies so that we can reap the benefits of the ARDA program. Now, it has not gone further than just a suggestion, except that some of the members of the Northeastern Regional Development Council, have advanced ideas on how to develop certain areas in regard to their interest in agriculture. One of the things that we brought out before Mr. Hewitt came into the picture as secretary-manager was beef cattle raising, not only in certain areas but throughout the whole area. We have dealt with turkeys over the years in Manitoulin and it has been very successful. Some of us may not like turkey but there is a big sale for it. However, there has been co-operation in those phases. Now, we hope to enlarge on this, and from what we have heard here today I think we are going to be more informative on it.

Mr. PETERS: Could the member explain to me, if there is this co-operation, why the people of Newfoundland—they have the whole area designated and all of New Brunswick is designated, and there are some fairly good economic units, I suppose, in both those areas—have been able to take full advantage of the designation program and we have not been able to do so? Now, it is not quite true that this designation is operated from the federal government entirely. If you will look over the list of the designated areas in Ontario you will see that there are politics involved in it. There are at least two areas in our area that are designated that have no relationship to any criterion. I think even Mr. Lavigne, or the official from the department here, will indicate that they cannot meet these. However, there was a meeting in Ontario. Now, at that meeting where the designated areas were decided upon why was all of northern Ontario not designated as an area rather than just one or two places?

Mr. DELVILLANO: Mr. Chairman, that is why we are here.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, Mr. Peters, the reason, that all northern Ontario was not designated was that under this particular criteria all of northern Ontario did not qualify.