

National Parks

under provincial laws, administered it is true by the federal authorities. If the citizens of these two municipalities are desirous of forming a municipal government and accepting all the responsibilities which will arise under it there will be only one thing to do. We will have to come to parliament and set aside the area on which they are established. That is all that could be done, because this government has no laws under which they could operate. We should have to pass a code and make a Dominion law for the purposes of administration. We are not proposing to do that.

Mr. BENNETT: You are doing it by regulation.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): But the law under which it will be administered will be the provincial law except that we have the power to supersede it if we so desire.

Mr. BENNETT: The whole administration is federal, and the administration is by regulation, not by provincial law. My hon. friend has said that these towns are growing and that the lands are leased. He is quite right, but there are properties at Banff, in addition to the Canadian Pacific Railway hotel, which are worth \$100,000. When the late governor died I remember seeing the appraisal of his estate and the property at Banff was listed at something over \$100,000. The government has been selling lots under twenty-one year leases, which can be renewed for a further period of twenty-one years making forty-two years in all. If you lay out a townsite and sell lots to people I think you must realize you are not maintaining a park in its natural condition but are assuming certain responsibilities which otherwise would not arise. The minister must not take my observations as being directed against him, although I think some of the administration, owing to political circumstances over which perhaps he has no control, has been very difficult.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): I would not raise that question, if I were you.

Mr. BENNETT: I am raising it, and I say there is a certain political control exercised there by a gentleman who says he has the patronage, and men can only work in the park if they have his approval. That park belongs to the people of Canada, not to that gentleman or to this government. The money is not provided by that gentleman or this government, but by the people of Canada. We might as well understand that thoroughly.

[Mr. C. A. Stewart.]

Mr. CANNON: But there has to be some local control.

Mr. BENNETT: That is the point, and there is none. The minister knows I am objecting to the general principle of administration by regulations that give no opportunity or scope for local control.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): With respect to the individual my hon. friend has mentioned, I do not know who he is.

Mr. BENNETT: Now, the minister knows the Brewsters. Who has the patronage there?

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): No one has it.

Mr. BENNETT: The Brewsters have exercised it since 1925.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): Not as far as I know.

Mr. BENNETT: Does the minister say not as far as he knows?

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): Long before my time that control was exercised by the party which my hon. friend represents. Those gentlemen are still there, and are still in control, and they hire the men who are on the road there.

Mr. BENNETT: The Brewsters?

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): When my hon. friend makes an assertion of that kind it might just as well be definitely understood that I have not removed him. The road foreman in the Banff park, Mr. McCauley, was an appointee of the Conservative party and he exercises all control.

Mr. BENNETT: That is not so.

Mr. VALLANCE: Yes, it is.

Mr. BENNETT: What does the hon. member know about it? There is no evidence of that.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): I have not sought to remove that man. I say here and now that he is a good road foreman, but he is still a Conservative and he employs Conservative help when he can. The same thing applies to the chief warden.

Mr. BENNETT: To whom?

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): To the chief warden, Mr. Warren. My hon. friend knows that he is a well-known Conservative.

Mr. POULIOT: There is big game in the park.