

Rural Development

will not put artificial fences around a program of this kind. However, that is not what I wanted to ask about at this time.

• (7:40 p.m.)

Earlier the hon. member for Villeneuve asked how far the minister and those working with him in connection with the expenditure of this fund could go in dealing with tourist development. The minister mentioned a moment ago that in the province of Nova Scotia a plan is being shaped up under the general ARDA agreement, and my constituency falls within the area to be covered by that plan. Under the general ARDA agreement a study is being made of the recreational and tourist possibilities of the entire county of Guysborough. What I want to know is, what is going to happen when this study is completed? I am convinced as to what the result of the study is going to be—it is going to conclude that this county has magnificent tourist potentialities. But where do we go from there? How far can the minister go in recommending programs for the development of these potentialities?

I am glad to see the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources here tonight, because it may very well be that if the Minister of Forestry cannot go all the way that the study indicates under this particular piece of legislation, the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources may have to activate himself and bring before this house new legislation to supplement the National Parks Act. I am wondering how far the Minister of Forestry conceives of this particular fund as meeting the development of park areas and recreational areas, somewhere in between the great national parks, on the one hand, and the comparatively small parks which are being developed under federal provincial co-operation under the existing ARDA regulations on the other.

Mr. Sauvé: If the proposal comes under section 6 of the ARDA agreement for a special rural development area, we can entertain practically all sorts of projects as long as they create employment and economic development. If it does not come under the special rural development area, then it comes under either Part V of the rural development area or Part III, rural rehabilitation, or Part II, land use and farm adjustment, and then you have specific projects. We have approved many projects of that nature since the innovation of ARDA in 1962.

Mr. Stewart: Mr. Chairman, there is one point on which I believe I know the answer, but I should like to have it in the minister's own clear words. This act again and again uses the word "rural". Am I correct in saying that the word "rural" will include seacoast areas where, of course, we have people living in precisely the same conditions as we would find in depressed agricultural areas in eastern Quebec, or in the Interlake area of Manitoba?

Mr. Sauvé: The answer is yes, that this is one of the purposes of the amendment we brought into legislation under Bill C-152.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, I must say that the explanation of the minister, as far as I am concerned, is very inadequate on the point I raised about the equitable spreading of this money across the country. The words of the minister were that the province had accepted this principle. What principle have they accepted? The sky-is-the-limit method of expenditure has very little principle attached to it. What I am suggesting to the minister is a per capita plan which would have some principle associated with it. I caution the minister that \$50 million does not go very far. The physical geography of this country is such that this whole amount could be spent on two or three small localities. It is not good administration and it is not fair in any way; it is not fair morally or politically.

Mr. Sauvé: I will give you three examples. In the Interlake region there are 62,000 people, in northern New Brunswick there are 125,000 and in eastern Quebec there are about 325,000. We do not know yet what the program will be in the interlake area which will be submitted by the government of Manitoba. It may be a program which will involve the reorganization of certain farm land, and the relocation of a number of fishermen. There are 3,000 fishermen and there are possibilities for probably a few hundred. There will probably be road development, erection of school buildings, development of tourist areas, and so on. Then the province of Manitoba will propose to the federal ARDA administration a certain program and will probably say, "We are ready to pay so much of the cost". Then out of the \$50 million, 80 per cent of the cost will be for one project, 75 per cent for another, and 50 per cent for the third. This will be the result of negotiations.

The principle which was accepted by the provinces was that, inasmuch as some of them were ready to go into the regional development concept and inasmuch as they have