

access to the parks without creating individual vested rights which would put individual rights over the general rights and interests of the general public.

Mr. DINSDALE: Mr. Chairman, what Mr. Côté said is true. There has been a lack of communication between these people in the parks and the department, and this has given rise to a lot of the problems that we have heard about in recent months and years. Perhaps the best way to come to grips with this is to have these people organized—the cottage owners are organized in all these western parks—to have representatives appear before this Committee, and open the channels of communication.

Mr. CÔTÉ: Mr. Chairman I would not agree that there has been a lack of communication. I think the problem has been brought to the surface by virtue of communicating the policies.

● (11:40 a.m.)

Mr. DINSDALE: When I used the phrase, "lack of communication" I meant that the message has certainly not come through. As Mr. Côté said, these people do not understand what the department is trying to do in this respect. In the initial approach to this problem, it was 42 years, renewal over 21 years; it was not an abrupt termination because we realized that these people had been encouraged by official government policy, and I think in their approach to the Supreme Court they are going to fight the case on these legalistic grounds because the rules have been changed in the middle of the game. So perhaps it would be useful to have the representatives of the government of Alberta, who have been so active in this field, before the Committee where these channels of communication could be opened up in a face to face meeting.

Mr. CÔTÉ: Mr. Chairman, that is, of course, a matter for the Committee to determine. I have no comment on that. But, I would like to say that the 42 years leasehold was determined in 1958 and in 1962 it was increased to 42 plus 21. That is the order, I think, in which it went.

Mr. HORNER (*Jasper-Edson*): Mr. Chairman, one problem has to do with national park policy, and the other problem that has been so great in the western parks is the question of townsites. I would like to ask Mr. Côté what would be wrong in carrying his zoning policy further and allow these town sites to incorporate as towns within a federal park, under special acts if they like, to allow them to run their own affairs, with representation from the parks department on it.

Mr. CÔTÉ: Mr. Chairman, this question was looked into when we had a special survey done in, I think it was, 1950—

Mr. HORNER (*Jasper-Edson*): Are you referring to the Crawford Report?

Mr. CÔTÉ: Yes, the Crawford Report. When the Crawford came about and when this matter was posed to the people in the parks the criterion, as I recall it, was that the parks townsite residents should pay for services what they would be paying in comparable cities or towns in Alberta or British Columbia, as the case may be. Then, if my memory serves me, there is a general recoiling on the part of the people of the townsites at that time.