

National Capital Commission

ordinary citizen of Ottawa, will have to wait a long time, in most cases, before you gain admission to hospital.

Some of the eating places in the city are splendid, and magnificent efforts have been made to establish fine restaurants; but in other instances it is obvious that the health inspector has not paid a visit for years and years.

I am pleased that Hull is a part of our national capital development plan. It ought to give the people of the province of Quebec a feeling that they and their province are a part of Canada. However, with respect to some of the conditions I have mentioned as obtaining in Ottawa, almost the same could be said for the Hull section of the national capital.

We welcome this move most heartily, but we hope the measure will mean more than the buying of several thousand acres on the outskirts of Ottawa. We hope an investigation will be undertaken by those who will be responsible for the plan concerning improvements for the city. As the Leader of the Opposition said in his remarks, I also hope the authorities will ascertain what is required in the heart of the city, which is the core of the national capital. I wish to propose to the Prime Minister a serious implication arising from the recent announcement from the city hall in Ottawa to the effect that everything possible is being done to obtain industrialization of our national capital.

I see a serious conflict of approach. Here are the city fathers who want to obtain more revenue and who are therefore anxious to invite almost any kind of industry into the city which will add to their tax rolls. Yet at the same time we want to make it into a beautiful city, a city that we will be proud to call our national capital. I feel that either one or the other of the two approaches is going to win out, and I hope the city hall is going to cease and desist from its announced program of filling the city with the smoke-belching chimneys which are usually associated with the industrialization of a city.

The year 1967 will see the 100th anniversary of our nation. That is only nine years hence. At that time I have no doubt we shall have hundreds of thousands of visitors to our fair national city. I hope that within those nine years we shall take such measures as will enable us to invite people to a real national capital to join in the celebration of our 100th anniversary.

Mr. Bell (Carleton): Mr. Chairman, this resolution, introduced this morning by the Prime Minister, represents an historic advance in national capital planning. From the outline the Prime Minister gave this morning

it is evident that this legislation will give a new impetus and a new momentum to the realization of the goal of a truly symbolic capital.

At the outset of my remarks, I wish to thank the Prime Minister for the vital and decisive interest which he has displayed in his first year of office in the development of this city and area and for the constructive achievements already undertaken under his direction as the responsible minister, notably the decision to acquire the green belt, the action taken to permit the assembly of industrial land, and the assistance to the Bronsdun avenue bridge.

The Prime Minister and the committee, will recognize that he who represents Carleton has a very special interest in such matters; for, as the committee knows, Ottawa has a dual distinction. Not only is it the capital of Canada but it is the shire town, the county town, of the historic county of Carleton. Approximately 75 per cent of the population of the electoral district of Carleton reside within the territorial limits of the city of Ottawa, and under this bill practically the whole of the county of Carleton will be within the national capital region.

Both the Leader of the Opposition and the hon. member for Burnaby-Coquitlam have mentioned that in the determination to make of Ottawa a great national capital there are no partisan differences I hope, sir, that will always be so. All parties and all members from all sections of Canada I believe are of one mind in this matter. We may have differences about details, differences about techniques, but there are none about objectives.

In order to keep to the main track of my remarks I am going to resist entering into a discussion of the digressions into which the hon. member for Burnaby-Coquitlam was carried.

I used the term "symbolic capital" and the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, in speaking this morning, spoke movingly of Ottawa as the symbol of the nation. I submit that the first objective of all national capital planning must be to make of Ottawa a true and living symbol of a distinctive, vibrant, Canadian nationality, a genuine symbol of our national unity and our national cultures.

Most of the great capitals of the world have in fact attained the role of symbols of their nations. Old London is of the very essence of Britain. To all Frenchmen Paris is a national shrine; and so Rome, Athens, Vienna, all the great capitals of the old-world countries, exist as symbols of those countries. That Ottawa can and will attain