

Mr. MURPHY: I think it may be stated that it is understood that the province is agreeable to donate an area for park purposes. The hon. member is not quite correct in stating that other provinces are not willing to grant free areas—

Mr. VENIOT: I did not say that.

Mr. MURPHY: —because the province of British Columbia has also made an offer.

Mr. VENIOT: I said the situation down there was different from what it was in the prairie provinces, because until recently the natural resources of these provinces were not under provincial control.

Mr. MacMILLAN (Saskatoon): I desire to associate myself with the remarks just before recess of the right hon. the leader of the opposition in reference to the Prince Albert national park. I happen to have been president of the association to which he referred—the Saskatchewan Provincial National Park Association—and I want to say to him that we in Saskatchewan appreciate most sincerely what the late government did to provide the Prince Albert national park. I am sure the committee will be glad to know that that park is the poor man's paradise. I have been through most of our national parks, and have come to the conclusion that Banff and Jasper are paradises for millionaires; but Prince Albert park is a place where the people on the prairies can go at little cost and find one of the most beautiful spots in Canada. On behalf of the boards of trade of Prince Albert and Saskatoon, with both of which I am associated, I should like to convey an invitation to every member to visit us. It won't cost them very much and we promise them a good time.

Mr. BOWMAN: Mr. Chairman, I am glad of the opportunity of agreeing for once at least with the right hon. leader of the opposition in the remarks he has just made. It may be the last time I shall have the pleasure of so agreeing.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Oh, no.

Mr. BOWMAN: I hope not. Last fall after the short session the Minister of the Interior appropriated from the \$20,000,000 relief fund a certain amount of money to be expended in some of the national parks. Of that fund \$24,000 was set aside for the Riding Mountain park, the newest, and—I must say it with all modesty—by long odds the most beautiful of our national parks. The expenditure of that money during the

winter months afforded great relief to the municipalities in and around the park. As soon as I was advised that this money was available I got in touch with the Reeves of the various municipalities and the mayors of the various towns and villages and advised them to form a committee. I also got in touch with the acting superintendent of the park and requested him to meet this committee and arrange as to the distribution of the work. It was decided that only married men with families would be entitled to work, and the most needy people in the district were placed on the employment list. In that way the money was expended to the very best advantage. Doubtless this coming winter we shall have to expend large sums of money for the relief of unemployment. I do not know of any better way of applying the money than by improving our parks, and I shall be ready to most heartily endorse any proposition of that kind.

Mr. HEENAN: About 1922, I think, the federal government intimated to the government of Ontario that if they would turn over sufficient land up around the Lake of the Woods the federal government would be willing to establish a national park. There was some controversy about it, but to make a long story short an area was considered partly in Ontario and partly in Manitoba. Since that time the natural resources have been returned to Manitoba. In the event of the government being still willing to establish a park comprising an area both in Manitoba and in Ontario, would it be necessary for those two governments to consent before that action could be taken?

Mr. MURPHY: At the time the area now known as the Riding Mountain national park was set aside for that purpose I believe there was also an agitation and representations made to the government to the effect that an area in eastern Manitoba should be made the site of the national park in that province. I do not know whether or not this is the same area to which my hon. friend refers, but I take it to be so. After considerable controversy, and a great deal of thought on the part of the then government, the present site in Manitoba was chosen. As to the question whether or not the Dominion government would establish a park in Ontario and Manitoba at the present—

Mr. HEENAN: I have not asked that question as yet; the minister is probably anticipating me. I asked if it would be