

Canadian World Exhibition Corporation

The Deputy Chairman: Is clause 8 agreed to?

An hon. Member: The member for St. Henry has a question.

Mr. Lessard (St. Henry): Mr. Chairman, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to ask my question a second time concerning the site for the universal exhibition. How many sites are under consideration at present?

Mr. Sevigny: Six, I would say, and possibly seven.

(Text):

Clause 8 agreed to.

On clause 9—*Powers*.

(Translation):

Mr. Lachance: Is the minister in a position to tell us whether of those six sites some are located in the eastern part of Montreal?

Mr. Sevigny: Yes.

Mr. Lachance: Could the minister tell us how many?

(Text):

Mr. Rock: I should like to find out from the minister whether he has considered the advantages of the county of Lasalle, which constitutes one third of the island of Montreal. There are thousands of acres of virgin land there and the cost of development would be less there than anywhere else. I understand that other hon. members would like this exhibition to be in their own county, as I would like to have it in mine, and I understand it will be up to the commissioners themselves to describe where it shall be situated.

Mr. Sevigny: Everyone knows the advantages of the beautiful riding of Jacques Cartier. I have many friends there among whom is the distinguished and competent mayor of Dorval. There is no doubt that the commissioners named will be pleased to consider the merits of Dorval, Lachine and similar areas and that they will be delighted to consider the requests coming from that charming region.

Mr. Rock: I did not mean to suggest I wanted it actually in Lachine or Dorval. I wanted it in the county somewhere. The minister mentioned Dorval and Lachine. I did not want an answer in that manner.

Mr. Sevigny: The hon. member's riding will be considered, but not exactly because of his representations.

[Mr. Sevigny.]

(Translation):

Mr. Boulanger: I would like to ask the Associate Minister of National Defence a question following the inquiry of my fellow member for Joliette-L'Assomption-Montcalm (Mr. Pigeon).

The minister received a brief on behalf of people in Repentigny, businessmen and companies of eastern Montreal and elsewhere. Is this brief actually to the effect that the site be what is called in the east, Maisonneuve centre, or was the request that reached the minister of a wider scope? By eastern Montreal do we mean Maisonneuve centre?

Mr. Sevigny: Mr. Chairman, I glanced through the brief I received from those gentlemen in Repentigny and elsewhere, but I must admit that at the moment I forget what exactly they asked for. I do not remember whether they asked that the site be the one specified by the hon. member, or another.

Mr. Boulanger: A supplementary question, Mr. Chairman. I understand very well that when the hon. minister says that he only glanced at the brief, there might be some misunderstanding, but we read some statements in the press—

Mr. Gregoire: He stayed up too late last night.

Mr. Boulanger: I shall wait until the hon. member for Lapointe stops talking, before finishing my remarks. Very well.

According to statements we read in the papers, the Maisonneuve sports centre was an ideal site, because its choice would prevent much speculation with regard to land or other projects.

I want to point out this fact to lend new support to the request made by the people of Repentigny, or by businessmen elsewhere.

Mr. Sevigny: Mr. Chairman, in answer to the hon. member's question, I wish to tell him this: representations from businessmen and politicians from Repentigny and the eastern sections will be considered with the greatest care by the committee to which they will be submitted.

You may rest assured, Mr. Chairman, that my hon. friend's representations will get all the attention they deserve.

Mr. Loiselle: Mr. Chairman, I only have one question to ask. I wonder why the minister is letting himself be tormented and goaded in this way. In my opinion, there is only the Point St. Charles district that is suitable. You should say so tonight.

Here is my question. What are the requirements and conditions for the selection of a site?