Supply-Northern Affairs

administration building and a residence for the museum assistant at Fort Battleford national historic park.

Mr. Campbell: Is any work to be done on the ground, by way of a water system or anything like that?

Mr. Lesage: I am informed a water well has been dug.

Mr. Blackmore: Mr. Chairman, there are several matters I should like to bring to the attention of the committee in respect of Waterton Lakes national park. Those who are not familiar with Alberta will not know that the Waterton Lakes park is located in the southwestern corner of Alberta, bordering on the state of Montana. It is the first of a series of parks running from south to north, including the Banff and Jasper national parks, as well as others.

Waterton Lakes park, as I pointed out to the committee last fall, is in many respects the show-window of Canada owing to the fact that to the south of it is the great Glacier national park in the United States, through which runs the famous Logan pass highway, to travel over which people often journey more than a thousand miles. The fact that so many people go to Glacier park, and that Waterton Lakes park adjoins it, suggests to the average mind that if we could make Waterton Lakes park sufficiently attractive we would bring into Canada those tourists who visit Glacier national park in the United States.

There are other reasons why Waterton Lakes park serves as a sort of show-window for this country, one of which is that the southernmost route of the trans-Canada highway, which runs through the Crowsnest pass, passes within thirty or forty miles of the Waterton Lakes park. It passes through Macleod and past Pincher Creek, so that people who are on that highway running east and west across Canada could visit the Waterton Lakes park; and each one of them who could spare the time and money would certainly do so if we could only make of the park the kind we have dreamed of making it.

In what I am saying I am not depreciating the park in any way. It is very beautiful and is becoming well known. It has tremendous potentialities. In addition to what I have said, it is not very far from the main trunk highway running from south to north in Alberta, entering at Coutts, and going through Lethbridge, Calgary and Edmonton up into the northland which, everyone agrees, will become a veritable fairyland of tourist attraction before very long.

There is one other aspect to which I referred last fall and which I believe is worth repeating. For some reason or another there has not been the amount of development in Waterton Lakes park that it deserves. It has been more or less neglected since around 1920, or perhaps right from its inception. This becomes clear when one considers the amount of money spent there in comparison with the amount spent at Banff, Jasper, and other parks in Alberta. I believe, as do the people of Lethbridge, that somehow or other we should manage to catch up in the development of this park, because money has not been spent there as it has been in others.

With this brief review as a background I wish to ask several questions and make several comments. In the first place the people of Lethbridge riding are very thankful for the work the minister has done within the last year. In thanking the minister, I wish to recall for all hon. members, and particularly those in the country who might not know, that much of the fine development that has taken place in Waterton Lakes park in the last few years has been because of the active interest of the man who just preceded the minister in his position, namely, the present Minister of Public Works. Therefore in thanking the minister we have those two men to thank. As far as I have been able to gather from the way the present minister is attacking his work, I would say that he is going to be one of the greatest ministers that we have had in this department in the history of Canada.

The Lethbridge riding, as I was saying, is grateful for the amount of money which has been spent and which is appropriated to be spent in the Waterton Lakes park in the near future. According to the record on page 380, we find that the amount of money appropriated last year was \$190,000 for the building of new constructions in the park, general improvements, and the amount of money appropriated for the present year is \$211,725. We are grateful for this. It does not include upkeep of the park, as hon members know. This is the amount of money that has been set aside for making new improvements and generally increasing the beauty of the park.

I should like the minister to give the committee several sets of details, if he happens to have them convenient. I should like to know how much money has been appropriated for the Waterton Lakes park, for improvement in buildings and the like in the park from the year 1924 down to the present time. That would give us a chance to get a general idea of how much money has been appropriated. Then I should like him to tell,