

Supply—National Revenue

himself that these houses would be sold to the veterans at the actual cost, which would be about \$2,000 less than they are being asked to pay; and why did he pledge that those who had already purchased their houses would get a rebate of the extra amount they had paid?

The minister wonders why there is a great deal of discontent in the Fraserview veterans' housing project. The people are discontented because they were told in 1959, and particularly in 1962 and 1963, by spokesmen for the Liberal party, that it was unfair to make them pay more than the houses cost in order simply to make up the losses which C.M.H.C. had incurred on other housing projects across Canada.

The people were told that if a Liberal government were elected the sale price of these houses would be reduced to actual costs, which would mean a reduction of about \$2,000, and that those who had already purchased houses would get a rebate. On that basis surely these people had a right to expect, when a Liberal government was elected, that that promise would be kept.

I think the criticism which Liberal members expressed regarding the policy outlined in 1959 was a valid one, but I strongly object to their now coming in and defending the position that was taken in 1959, which the minister and his colleagues criticized in two general elections and promised to reverse if they were elected. So far as these people are concerned this is a complete betrayal of public trust. I presume a great majority of these people—maybe all of them for all I know—supported the minister of northern affairs, the member for Vancouver South, because they thought the statements which he made in the letter of June 15, 1962 which I have just read, and in the letter which my colleague, the hon. member for Vancouver East, put on the record, were a commitment on behalf of a responsible Liberal candidate, now a minister of the crown, and that that commitment would be kept. It has not been kept and that is why the present minister is incurring so much displeasure and so much discontent from these people.

I say to the minister that I am not at all satisfied to be handed this sheet of paper in which the minister tells us what was the original sale price offered in 1959, and what the adjusted price is after taking off the \$300 or \$500 as the case may be. This does not tell the committee what it cost C.M.H.C. to build these houses.

This committee has a right to a balance sheet. We have a right to know what it cost C.M.H.C. to buy this property, and to build these houses. We have a right to know how much was collected in rent, how much was written off in depreciation, what the operating costs have been and what the actual cost ought to be now if these people are going to get the houses at cost, as was promised in this letter of June 15, 1962 by the minister of northern affairs. We ought to have a balance sheet. We ought to have some facts—not figures pulled out of the air.

For the minister to get up and say he has a letter from a group of people who had a meeting, saying that a lot of people by a show of hands were prepared to accept this schedule, is completely begging the question. The point at issue is that Liberal members promised they would get these houses at cost.

The tenants are not asking to be subsidized. They are not asking the government for any money. They are not asking C.M.H.C. to give them a handout. But they are asking that the Liberal party keep its promise.

It is very apparent from the sheet of paper which the minister has given us that these people are not going to get their houses at cost, and I say to the minister that before I will be satisfied I want to see a balance sheet. I want to know the actual costs to C.M.H.C. as of this present time. I want to know the figure at which these houses are being carried on the books of C.M.H.C. I want to know what prices would have to be charged these veterans in order to relieve C.M.H.C. of any financial liability with respect to this project and this project alone, because that is what was promised.

I want to know if the minister of northern affairs was correct in his letter of June 15, 1962, when he said these houses were being carried in the books of C.M.H.C. at \$6,600. If he was correct, then the figures which the minister has given to the committee of the prices which they are going to charge, running all the way from \$7,700 to \$10,900, are a form of robbery. This is taking more money from these people than the houses cost, and it represents a complete breach of faith with the people in that constituency who took the minister of northern affairs at his word that these houses would be sold to them at actual book value.

The minister says that the number of persons who have not signed the leases for the increased rentals totals some 52 persons. That does not surprise me, but what does surprise