

Mr. BRONSON: Do you mean the personnel, and the way in which the Commission is organized?

Mr. REID: Yes.

Mr. BRONSON: The first nine pages of this brief are purely historical and factual. If you wish me to read them, I shall of course do so.

Mr. REID: I would suggest that you read the whole thing into the record.

Mr. BRONSON: From the beginning?

Mr. REID: Yes.

Mr. McLEAN: I think, Mr. Chairman, that if the witness reads the brief, the questions on various points will be asked in a more orderly way; each point can be dealt with as it comes up in the brief.

Mr. BRONSON: Then, I shall begin to read the brief from the beginning:

## PART I

*Constitution of the Federal District Commission, its powers and responsibilities, works carried out, total receipts and expenditures, relations with the City of Ottawa and its history while known as the Ottawa Improvement Commission.*

### THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FEDERAL DISTRICT COMMISSION

By Act of Parliament known as the Federal District Commission Act, 1927, Chap. 55—17 Geo. V., the Federal District Commission was constituted. A copy of the Act (with amendments of 1928 and 1943) is herewith as Exhibit No. 1. The Commission is composed of ten members of whom nine are appointed by the Governor-in-Council and one appointed by the Corporation of the City of Ottawa. One of the nine mentioned is required to be a resident of the City of Hull. The Chairman of the Commission is appointed by the Governor-in-Council. The members serve without remuneration.

The Commission is empowered to:

- (a) purchase, acquire and hold real property within such area or district as may from time to time be designated by the Governor-in-Council for the purpose of public parks or squares, streets, avenues, drives, thoroughfares or bridges;
- (b) do, perform and execute all necessary or proper acts or things for the purposes of preparing, building, improving, repairing, maintaining and protecting all or any of the works of or under the control of the Commission, and for preserving order thereon;
- (c) co-operate with any local municipality in the improvement and beautifying of the same or the vicinity thereof by the acquisition, maintenance and improvement of public parks, squares, streets, avenues, drives, thoroughfares or bridges in such municipality or in the vicinity thereof;
- (d) grant concessions for the maintenance of places of refreshment, amusement or shelter, or for the encouragement of sports and games, upon any property under its administration or control, where in the judgment of the Commission it is advisable in the public interest to do so;
- (e) subject to the approval of the Governor-in-Council, sell or lease any real property of the Commission not being a portion of any public park or square, street, avenue, drive or thoroughfare, which is not required for the purposes of the Commission.

This Act provided for the payment to the Commission of an annual grant of \$250,000 for a period not exceeding 16 years from April 1, 1927.