

we are faced with an explosion in tourist population which we are hard pressed to meet in terms of service. Now, the zoning policy, as I understood it, would divide these peculiar western parks into three zones. First of all, there would be your townsite zone, which would recognize the existence of townsites. Modern community planning has been going forward for a reasonable period of time I understand, under the direction Dr. Oberlander, an eminent authority in this field. He has endeavoured to bring the townsite or the zone 1 of these western national parks into line with the standards of beauty required in these national parks. Zone 2 area would provide services for the growing tourist population; it would be a fringe area. The zone 3 area would be wilderness, pristine pure. In other words this is the one way to defend the wilderness concept against any further encroachment. It would be done by careful planning over a long term period. Now is this still the basic policy of the department in respect of these western parks?

Mr. CÔTÉ: Mr. Chairman, I think I would answer that question in the affirmative, that the intention is to have zoning regulations for the parks where there are townsites. Mr. Dinsdale is quite right in saying that the problems in the western parks are quite different from the more recent eastern parks. By and large in the eastern parks there has been an attempt to have the townsite outside the limits of the national park. We have to take the parks as they are handed down to us from the previous generations. I may say, looking back on the history of some of these parks, that there has been a conscious effort with some of them in particular and in many of them, I should think, to do proper townsite planning. Jasper was the object before. It was established under proper townsite planning. Because of the population pressures that come along there is the need to provide this service for the visitors who have come to enjoy these parks in a true recreational fashion. It is enjoyment, and it is recreative of the spirit of man to commune with nature. But, at the same time, one must have a good bed for those who want it; those who want to camp should have an opportunity to camp, and we have to provide for the visiting public, which is growing in increasing numbers, the opportunity to enjoy the parks now and in the future. There is at the moment a zoning regulation which is being carefully worked out for Banff and it is hoped to have the approval of these zoning regulations in the near future, after consultation, naturally. I think that answers your question.

The CHAIRMAN: You have a question, Mr. Dinsdale.

Mr. DINSDALE: Yes. I am pleased to hear that the zoning principle still applies. Could Mr. Côté indicate whether there has been any commencement on the Oberlander plan for Banff and/or Jasper, and has he reported on Waskesiu? I believe there was an announcement in 1964 that he had begun his study of long term planning for Waskesiu, the Prince Albert national park.

Mr. CÔTÉ: So far as the Banff plan is concerned, we are moving toward the implementation of the concept of the Oberlander report. So far as Jasper is concerned we are having a further look at it; there are problems arising out of this, the basic one, of course, being the radical concept which would have entailed the removal of the railway, and this is going to be far too expensive to