

into practice you have to live with the consequences. Do we know what kind of consequences we will have economically given the various parties directly interested in this project? As I said before, there are 27 municipalities, two regional Governments and three major Governments involved.

● (1630)

[Translation]

To sum up, Mr. Speaker, I think, as I already said, that this problem should really be studied and, consequently, I propose that the Bill be withdrawn and the subject matter referred to the Justice and Solicitor General Committee.

[English]

Mr. David Daubney (Ottawa West): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to participate in this debate. As you may know, I am the only Member on the Government side whose riding is located entirely within the boundaries of the City of Ottawa, so I feel obliged to rise in defence of this great city once more. As you may recall, I spoke in debate when this issue was raised the first time, I believe just over a year ago. I do not wish to repeat what I said then but I do want to take a few minutes to outline some of my concerns once more. I trust that you, Mr. Speaker, as a resident of the City of Ottawa since first being elected in 1968, and as a person wise and fortunate enough to marry a girl from a distinguished Ottawa family, will have some interest in what I have to say.

I would first congratulate both my colleagues on their speeches and say that I agree entirely with their remarks. As the Hon. Member for Vaudreuil (Mr. Cadieux) stated, Ottawa was chosen by Queen Victoria because it offered many advantages, which it continues to offer today. Its people and its culture were a hybrid of our two founding peoples. It was located on the border of Upper and Lower Canada. It had and still has great natural beauty.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order, please. I appreciate the very kind words from the Hon. Member, but I must tell him that he did speak on the amendment and therefore it is very difficult for me to recognize him again.

Mr. Daubney: I stand to be corrected, but I believe I spoke on the main motion and not the amendment. I will take your direction in that regard.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I regret to inform the Hon. Member that I have *Hansard* here of Tuesday, January 29, and he spoke on the amendment to Bill C-207. I was looking forward to a great speech and I want to thank the Hon. Member for his very kind words, but I must recognize the Hon. Member for Northumberland-Miramichi (Mr. Jardine).

Mr. W. R. Bud Jardine (Northumberland-Miramichi): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to carry on from where my hon. friend left off. This Bill addresses the desirability of changing the boundaries of the national capital of Canada to include the City of Hull and any additional area which the Canadian

Constitution Act, 1867

Parliament might designate in future. More specifically, this proposed amendment would authorize Parliament to make the boundary of the nation's capital identical with that of the boundary of the National Capital Region as currently defined in the National Capital Act. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight for my colleagues several thoughts on this matter. I would like to consider an historical perspective to this question which will provide my friends here with a better appreciation of the issue. I trust this will enable us to move forward into the future with a greater understanding of the ramifications of this proposed legislation.

We are all aware of the extraordinary beauty of our capital, both as a city and in its regional environmental context. Herbert Holt, who chaired the 1915 Federal Plan Commission studying the future prospects for the capital, noted the following in his report:

In some respects Ottawa was happily chosen for its role. It lies on the banks of a great and beautiful river, the Ottawa, and has direct communication by water with the mighty St. Lawrence, which discharges the waters of the Great Lakes. Two subsidiary rivers flow into the Ottawa near the site of the capital; the Gatineau, which comes through a picturesque valley from the North, and the Rideau which reaches the Ottawa from the South. Two striking waterfalls, the Chaudiere and the Rideau lie within the borders of Ottawa.

A canal of the dimensions of a river passes through the heart of the city, and is available not merely for commerce but for recreation. Parliament Hill is a high bluff rising 150 feet from the Ottawa River. Looking northward across this river, the observer has in view the Laurentian Mountains stretching away into the distance and still covered, in part, by the primeval forest. London, Paris, and Washington are all great capitals, each of them situated on the banks of a river, but none of them has the natural beauty of Ottawa. Nature, indeed, offers a direct invitation to make this northern capital one of the most beautiful in the world.

Holt goes on to demonstrate a clear concern for the future growth of the capital and the regional context:

—looking to the future growth and development of the city of Ottawa and the city of Hull, and their environs, and particularly providing, for the location, laying out and beautification of parks and connecting boulevards, the location and architectural character of public buildings and adequate and convenient arrangements for traffic and transportation within the area in question.

The person who left the most enduring legacy in the creation of our capital is, of course, Jacques Greber. This noted French architect was called on by Prime Minister Mackenzie King to develop the plan which, by and large, has laid the foundation for our capital and the development of the National Capital Region to date. Greber was very conscious of the mission of a capital city and, as he noted, the capital is a very special place, of special importance. It reflects and must respond to a unique mission which is at once constitutional, national and international. He said:

A capital is the reflection, the symbol of the whole nation.

With this observation he encapsulated the ideas of heritage and the expression of the capital as a manifestation and symbolic representation of the original frontiers of the country; the initial link between the two major cultures which settled our country, and the thought that the capital is the unique representative of the confederated provinces and forms the heart of the nation.

Today, times have changed. The people and Government of Canada have evolved. However, these messages from the past