

Canadian World Exhibition Corporation

On the other hand, since the Point St. Charles area is situated in my riding, next to Montreal harbour, near the Dorval air terminal, I wonder whether the minister could not commit himself a little and give us an indication regarding the site?

Mr. Sevigny: Mr. Chairman, I can assure the hon. member that I would like to commit myself, if I could. I know the Point St. Charles area very well, and I appreciate the reasons which lead the hon. member to try and influence the committee's choice so that it would fall on Point St. Charles as exhibition site.

For the moment, I am unable to be more definite.

May I tell him that there are, on the island of Montreal, six or seven possible sites for the exhibition. Of course, we shall proceed by elimination and, eventually, make a final choice which, as I hope, will meet with general approval.

Mr. Lachance: Mr. Chairman, the minister mentioned a moment ago the committee which has been set up and has studied up to now the problem of the universal exhibition. He stated also that this committee would pursue its activity.

Do I understand that this committee will continue to function after the establishment of the world exhibition corporation, or will it immediately stop its activities so that the corporation will remain the only body entrusted with the task?

Mr. Sevigny: Mr. Chairman, once the Canadian World Exhibition Corporation is established, the activities of the committee will necessarily be limited. But, anyway, the company will be responsible to three governments, that is, the federal, provincial and municipal governments.

The present committee is composed of a representative of the federal committee and his colleagues, of a representative of the provincial committee, and a representative of the municipal committee and their assistant staff.

As we shall be always consulted with regard to this project, it is to be expected that the committee, in its actual or improved form, will continue to function.

Mr. Pigeon: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister a question. Did he receive any questions from the town of Repentigny and any representations on behalf of some public bodies in Montreal, claiming that the

[Mr. Loisel.]

exhibition should be located in the east of Montreal, where several hundred acres of land are available?

Mr. Sevigny: Yes, Mr. Chairman, we did receive some representations from businessmen in the east of the city, and from almost every single municipality in Montreal. Those representations and requests will be submitted to the committee where they will be studied with the greatest care, and the choice of the site will be made with due regard for the representations that have been made.

Mr. Boulanger: Mr. Chairman, in his statement, this afternoon, the minister mentioned the names of some people who had participated in the preliminary research work. Could he give us the names of those who took part in the initial organization work which included the preparation of the bill we will pass tonight?

Mr. Sevigny: Mr. Chairman, it is a pleasure for me to give that information.

The federal government was represented by the hon. member for Longueuil, who is known to everyone in the house, and his executive assistant, Mr. Gaston Levesque, the assistant deputy minister of trade and commerce, Mr. Leslie Brown, and the representative of that federal department, Mr. Glen Bannerman. There was also a representative from the federal Department of Justice.

The provincial delegates we had the pleasure of dealing with included the Hon. Andre Rousseau, a good friend of mine who, I hope, will remain as interested in the exhibition as before, in spite of what happened to him recently. There was also the minister of trade and industry, Mr. Gerard Levesque, and his deputy minister, Mr. Bernard Tremblay.

I wish also to emphasize the excellent cooperation we received in Paris from Mr. Charles Lussier who is the general delegate of the province of Quebec.

Of course everybody is aware of the wonderful job done by the mayor of Montreal, Mr. Jean Drapeau who was skilfully assisted by Mr. Valmore Gratton and Mr. Lucien Hetu.

Mr. Lessard (St. Henry): Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the minister could tell us how many locations are being considered at the present time?

The Deputy Chairman: Order. May I suggest to the hon. members who are particularly interested in this item, that they should reserve their remarks until we discuss clause