

The fact is, nearly all recommendations coming from members of parliament are of the nature of violent protests again the cutting down of services within their ridings. As a matter of fact, members are always anxious to have the services increased in their own ridings.

I am very sincere when I say that we would welcome any recommendation you could make which would result in a more efficient and better job being done. We would welcome any such recommendation. If after studying it we found that a recommendation was upheld, we would certainly take the appropriate action.

Mr. FISHER: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to state in regard to my own riding that I have been very pleased with the services of the Department of Transport as I have seen them. I think these services are done on a very high plain. From what I have seen around the Fort William and Port Arthur harbours, I would say that we are receiving full value from the men employed there.

Mr. HEES: Thank you.

Mr. McDONALD (*Hamilton South*): I would like to say the same in respect of Hamilton.

Mr. HEES: I am sure that it is the same for all of you. I think all the members may just as well be placed on the record as having said that.

Mr. HOWARD: I was wondering if you were going to ask for a vote on that.

Mr. HEES: I am sure it would be unanimous, Mr. Howard.

Mr. HOWARD: I would like to express my ideas in respect of the suggestion just made by the minister. I know the suggestion was made in all sincerity, but I would be reluctant to delve into the details of the administration of a branch of a department to see if it was being run efficiently or not. I would rather see this investigation carried out by these people who conduct the unit surveys now, or some comparable group. This could be done by a group having knowledge of administrative structures and of business management, or something of that nature. They would be in a position to relate their appreciation of the relative efficiency of any branch of the department to the department itself. I do not think members of parliament would be capable of carrying out such an investigation, and for that reason I personally would be reluctant to do this.

Mr. HEES: What I had reference to, Mr. Howard, was that if you had an airport, a harbour, a canal or another operation of that type in your riding, and it seemed to you that every tie you passed through that airport, or stood on a dock, or happened to be in the vicinity where these operations were being carried out, that there were a lot of people standing around, or that an operation did not appear to you to be efficient, it would be appreciated if you would pass that information along to us. Then, without having delved into the situation ourselves, but with this information, we could take a very serious look at the situation.

Mr. WRATTEN: We have been trying to take an airport off your hands for quite a while.

Mr. HEES: I sincerely hope we will be able to work that problem out.

Mr. PASCOE: Mr. Chairman, I have had several letters from people residing in my constituency in regard to the slow payment for the purchase of land. Did I understand the deputy minister to say that the passing of item 628 would have the effect of speeding up these payments?

Mr. BALDWIN: This particular item relates to the personnel in eastern Canada. We are hoping to make some improvement in the next estimates for western Canada.