

*Supply—Northern Affairs*

carefully. My department and other departments concerned have also been studying it. As to any announcement, that would, of course, be made in the ordinary way on the floor of the house after a decision had been reached.

**FISHERIES**

## INQUIRY AS TO CONSISTENCY OF AMENDING BILL AND BILL OF RIGHTS

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** I wonder if I might ask the Minister of Justice whether he has had an opportunity to examine Bill No. C-76, in the name of the hon. member for Burin-Burgeo, to see whether any of its provisions are inconsistent with the bill of rights.

**Hon. E. D. Fulton (Minister of Justice):** That matter was discussed when the bill to amend the Fisheries Act was before the house, and I have nothing to add to what I had to say then.

**SUPPLY**

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Chown in the chair.

## DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL RESOURCES

National parks branch—

283. Branch administration, national parks and historic sites and monuments, \$268,584.

**Mr. Winch:** Vote No. 283 has to do with the administration of the national parks branch, and includes the national parks and historic sites and monuments sections. I should like to speak for a few minutes on the aspect of historic sites and monuments. In this house in the past I have always given every support I possibly could to the establishment and maintenance of historic sites and monuments. I have also expressed the view that we are not paying sufficient attention to this question, and that we are not spending sufficient money on it. I have expressed my belief that this section does not have sufficient personnel to be able to devote sufficient care to a matter which is important now and which will be increasingly important in the years ahead with the development of Canada.

In the past I have spoken in generalities in support of the work of this section of the national parks branch, but this afternoon I should like to do something which I have not done before and particularize on a matter which is of great concern to myself and to my constituency. I should like to ask the minister and the departmental officials in charge of this branch to give consideration to the establishment of an historic site in

Vancouver East. I am certain that all hon. members will realize that Vancouver is the largest city in western Canada and the third largest city in Canada and that, as a port on the Pacific coast, it is the gateway to the Pacific. As development takes place, there is no question at all that Vancouver, important as it is now to the Canadian economy, will grow in importance.

I realize that the officials of the national historic sites and monuments board are interested in the development of sites of national interest, but I suggest that no site is of interest only in a national respect but must also be of interest to provincial and local authorities. I understand that attention has been drawn to a particular historic site in Vancouver, and it happens that the site to which I have reference is situated in the constituency of Vancouver East. This site is in the northeastern section of my riding and by the grace of the fates, or by the grace of God, it is the most important historic site on the Pacific coast.

I refer to a five acre plot of land which is now being used as pasture and as a playground for children. This area of land has not been desecrated by the development of industry, the establishment of buildings, or the expansion of the exhibition board in Vancouver. The city of Vancouver began its growth on this five acre site in the northeastern section of Vancouver East. The first government administration was originally located on this site, as well as the first post office and the first customs collection office.

Perhaps I could take a few moments to give the historic background of this area and its importance not only to the city of Vancouver and the province of British Columbia but to the whole of Canada. The area is bordered by Burrard inlet. The first settlement of what is now the city of Vancouver was in this area in 1869. In the same year Mr. O. M. Hocking built the first barn, established the first float, and saw the first bridge built over Burrard inlet from this site. In 1869 Mr. Hocking was the first customs collection officer on the Pacific coast, and in that same year the first post office on the Pacific coast was established in that same area. Also at that time the first telegraph system was started on the Pacific coast, known as the Brighton telegraph company. Mr. Hocking could perhaps be regarded as a squatter at that time, because it was not until a few years later that the first blocks of land were put up for sale. It was as a result of that sale that the first post office, first customs collection office, and the first hotel, the New Brighton, were established.

I think it is significant that during the establishment of all these firsts, to which I