

REPORTING PARLIAMENT BRIEFLY

DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL: In moving a resolution providing for annual appropriations for the development of the City of Ottawa as the National Capital, the Prime Minister, Mr. King, in the House of Commons on June 28, concluded as follows:--

"...I should like to emphasize to hon. members how the whole position of the capital has altered within very recent years. I remember when I first came into office there was not a foreign mission in this country, nor did we have a single mission representing Canada in a foreign country. We had no representatives in Canada from any of the other Dominions, nor from the United Kingdom. We had one representative of our own in the person of the High Commissioner in London, and we had a representative of Canada in Paris, but apart from those two representatives of the Government there were no representatives here from the Governments of the United Kingdom or the other Dominions and none from the heads of foreign states. There were no legations and no embassies. There are now something like twenty-five different missions established right here in this capital. The representatives of various countries require accommodation in the city, and more will be coming.

CONFERENCE CENTRE

"Further may I point out how the capital has increasingly become the centre for important conventions, of conferences, Dominion conferences, Commonwealth conferences, international conferences, and the like. We have had one visit to our Capital from their Majesties the King and Queen. I think we may look forward to the day when the King and Queen will reside for part of the year in the capital of Canada. I am saying nothing at the moment about such matters as tourist traffic, and the importance to Canada of what has been done in its capital to attract visitors to our country. As all hon. members know, the capital of a country is a centre of attraction, and we must look forward to the development of Ottawa in the light of that larger vision. Moreover, the public buildings and public thoroughfares of a capital should lend inspiration to its position as a centre of the culture of the nation, its arts, letters, science and government. Countries are more or less known by their capitals.

"When one thinks of other countries, of France, for instance, we think of Paris and how beautifully it is laid out; when we think of Italy, we think of Rome; when we think of the United Kingdom, we think of London; when we think of the United States, we think of Washington; indeed, when we think of Greece and Italy, even as they were in ancient times we are still able to see how Athens and Rome were planned centuries ago.

"I believe, as I think all hon. members of this House believe, that Canada may have a future greater than that of any of the countries which I have mentioned. The day will come, I believe, when this Dominion will hold the first place among the nations of the British Commonwealth. The United Kingdom will always be its spiritual centre, if you wish to use that expression, but even today this Dominion of Canada is the most fortunate country in the world. It has possibilities of development which no other country begins to possess. The proposal which the Government is bringing forward today in the form of a resolution has been framed with a view to the helping to meet the needs of Canada's capital in the present. It also, and even more, seeks to anticipate the needs of Canada's capital in the future as we believe that future will shape our country. We desire a capital adequate at all times to the country's needs. We desire, above all else, a capital worthy of the high place that Canada holds in the world today and of the Canada that is yet to be."

FRASER VALLEY REHABILITATION: The following is partial text of the statement on the Relief and Rehabilitation in the Fraser Valley, made by the Prime Minister in the House of Commons on June 25:--

"After consultation with the Fraser Valley Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, established by the Governments of Canada and of British Columbia, the two Governments have agreed that the assistance to be given by the Government of Canada to British Columbia in helping to meet the requirements for emergency relief and for the rehabilitation of the flooded areas in the Fraser Valley arising out of the national disaster created by the floods shall take the form of a lump sum grant by the Federal to the Provincial Government of \$5,000,000. It has been agreed by the two Governments that this grant will be understood to cover the share of the Government of Canada in temporary emergency relief, as well as the share of financial liability for measures of rehabilitation which the Government of Canada agreed to accept, in accordance with the announcement made in the House of Commons on June 9.

75 PER CENT OF REPAIR COSTS

"In addition to the lump sum grant of \$5,000,000 for relief and rehabilitation, the Government of Canada will provide 75% of the costs of repairing, strengthening and reconstructing the dykes in the Fraser Valley and removing water and debris from the flooded land, and the Provincial Government will provide the remaining 25% of these costs. The two Governments have agreed to establish a Fraser Valley Dyking Board that will carry on this