

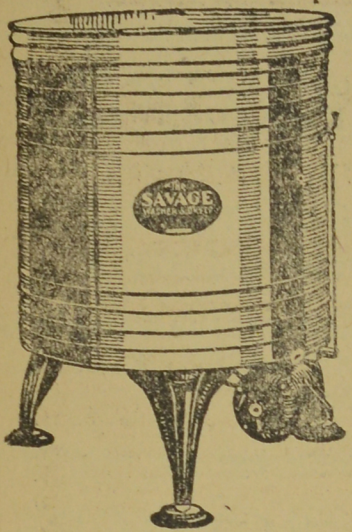
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HON. MR. BENNETT AND PREMIER KING TAKE PART IN DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN PARLIAMENT

Ottawa, Jan. 30—Before a full attended House and packed galleries, in one of which were President William T. Cosgrove of the Irish Free State and his colleagues, and Hon. William Phillips, United States Minister to Canada, Hon. R. B. Bennett, leader of the Opposition, in his effort in that capacity, delivered a memorable speech dissecting the Speech from the Throne, exposing to the light the claims of the Government to a greatly increasing prosperity and flatly and confidently contradicting the declarations of the King ministry of the existence of an enlarged status for this country on the British Commonwealth of Nations.

Premier Mackenzie King, who followed, was unable, before adjournment at 6 o'clock, to dispose of all matters raised by Mr. Bennett and will resume his speech tomorrow afternoon.

General applause throughout the House greeted the feeling references, as well of those of Hon. Mr. Bennett, to the sudden passing of Earl Haig, and the announcement of the Prime Minister that he had this morning cabled condolences to the distinguished soldier's widow.

Equally general and spontaneous was the applause of the House for the reference of the Prime Minister to the presence in Ottawa and in the gallery at the time of President Cosgrove, who this evening will be the guest of honor at a dinner tendered by the government.

Hon. Mr. Bennett

Challenging the claims made in the Throne Speech to increased prosperity in the Dominion, Mr. Bennett pointed to the adverse trade movement (increase of imports and decrease of exports,) to unemployment in western centres, to reduction in the net receipts of the Canadian Pacific and Canadian National Railways, and to the rapid depletion of Canada's natural wealth. "We are," he declared at this juncture, "exhausting and selling our estate. There is assured no future prosperity for a nation that does this." There was a steady diminution in the population engaged in producing the country's new wealth.

Mr. Bennett demanded for parliament the production by the government of a précis of the recent Dominion-Provincial conference so that Federal legislators would intelligently deal with the matters arising therefrom and the proposed legislation re-

lated thereto. He urged speedy and complete fulfillment of the recommendations of the Duncan Report and introduced at this session a measure to provide for the return to Alberta of her natural resources. He twitted the government for not accepting as final the decision last year of the Supreme Court of Canada on the question of the validity of the Alberta Act.

The government's "boast" of a two status of equality within the Empire was Mr. Bennett declared, quite without justification. He declared that the present government should not boast of an accomplishment not yet a fact and that could never be a fact so long as the Colonial Laws Validity Act remained on the statute books at Westminster.

"We on this side," he said, "will not be parties to a subterfuge by which it is sought to be shown that what we only aspire to has been accomplished. So long as the Colonial Laws Validity Act remains we must continue in our inferior position."

Premier King Replies

Premier King early in his speech took issue with Mr. Bennett on the subject of immigration and unemployment. The unemployment situation had not been better for years, and the government did not propose to extend immigration to the point where it would bring about unemployment. Building statistics, bank returns and the debt reduction were brought into the speech to prove the prosperity of Canada.

A glimpse into the budget possibilities was offered to the House when the Prime Minister said he would be much surprised if the minister of finance would not announce "a reduction in the public debt, a surplus, and further tax reductions."

St. Lawrence Waterways

The Prime Minister took occasion to give the House the first official statement on the St. Lawrence waterway situation since the advisory committee concluded its work. The government, he said, was communicating with the United States to obtain the views of that country on certain fundamental points which had been recommended by the advisory committee, and until the government of the United States had replied, he could not say how far the negotiations would proceed. The question of federal and provincial rights in connection with the waterway had been referred to the Supreme Court of Canada by an order-in-council recently passed.

BETTER PROTECTION OF THE SALMON FISHERIES IS URGED BY ALLAN G. McAVITY AND OTHERS

Saint John, Jan. 31—Persistent interference with fishery officers by politicians was notorious and had in the past been responsible in a great degree for the indifference of officers who are paid to protect the fisheries, stated Allan G. McAvity, president of the New Brunswick Fish and Game Protective Association, chief witness before the Royal Fisheries Commission on Monday afternoon. He suggested that the appointment of all officers should be based on merit, rather than political influence. He also suggested that in New Brunswick, the department accept nominations made by the New Brunswick Fish and Game Protective Association, or at least invite the approval of this organization.

Much good could be done, Mr. McAvity submitted, toward administering the laws in New Brunswick if a commission, independent of political parties, were formed consisting of five members, who would derive their salaries from the receipts through the selling of licenses and the collection of fines.

The Royal Commission, which will hold sessions here for three days, investigating into the fisheries of the province, particularly those of Saint John city and county, began the taking of evidence in the Court House at 10.30 o'clock Monday morning. Six witnesses testified before adjournment at 12.30 o'clock. At noon the members were guests of the Rotary Club at dinner in the Admiral Beatty Hotel.

Witnesses Examined.

Mr. McAvity and J. D. McKenna were heard on behalf of the New Brunswick Fish and Game Protective Association at the afternoon sitting. Thomas F. Allen, manager of the Tobique Salmon Club, submitted a report and seven representatives of the fishermen at points along the coast were heard with regard to local conditions of the industry. These delegates came from Chance Harbor, Dipper Harbor, Lorneville and Mispic and with one voice favored the extension of the present lobster fishing season and more severe restrictions on the catching and placing on the market of lobsters under the nine-inch limit.

Mr. McAvity was the first witness called. He declared that all classes of fishermen, the drift netter, trap owner, fly fisherman and net owner should be prepared to sacrifice some of their privileges in the interests of all. Rivers, he said, should be kept absolutely free of obstruction for a certain period each week during the salmon running season.

He referred to the destruction which was being wrought in New Brunswick through illegal poaching on branch rivers. This was carried in various ways, through set nets, drag nets and even dynamiting.

Suggestions Made.

The following suggestions were handed to the commission by Mr. McAvity on behalf of the New Brunswick Fish and Game Protective Association:

1. That licenses for trap fishing be continued, but the use of wire netting be prohibited and that steps be taken to see that all nets are lifted from time to time as required by law.

2. That the present annual fee of \$1 for nets be continued, but that it be applied to all rivers of New Brunswick.

3. Drift Nets—In regard to drift nets, it is recommended that they be restricted to four days per week and that nets in excess of 700 fathoms be prohibited.

4. Trap Nets—Owners of trap nets on the Miramichi have agreed to forego the right to fish during the last two weeks in August, and it is suggested that fishery officers confer with those interested in trap nets to see if some reasonable arrangement cannot be made which will contribute to the assurance that fish be given reasonable freedom to reach the spawning grounds.

da by an order-in-council recently passed.

The Prime Minister was still speaking when the House rose at 6 o'clock. He will continue his part in the debate on Tuesday.

Tonight members of parliament and senators are attending the government dinner to President Cosgrove of the Irish Free State.

5. It is also suggested that such potential salmon rivers as the Kennebecasis should secure greater protection. It is notorious that this river has been netted and that salmon have been illegally destroyed by other methods for some years past. There is no permanent fishery overseer engaged on this river which acts as a feeder to the fishermen in Saint John harbor and those who use drift nets further out to sea. Without doubt the Kennebecasis, with reasonable protection, can be made a strong contributing factor to the supply of merchantable fish in tidal waters.

Some Improvement Seen.

It was quite possible, continued Mr. McAvity, for the fishermen at the mouths of the river to take every thing. Therefore, it was necessary to protect the fishermen up river through adequate laws.

"Has there been any improvement in the protection of the rivers, during the last year or so?" asked Mr. Pearson.

"I think there has been a little improvement," replied Mr. McAvity, "yet there is plenty of room for improvement still. Unless there is something done soon, however, we will be defrauding our tourists. The province through advertising wonderful fishing, will be unable to deliver the goods."

He quoted an instance of dynamiting in the Kennebecasis River, not very long ago, which he had promptly reported to the provincial warden, who, he said, replied that it was none of his business.

T. F. Allen.

Thomas F. Allen, superintendent of the Tobique Salmon Club declared that the salmon fishing was one of the greatest assets of Canada and provided the supply for the United States as well. He predicted that the erection of a power dam such as was planned for Meductic Falls on the Saint John river, would mean the total destruction of salmon fishing in the Bay of Fundy, and the Saint John river as well, as no fishway could be erected in a dam of such height that would admit enough salmon to justify expenditure in protecting them. With no spawning beds, they would try to seek out other rivers for such a purpose.

The Bay of Fundy and the Saint John river were so depleted of salmon when the system of protection was begun on the Tobique in 1890, he said, that it was not profitable to even use a net for catching them. During the first year the members took only seven salmon. It was not long, however, before 100 were being taken each season, the result of protecting the parent fish until permitted to spawn.

Enemies of Salmon.

Seal, Mr. Allen said, was the worst enemy of salmon, while shell-drake, kingfishers and other birds were very destructive. Otter, fisher and mink wrought havoc with the small fish in shallow pools and trout and eels were very fond of salmon eggs.

He referred to the assistance hatcheries had been in the restocking rivers with salmon, producing many more than could be produced naturally. He also spoke highly of the work of the Fish and Game Protective Association.

Co-operation Needed.

"I believe," declared Mr. Allen, "that the Saint John and Miramichi rivers can be made into very fine rivers for salmon angling, but we must have the co-operation of the natives. What is needed is rigid protection. It cannot be expected that salmon will rise to the fly in a pool that has been netted, speared or dynamited the night before. An improvement in this fishery means an increase in the number of sport fishermen and thousands of dollars more into the pockets of the people and also to the government.

"Angling on these two rivers should stop not later than Sept. 1 each year, as they have early run fish. Fishing is now open until Oct. 1. By that time of the year the salmon are on the spawning grounds, are dark, slimy and not fit for food. Nets should be removed from the water not later than Sept. 1. It was only a few years ago that netting stopped on Aug. 15."

Automobile Poachers.

Good roads and automobiles were playing their part toward increasing the number of poachers, he declared, and these, many of them, came from across the border.

He spoke a good word for the so-called "millionaires", toward which he said, there was a prejudice. These men were willing to pay good prices for their outings and were anxious to improve conditions in every way.

J. D. McKenna suggested that if some arrangement could be made for the destruction of shell-drake it would prove a great benefit to the conservation of the salmon fishing. These birds were increasing every year, he declared, and although protected by the migratory bird act, were about the most destructive enemies of the salmon.

Last year, he asserted, there was a great improvement in the fishing on the Miramichi. He urged the co-operation of the officials of the Dominion and local governments. New Brunswick, at the present time, was deriving a large income through the leasing of salmon rivers, but there were others which, if properly protected, would prove as remunerative to the province.

THREE CHILDREN PERISH IN THEIR OWN HOME

Gardner, Mass., Jan. 30—The three small children of John Szymakowski, farmer, perished yesterday in a fire which destroyed their home. They were Jennie, 4; Frank, 2½, and Mary, age 1 year.

Mrs. Szymakowski left the children in the kitchen while she milked a cow. A pot of fat which was on the stove boiled over. Instantly the kitchen was a mass of flames. Efforts to save the children were in vain.

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CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY HELD ITS ANNUAL

(Continued From Page Eight.)

Organizations and Societies 135.00
"At Home" 46.24
Other receipts 44.80

Total cash for the year \$4594.80

Of the above "subscriptions" \$1304.24 was solicited by the Rotary Club.

Expenditures

Salaries \$1200.00
Groceries, meats, etc. 533.11
Laundry 90.61
Milk 173.06
Dry Goods, etc. 119.14
Boots & Shoes, etc. 39.69
Help in the Home 319.10
School Books, etc. 23.26
Apothecaries' supplies 34.10
Coal & Wood 353.94
Repairs to Furnace 105.85
Furnishings 61.18
Xmas expenses, (contributed) 20.00
Agent's Expenses 15.00
Repairs to the Home 662.23
Maritime Electric Co. 21.75
Telephone 24.00
Water, etc. 13.00
Miscellaneous 109.64

\$3698.76
Cash balance on hand 896.04

\$4594.80

\$500 of the grant from the City was a special to assist in paying for improvements in the Home.

The annual report of Miss Jean Cooper agent of the society was read and adopted. It showed that the total number of children at the home during the year was nineteen and that there were eight at the close of the year.

A young man, son of a local merchant was fined \$50 and costs when he appeared before Police Magistrate Limerick this afternoon, charged by the Board of Health with breaking quarantine, some time ago. The young man pleaded guilty to the charge and the above fine imposed.

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Broken Plates Repaired in 3 Hours

Best Crown and Bridge Work \$5 per tooth
Gold fillings, \$2. Silver fillings, \$1.
Porcelain fillings, \$1.50

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