

probably, if I expressed my opinion on the matter, it might not weaken the minister's hand in any way.

Lest some word I have said may be taken as a reflection on the man in charge of the fish hatchery, let me hasten to observe that at all times I have heard that the man in charge is efficient and very much interested in the development of fishing facilities in the park, but that perhaps he has not had at all times adequate financial support. If that should be found to be the case, may I urge that an unusual effort be made to provide him with the amount of money he considers necessary adequately to support the provision of sufficient fishing facilities within the park?

Item agreed to.

Lands, parks and forests branch.

158. Grant to John Thomas (Jack) Miner, \$2,500.

Mr. MacNICOL: The minister himself is familiar with the splendid work that has been and is being done by Jack Miner, and I am sure he regrets as much as I do the reduction in this vote from \$4,000 to \$2,500. On one occasion when I was at Jack Miner's during last spring there were, as estimated by those who are capable of making such estimates, some 30,000 geese on the place, and I learned then that this number had grown from perhaps half a dozen that were there two or three decades ago when Jack Miner first began his conservation work. I often think the Canadian government, while he is living, ought to propose some testimonial of appreciation of the wonderful work he has done. He uses four hundred acres of land and raises 14,000 bushels of corn which he feeds yearly to the geese. It is a great sight to see the geese in the spring and fall, and multitudes of people go there in their cars to see this natural spectacle.

Mr. CRERAR: I think there is a general recognition of the splendid work that Mr. Miner has done and I regret as much as anyone else that the vote has been reduced to \$2,500. Only the urgent need of conserving our financial resources wherever possible for the purposes of the war makes it necessary. In addition to this, he gets a salary of \$750 a year from the government for part-time service as game warden, so that will help a little.

Item agreed to.

[Mr. Blackmore.]

Lands, parks and forests branch.

National parks bureau—

191. National parks, \$171,125.

Mr. KUHLE: This is reduced by 80 per cent. That is a drastic cut in the appropriation for national parks. The government has been taking various means of conserving foreign exchange in Canada and this reduction seems to me to be penny-wise and pound-foolish, if the minister does wish to conserve foreign exchange. According to the "Canada Year Book", the money brought in by tourists from the United States is considerably in excess of the money which is received from the wheat crop. The money brought in by United States tourists in 1938 amounted to \$253,000,000, and the valuation of the entire wheat crop of Canada, not merely exports but the entire crop, was \$205,351,000. The government is overlooking a lucrative source of United States funds in cutting down the vote for national parks to this extent, because this is one of the easiest means of securing United States dollars. The government should do everything possible to improve our parks so as to attract tourists. Little advertising would then be needed. The best advertising is to put the parks in A-1 condition so as to make them extremely attractive. I am informed that the road from the town of Jasper to the west gate has been allowed to deteriorate to such an extent that many tourists turn back. Has that condition been reported to the minister? It is a regrettable state of affairs especially when there is such an opportunity of obtaining United States funds by attracting tourists.

The same criticism can be made of practically every department of government. The reason for the reduction in appropriations is that there may be more money for Canada's war effort. That is a poor policy. The Minister of Finance has said that whatever is physically possible in this country must become financially possible, but that is not the situation with regard to what I have mentioned. These roads are not being kept up, but this is not for any lack of road material or manpower but because of the financial policy of the government. It is high time that the government changed its financial policy so that all these requirements could be met. Every question dealt with in this house is sooner or later met with the same answer—we have not the money. It is childish in the extreme that in every instance we have to admit that we cannot do what is necessary because we have not the tickets. We have