

## Supply—Northern Affairs

(Text):

## CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR RESUMPTION OF PROGRAM  
"THE NATION'S BUSINESS"

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Bonavista-Twillin-gate):** Some days ago I asked the Minister of National Revenue if he would make an inquiry of the C.B.C. I wonder if he has the answer.

**Hon. George C. Nowlan (Minister of National Revenue):** I have not, Mr. Speaker, at the moment. I only returned last night, but I will have the answer to the question tomorrow.

## SUPPLY

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

DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN AFFAIRS AND  
NATIONAL RESOURCES

266. Departmental administration, \$731,410.

**Mr. Fairfield:** Last night I had been discussing jurisdictional difficulties in connection with conservation programs because of provincial jurisdiction in those areas over our natural resources. Many hon. members in this house know there are private groups which are endeavouring to carry out conservation projects in their own provinces and at their own expense. In western Canada we have game and fish associations which are actively trying their best, without much help from the federal government, to carry on conservation projects. These projects have had a great effect in our part of the country particularly because the game and fish are a great tourist attraction and consequently mean a great deal to our provincial treasuries in so far as the tourist dollar is concerned.

It is my understanding that for the past two years there has been a movement under way to establish a national wildlife conservation foundation. I believe the purpose and scope of this foundation has aroused widespread public support, and many prominent Canadians are giving it their whole-hearted backing. I believe the minister of northern affairs already has some knowledge of this movement.

It seems to me that a national conservation foundation, supported financially by this government and by private enterprise, could do for Canada what similar bodies are doing for other countries, and if truly national in its representation could offer logical and much

[Mr. Fulton.]

needed means of bridging the gap between the efforts of federal and provincial governments and private bodies concerned in the field of wildlife management.

I understand that the architects of this plan have drafted a constitution which would guarantee that the proposed foundation would not infringe on the rights, or overlap the functions, of any existing agency, but that it would indeed be the vehicle for much needed financial assistance to all existing programs, provincial and private; would offer scholarship within the whole broad scope of resource management; would support scientific research, especially through universities, and would institute what is today so badly needed, namely a wildlife management and national conservation information service.

I hope at the appropriate time the government will give very serious consideration to the proposal to be put forward for the establishment of this independent foundation. I believe that government support would immediately result in the contribution by private enterprise in all parts of Canada, and on a continuing basis, of possibly hundreds of thousands and perhaps even million of dollars to the cause of resource conservation, and the development and utilization of those resources.

**Mr. Fisher:** I should like to congratulate the chairman of the committee which considered the estimates of this department. I was able to take part in the committee, in the forestry aspect. I was quite impressed with the interest of the committee, which seemed to be generated to quite an extent by the very open attitude of the chairman. The forestry aspect of the department is what interests me most, naturally, because forestry bulks so large in our particular area and I feel it is by far the most important. The one warning I should like to give to the minister is that I do not think he should be lured away by the northern aspect of his department as to forget the really fundamental role his department should be playing in forestry matters. As he knows, that is not really a northern problem so much as one that runs in the lower part of Canada, thinking in terms of north and south.

I welcome very much the fact that we have a new minister; not so much in political terms, but I felt it was time this department had new leadership with a new approach. I know from conversation with the minister that he is seriously interested in forestry. I was very pleased to see the announcement he made at Yorkton that he was calling the provincial ministers concerned with these matters together sometime in the near future to go into them.