

INVESTIGATE FARMS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA FOR SETTLEMENT

Committee Will Proceed to Pacific Coast Province to Look into Prospects of Soldiers Taking Up the Land.

TO OBTAIN PARTICULARS

On the recommendation of the Minister of the Interior, a committee of three members of the Soldiers' Settlement Board has been appointed by an Order in Council passed on February 20 to visit various areas in British Columbia and inquire into general farming conditions and gather data as to the suitable size for farms with a view to the probability of the Soldiers' Settlement Board being able to secure land for their purposes. The Order in Council is as follows:—

The Committee of the Privy Council have had before them a report, dated 17th February, 1919, from the Minister of the Interior representing that the Soldier Settlement Board of Canada proposes to organize, by selection from among its employees, a committee of three persons, of which committee B. E. Paterson, Esquire, will be chairman, and the duties of which committee shall be as follows:—

(1) To visit the various areas or districts of the province of British Columbia in which it is anticipated that the settlement of soldiers under the Soldier Settlement Act will be carried out.

(2) To ascertain by inquiry, and by such investigation or examination as may be necessary, the extent to which those engaged in farming in any of its branches in the said areas or districts are making a profit; the committee's duties to include the consideration of such matters as the size of individual farms for the different types of farming, the length of the period from the time of settlement until profitable production becomes possible, availability of water supply, either by rainfall or irrigation methods, the capital investment in equipment necessary to carry on the different classes of farming, market conditions affecting all classes of farm produce, and such other matters affecting the possibility of profitable farming and the enjoyment of social conditions as relate to contentment of rural residents.

(3) When the possibility of profitable farming and successful settlement under the various conditions heretofore enumerated has been determined, to ascertain in at least a general way the probability of the Soldier Settlement Board being able to secure land of good quality and at a reasonable price for soldier settlement in the various areas, giving such recommendations in respect to the various matters affecting settlement as may seem practicable and advisable.

The Minister further represents that, in the judgment of the said Soldier Settlement Board, it is advisable and necessary that means be provided for the taking of testimony under oath respecting the above recited matters.

The Minister, therefore, recommends that the said B. E. Paterson be appointed a commissioner pursuant to Section 3 of the Inquiries Act, Chapter 104 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1906, to inquire into all or any of such recited matters, with all the powers exercisable by commissioners appointed under that Act, and to report such proceedings as may be had by him, with all testimony taken before him, to such committee.

The Committee concur in the foregoing recommendation, and submit the same for approval.

RODOLPHE BOUDREAU,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

Get the Thrift Stamp habit.

POLLUTION OF BOUNDARY WATERS: CANADA---U.S.

International Control and Remedies---Two Governments Request Joint Commission to Prepare Rules and Regulations.

Under the terms of Article IX of the Treaty of January 11, 1909, the Governments of the United States and Canada referred to the International Joint Commission for investigation and report the following questions:—

1. To what extent and by what causes and in what localities have the boundary waters between the United States and Canada been polluted so as to be injurious to the public health and unfit for domestic or other uses?

2. In what way or manner, whether by construction and operation of suitable drainage canals or plants at convenient points or otherwise, is it possible and advisable to remedy or prevent the pollution of these waters, and by what means or arrangement can the proper construction or operation of remedial or preventive works, or a system or method of rendering these waters sanitary and suitable for domestic and other uses, be best secured and maintained in order to insure the adequate protection and development of all interests involved on both sides of the boundary and to fulfil the obligations undertaken in Article IV of the Waterways Treaty of January 11, 1909, between the United States and Great Britain, in which it is agreed that the waters therein defined as boundary waters and waters flowing across the boundary shall not be polluted on either side to the injury of health or property on the other?

EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION.

This investigation, in which the Commission had the co-operation and support of the federal, state, and provincial boards of health on both sides of the boundary, involved what has been described as the most extensive bacteriological examination of waters the world has ever known. It was designed to enable the Commission to answer the first question in the reference, that is as to the extent, causes and localities of pollution. The field work was carried out under the direction of sanitary experts of international reputation. The second question, as to remedies, involved an examination by sanitary engineers of the existing municipal sewage disposal and water-supply plants on both sides of the water boundary, and the working out of plans designed to afford an effective remedy for the pollution found to exist in these waters. The Commission published elaborate reports, prepared by its experts, on both the bacteriological and the engineering sides of the investigation, and also its own annual report to the two Governments, containing a summary of the results of the investigation and the Commission's conclusions and recommendations, copies of all of which are

available on application to the Commission.

As a result of these recommendations, the Government of the United States proposed that the Government of Canada should join it in requesting the Commission to prepare and submit for the consideration of the Governments such rules and regulations as might be necessary to regulate and prohibit pollution of boundary waters and waters crossing the boundary.

The following Order in Council embodies the concurrence of the Dominion Government in the proposed reference:—

The Committee of the Privy Council have had before them a report, dated 15th February, 1919, from the Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs, submitting to Your Excellency the final report of the International Joint Commission in the matter of the reference by the United States and the Dominion of Canada relative to the pollution of boundary waters.

The Minister, in so doing, takes occasion to refer to a despatch from His Majesty's Charge d'Affaires at Washington to Your Excellency, enclosing copy of a note from the United States Secretary of State dealing with the condition of affairs revealed by this report, and especially with the recommendation of the Commissioners that, in order to remedy and prevent the pollution of boundary waters, and to render them sanitary and suitable for domestic purposes and other uses, and to secure adequate protection and development of all interests involved on both sides of the boundary, and to fulfil the obligations undertaken in Article IV of the treaty, it is advisable to confer upon the International Joint Commission "some additional jurisdiction to make rules and regulations, directions and orders, as in its judgment may be deemed necessary to regulate and prohibit the pollution of the boundary waters and waters crossing the boundary."

The Minister agrees with Mr. Lansing in the advisability—in order to an adequate consideration of the above recommendation—of requesting the Commission to prepare for submission to their respective Governments drafts of the instruments best calculated, in the opinion of the Commissioners, to give effect to their recommendations, whether by convention or legislation, or by both methods.

The Minister, therefore, recommends that His Majesty's Charge d'Affaires be informed that the Canadian Government are ready to associate themselves with the United States Government for the above-mentioned purpose.

The Committee concurring, recommend that Your Excellency may be pleased to forward a copy hereof to His Majesty's Charge d'Affaires at Washington, for the information of the United States Government.

All which is respectfully submitted.

WHALE MEAT SHIPMENTS.

The first considerable consignment of whale meat to eastern Canadian cities arrived in Montreal and Toronto Saturday. The product is in canned form, resembling canned meat more than fish, and goes under names familiar to the butcher rather than the fishmonger. Whale for the Canadian trade is caught in the Pacific, just off Vancouver Island, and is canned under modern hygienic conditions. The quality of the whale meat is said to be very good, and it is expected that the industry when it is established will give employment in an entirely new line to a large number.

MANY FOOD BOARD ORDERS RESCINDED

Hope to have conditions in Canada normal when Peace signed

As the signing of the peace treaty will naturally bring the activities of the Food Board to a close, the Board is endeavouring as rapidly as it is consistent with caution to restore conditions in the Dominion food trades to normal. The Board on February 24 issued an order of considerable scope, revoking eight of its previous orders licensing certain classes of dealers. These are:—

Order dated December 13, 1917, regulating wholesale fruit and vegetable dealers;

Order No. 6, of December 22, 1917, wholesale fish merchants;

Order No. 27, of April 13, 1918, general regulation of licensees;

Order No. 36, April 30, 1918, wholesale flour and food dealers;

Order No. 38, May 7 (with amending orders Nos. 48 and 59), packers (though in view of Order in Council the revocation here affects only those packers whose annual turnover is less than \$750,000);

Order No. 39, May 8, canners;

Order No. 41, May 21, produce merchants;

Order No. 54, July 19, regulating manufacturers using sugar, an order which became requisite by the unexpected shortage in the Allied sugar supply.

REGULATION REGARDING WEARING OF UNIFORM

A statement by the Department of Militia and Defence says:—

By virtue of Order in Council P.C. 272, paras. three and four of Routine Order No. 1111, 24th September, 1918, are cancelled and the following substituted therefor:—

"3. Any person not an officer, warrant officer, soldier or man of any of the naval, land or air forces of His Majesty who wears uniform in violation of the provisions of paragraph one, or pursuant to paragraph two (a) of these regulations, shall, if the uniform is that or similar to that of any land forces, be subject to military law as if he were a man on the strength of any corps in the district in which the uniform is worn, or if the uniform worn is that or similar to that of any naval force, shall be subject to the Naval Discipline Act and the King's Regulations and Admiralty Instructions as if he were borne on the books of any one of His Majesty's Canadian ships, or if the uniform worn is that or similar to that of any air force, shall be subject to the Air Force Act.

"4. Any such person shall, if he wears uniform in violation of the provisions of these regulations, be liable for an offence under Section 40 of the Army Act, or for an offence under Section 43 of the Naval Discipline Act, or for an offence under Section 40 of the Air Force Act, as the case may be."

TURKEY AND BULGARIA.

General trade with Turkey and Bulgaria is being resumed, according to a cablegram received by the Canadian Trade Commission in Ottawa, Wednesday, February 19. The message states that the British Board of Trade issues general licenses authorizing, except where restricted by the "Trading with the Enemy legislation," resumption of trade with Turkey-in-Europe, Asia Minor, Armenia, Kurdistan, Mesopotamia, and Syria. Bulgarian trade is confined to that with Russian Black Sea ports. Licenses are required from the British War Trade Department before shipping goods of the kind prohibited for export from the United Kingdom, and importers must also obtain licenses from the Import Restrictions Department.