

describes as "their present state of grave necessity" to deal with any special industrial or financial situation which, in the view of their governments may require public assistance, we are prepared, without prejudice as to the amount to be arrived at as a final solution, to recommend to parliament at the present session the making of special grants to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island of \$875,000, \$600,000 and \$125,000 respectively, these amounts being the sums recommended by the royal commission as immediate lump sum payments.

In concluding this statement, may I say that the government hopes that, by accepting as we have, the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Maritime Claims, virtually in their entirety, parliament and the country will recognize in the attitude of the government a wish to remove this great question as largely as possible from the arena of sectional discord and party strife, and a desire to give to our Dominion in the sixtieth anniversary of its founding, a renewed expression of the spirit which animated the fathers of confederation in their efforts to construct out of British North America a federal union under a system of government devised "to protect the diversified interests of the several provinces and secure efficiency, harmony and permanency in the working of the union."

BRITISH COLUMBIA HALIBUT FISHERY OBJECTION TO LICENSES FOR JAPANESE FISHERMEN

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. S. F. TOLMIE (Victoria): I wish to call the attention of the House to an item appearing in the Vancouver Province of last Sunday, which reads:

White Halibut Men Oppose Granting of Licenses to Japanese

White halibut fishing men are alarmed over the report that large numbers of Japanese, formerly engaged in salmon fishing and now barred by the reducing quota under federal regulations, are turning to the halibut banks.

Has the Minister of Marine and Fisheries heard anything of this matter? If so, I should like to ask if the government has jurisdiction in these ex-territorial waters where halibut are caught, and if any licenses are issued to halibut fishers?

Hon. P. J. A. CARDIN (Minister of Marine and Fisheries): I am not in a position to give a definite answer to the question. I have not seen the report to which my hon. friend refers. I would be inclined to state just now that I do not think we have any

authority beyond the limits. At all events, I will make inquiry in regard to it and will inform my hon. friend at the next sitting of the House.

RULES OF THE HOUSE

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I move that the House revert to motions in order to consider the report of the committee on rules.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. ERNEST LAPOINTE (Minister of Justice): I move that the House resolve itself into committee of the whole immediately, to consider the report of the committee appointed to revise the rules of the House of Commons, which report was presented to the House on Tuesday, 15th March last.

Motion agreed to and the House went into committee on the report, Mr. Johnston in the chair.

Amended rule No 1.—Procedure in unprovided cases.

Rule agreed to.

Amended rule No. 2—House to meet at 3 p.m.

Mr. SPENCER: The hon. member for Macleod (Mr. Coote) wished to speak on this rule; he has left the chamber. Perhaps the committee could proceed with the other rules and take this up later.

The CHAIRMAN: All right.

Stands.

New rule to be added after rule 3—Adjournment at 11 o'clock p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: Following the appointment of this special committee we held sittings on every day set apart for meetings. The meetings were well attended by every member of the committee, which represented fully the three groups in the House. There was harmony and unanimity in the making and adoption of the report.

Mr. IRVINE: I think it is a rule in practice in this House that on Wednesday at six o'clock the Speaker leaves the chair, and any matter then under discussion virtually drops out, or goes to the bottom of the list on the order paper. I wonder whether this rule that is now under consideration would apply to the Wednesday afternoon discussion as it does to discussion on other days closing at eleven o'clock.