

cannot imagine any Canadian citizen, man or woman, not having a roar of laughter when he thinks of it.

But not only that. I hesitate to read some of the articles of this convention. The wording is unusual. I would draw the attention of every member of the house who has the order paper before him to some sections of the convention. It would be improper to use such language, so I shall not recite the articles but I would refer hon. gentlemen, for instance, to article No. 6, paragraph one. It is most disgusting; also article 10; it would take a doctor to make such an inquiry. But these are the things that are proposed by the right hon. the Prime Minister, who is a gentleman. I cannot conceive how it could happen. Now when we go to the people the government will say, "We are giving you something new. In the future you will eat whales." It is most incredible and stupid. And the farmers who cannot sell their products I suppose will go to the Antarctic and harpoon whales to cater to us. I shall not insist upon it too much but I did want to show how ridiculous such legislation is even though it is covered by a convention.

Mr. JACOBS: What nations are not signatories to this convention?

Mr. BENNETT: So far as I recall, Japan is the only one.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Leader of the Opposition): I think the objects of this convention are wholly commendable. It is desirable that the great natural wealth of the world should be preserved, particularly where it ministers to the needs of the peoples of all countries, and it is obvious that this end cannot be obtained except by the combined efforts of the different nations. I imagine that combined effort can be most effectively made through the League of Nations and it is to be hoped that any country which has not thus far become a party to this convention may be induced to see the wisdom of joining with the other nations in preserving a part of the common inheritance of mankind. I should like to ask the Prime Minister (Mr. Bennett) how it happens that we are only now being asked to approve a convention which was signed in 1931. Is there any reason for the long delay?

Mr. BENNETT: The convention did not come into force until January 16 of this year as it was waiting for the signatures of other nations.

[Mr. Pouliot.]

Mr. NEILL: Does the definition contained in article four apply to the whales usually taken on the Pacific coast?

Mr. BENNETT: I am told that the convention will apply to all whales except those known as the toothed whale.

Motion agreed to.

OLD AGE PENSIONS ACT

On the orders of the day:

Hon. IAN MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): Last night I inquired of the Minister of Labour (Mr. Gordon) in connection with any proposed amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act. The minister stated he could not give me an answer at that time and I should now like to ask the Prime Minister (Mr. Bennett) if it is the intention of the administration to introduce legislation during the present session to amend the Old Age Pensions Act?

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): There is a matter under consideration which affects the relationship of the provinces and the dominion but I am not in a position to give a more definite answer to the question.

COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. J. GARLAND (Bow River): Is it the intention of the government to introduce legislation at this session along the lines with the recommendation of the price spreads commission in connection with the incorporation of cooperative consumers' societies?

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): The question will be considered as a notice of question.

PRIVILEGE—MR. MANION

CONTRADICTION OF STATEMENTS APPEARING IN THE HYNDMAN COMMISSION REPORT

On the orders of the day:

Hon. R. J. MANION (Minister of Railways and Canals): Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of privilege, something which I have done only once before in about twenty sessions. A report was tabled yesterday by the Minister of Pensions and National Health (Mr. Sutherland) in connection with an investigation into the existing facilities with regard to employment of ex-service men. After referring to a charge which had been made that an insufficient number of returned