

tion. I do not know that we spend as much on game protection as most of the other provinces, but there is one thing about game protection in Nova Scotia: it has never been in politics. When the management of game protection was taken out of the hands of that society, in order to bring it up to date and introduce more modern methods, it was placed under the operation, not of a department of the Government, but of a commission appointed for the purpose.

Some kinds of game are, of course, more difficult to protect than others. Migratory birds are among the most difficult, because, whatever we may do within our own province, we cannot protect them outside. Fur-bearing animals are also difficult to protect, as they are an important article of commerce. But some of our game, at all events, has increased in recent years. I am sure we have more moose in Nova Scotia to-day than we had ten years ago, and probably as many as we have had at any time during the last fifty years. We have more deer than we ever had. We have a few caribou on the mainland of the province, but they are of a migratory nature, and I think they must have left the province and gone north to New Brunswick and Quebec. There are a few traces of caribou on the mainland. Although we have protected them for a good many years, they have not increased there. But on Cape Breton island there is a tableland similar to the caribou barrens of Newfoundland. It is suitable for caribou, and, if they are not increasing in that district, at all events, they are holding their own. They are not hunted a great deal. The place is not very accessible to outsiders, and the natives, who live chiefly in the fishing settlements around the coast, are busy in the autumn with their farming and fishing. The chief killing is done in the winter by trappers—out of season, of course. But they are not being destroyed, owing to their peculiar situation. They are on the extreme northern end of the province, and cannot migrate without coming down through the more settled parts of the island and crossing the strait of Canso. The probability is, therefore, that, with a reasonable amount of protection, we shall have caribou there indefinitely.

Our position in Nova Scotia in respect to migratory birds is also a peculiar one. I am not sure that the wild geese winter anywhere else in Canada than on the southern shore of Nova Scotia. The wild geese that winter there are said to be somewhat different from and of a larger size than the wild geese from the south. We have set apart a section there as a refuge or feeding ground, and the wild geese are not decreasing. The people on the coast where the geese winter think there should be some change in the regulations to suit the