

CANADIAN ANNUAL REVIEW 1926-27

Chapter "FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION AND POLITICS" (The Maritime Claims)

Pp. 74-82

"There was no formal debate upon the subject of Maritime Claims throughout the Session. The Report of the Duncan Commission on the subject was dealt with by the Government in several separate measures, and these were discussed on their own merits. The policy of the Government with regard to the Report was placed before the House by the Prime Minister on Mar. 18, 1927."

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" . . . he announced that special grants would be made for the current year of \$875,000 to Nova Scotia, \$600,000 to New Brunswick, and \$125,000 to Prince Edward Island. 'In concluding this statement,' said Mr. Mackenzie King, '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."'

"Five Bills were introduced and passed into law to carry out the announcement of policy made by the Prime Minister. One provided for a reduction in railway rates; another for a subsidy to by-product coke plants using Canadian coal; the third divided the Department of Marine and Fisheries into two separate departments. . . ; and the two others set up Harbour Boards in St. John and Halifax. . . ."

The rest of this sub-section deals with the legislation growing out of the Duncan Report and the discussion in the House of Commons.

W.L. Mackenzie King Papers

Memoranda & Notes

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