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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1912.

THE FISHERIES ADVISORY BOARD.

An important step with a view to encourage the development of the fisheries of the Dominion has been taken by Mr. Hazen in the decision recently announced to establish a Fisheries Advisory Board. It is understood that one of the chief reasons which led to this decision was the desire of the Minister that more rapid progress should be made in the fishing industry, especially on the Atlantic coast. Apart from fish breeding operations the work of the fisheries branch has been confined for the most part to providing and enforcing protection regulations to encourage and stimulate the development of the fisheries on progressive lines. During the past year Mr. Hazen as the Minister in charge of the fisheries, carefully investigated the situation, reports from responsible officers of the department were received and various methods of improvement were suggested. It is understood that the chief difficulty was found in the fact that the department was not sufficiently in touch with those engaged in the different branches of the fisheries and in the sale of fish. To overcome this difficulty Mr. Hazen is establishing the Advisory Board, made up of certain officials of the department and of persons representing those engaged in the fishing industry in the different parts of the Dominion.

It is announced that there will be thirteen members on the Fisheries Board in addition to the officials of the department; this number, it is understood, being necessary to efficiently represent the diversified interests of the fisheries. The interests of the producers or fishermen, and also the interests of the canners, or curers, and fish merchants will be represented. Nova Scotia, by reason of the conditions being more diversified than in the other Maritime Provinces, will have three representatives on the board. New Brunswick will have two members, one representing the weir fisheries on the Bay of Fundy, and the other the fisheries on the North Shore, which are largely in a different class. One member will represent the interests of Prince Edward Island. The Gulf portion of Quebec will also be represented by one member; the inland portion of Quebec and also the fisheries of Ontario, being administered by the Provinces themselves, do not require representation on the board. One representative will be provided for each of the three Prairie Provinces and three representatives will be given to British Columbia where the conditions, like those in Nova Scotia, are more diversified.

It is understood that there are several important reasons for the decision to give Nova Scotia and British Columbia three members upon the board. In Nova Scotia the fisheries are of greater value than in the other Maritime Provinces and in addition to its inshore boat fishery the Province has a large fleet of banking vessels, another the inshore fisheries and a third the fish merchants and canners. Representation is given to the fish merchants in Nova Scotia because Halifax is largely the distributing point for cured fish for the Maritime Provinces. In the other Provinces those interested in the catching of fish in a general way are also engaged in the sale of fish. Members from these Provinces will, therefore, be in a position to represent those engaging in the sale as well as the fishermen.

In British Columbia there is a large salmon fishery and an important salmon canning industry. The deep sea fishery is also very extensive. The three members on the Fisheries Board from this Province, it is understood will represent the canners, the salmon fishermen, and the deep sea fishermen.

The Fisheries Department will be represented on the board by the Deputy Minister, who will be ex-officio chairman, by the superintendent of fisheries, the assistant to the superintendent, the expert in the curing and handling of fish and the commissioner of fisheries. It is understood that the best means of developing the trade and kindred matters will be considered by the board as a whole, meeting once a year. For the purpose of dealing with the fisheries in the different parts of Canada the board will be divided into three committees—one for the Atlantic Provinces, one for the Prairie Provinces and one for British Columbia. The committees will meet semi-annually, before the opening of the fishing seasons and following the close. The committees will not meet simultaneously. This provision is necessary in order that the officials of the department may attend. It is understood that the Atlantic committee will meet at Ottawa on the first Tuesday in April and October of each year; the Prairie committee on the second Tuesday and the British Columbia committee on the third Tuesday in these months. Should the Minister consider there are reasons sufficient and urgent he may direct that a meeting of the board or any committee shall be held at any time.

The members of the board from the different Provinces will not receive a salary, but will be paid a per diem allowance and expenses when attending meetings of the board or its committees. It is understood that the appointment of the members of the board will be made by Mr. Hazen at an early date. The extent of the fisheries of Canada is not generally realized. In the latest report of the department, issued in December of last year, it is stated to be no exaggeration to say that Canada possesses the most extensive fisheries in the world. The waters in and around the Dominion contain the principal commercial food fishes in greater abundance than the waters of any other part of the world. The coast line of the Atlantic Provinces from the Bay of Fundy to the Straits of Belle Isle, without taking into account the lesser bays, measures over 5,000 miles. On the Pacific coast the Province of British Columbia, owing to its immense number of islands, bays and fjords, has a sea-washed shore of 7,000 miles. In addition to this immense salt water fishing area there are 220,000 square miles of fresh water lakes, abundantly stocked with excellent food fishes. The total market value of fish and fish products taken in the year under notice was \$29,945,423, of which \$26,122,586 was contributed by the sea fisheries which are directly under the jurisdiction of the Fisheries Department.

From this summary of the extent of the fisheries the advantage of an advisory board such as Mr. Hazen will establish is apparent. Its members will be practical men closely in touch with the needs and requirements of the fisheries and in a position to submit recommendations which would carry weight with the department. The Lighthouse Advisory Board may be mentioned as having rendered excellent service to the department in this connection. In the Advisory Board for the Fisheries the department will have at command the knowledge and ex-

perience of thirteen men from all parts of the Dominion who are prominently engaged in the business. This system of co-operation which Mr. Hazen will carry into effect will undoubtedly result in great material benefit to the fishing industry of Canada. It is entirely in keeping with the progressive policy he has pursued since he became Minister of the Marine and Fisheries Department.

SETTLING THE VACANT FARMS.

The Farm Settlement Board, recently appointed by the Provincial Government, is not finding it so easy to obtain vacant farms as it was supposed it would be. For many years it has been given out that the number of vacant farms in this Province was legion, but when such lands are actually wanted they are not so easily secured. It is true a very considerable acreage of this Province has been cleared for settlement that should have remained in forest, the land being unfit for cultivation. This the board does not want. What the Farm Settlement Board requires is farms as near to settlements as possible which may be cultivated with success. They have no wish to buy a run down farm that will take years to build up. Hence it was organized the board has purchased seventeen farms and disposed of ten of them to new settlers. This is a good beginning, particularly as they have applications for all the farms they have bought.

The Farm Settlement Board is the direct outcome of the awakened interest in agriculture in this Province and the practical answer of Premier Fleming to the demands made on the Government for lands for new settlers or provision for the sons of our own farmers who desire to go into agriculture on their own account. There are two methods of providing lands for new settlers and extending the cultivated area of the Province. First, there are the Crown lands, owned by the Province, which are now all practically under lease to lumbermen and which furnish the Government with no inconsiderable portion of the revenue necessary for the conduct of the public business of the Province. There are provisions in all the timber leases under which the Crown Land Department may repossess itself of lands under lease to lumber operators when they are required for settlement purposes.

It too often occurs, however, that applications are made for Crown lands for settlement when the land is actually to secure a valuable tract of timber land the settler abandoning the land as he has cut all the timber. Then again these applications are often made for districts far from other settlements and where the presence of one or two settlers clearing lands is a menace to the surrounding forest. Hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of valuable timber have been destroyed by the careless setting of fires by settlers. To meet this difficulty the Government has for some years adopted the policy of refusing to make grants in isolated districts but have each year surveyed lots in various parts extending existing settlements or creating new ones. There has also been acquired from the New Brunswick Railway Company lands in Victoria and Madawaska counties which are available to new settlers at small cost. In one tract in Madawaska opened up last year every lot was taken and occupied by a bona fide settler within a few months of the opening.

The policy of the Government in providing an easy means for such of our own people as desire to provide themselves with a farm and also to provide immigrants who understand agriculture the means of getting a farm has already produced beneficial results. When information regarding the attitude of the Government towards providing farms for all who wish them is better understood there will be a large increase to the cultivated area of the Province.

It has been discovered that the men who own the coal mines in Pennsylvania own also the railroads which haul the coal to market and also control the depots in the city of Philadelphia and perhaps in other cities also where the coal is sold to the consumer. If these men were satisfied with a fair return on their actual investment this would be an ideal condition, but unfortunately there is a well grounded suspicion on the part of the public that such control means that the price of coal is constantly mounting upwards and that the men who control its digging, transportation and sale are looking more to their individual interests than those of the people. The conditions are now under investigation.

There is some talk of establishing a police signal system for the city of St. John. However, which is about the same size as this city, has recently installed such a system at a cost of \$21,000. In addition to a police call system the new installation includes the fire alarm.

Current Comment

Modern Fiction.

(Montreal Gazette.)

The Archbishop of York has been describing the modern fiction of the day as hot, panting and bear-eyed. The authors and publishers are angry. There will be a lot of sympathy with the Archbishop's view. There are two queries that occur to the man who pays attention to the output of the novel-writing press of the day. One is as to the kind of writer that can get to produce the stuff. The other is as to who it is that can be got to read the mass of it.

An Impartial Opinion.

(Chicago Tribune.)

If Germany is ready for war Europe will have it. Sensible Englishmen may be over-imaginative at times, but so potent a fact as Germany's determination to submit her hegemony to the trial of battle, when the ripe opportunity comes needs no imagination for its interpretation. Men like Lord Roberts in England are not likely to feed their countrymen with sensations for the pleasure they find in handing out the food.

Counting the Cost.

(Leithbridge Herald.)

It is a debatable question whether a municipality is gaining anything by furnishing free sites for water, free light, free power and granting exemption from taxation for twenty years in return for a pay roll of twelve or fifteen hundred dollars a month, and a few families added to the population. Sometimes there is too much paid for the wilede.

The Senate.

(Hamilton Herald.)

"Nobody thinks the Canadian Senate is what it should be; nobody knows how to make it better, and nobody wants to abolish it."—Montreal Witness. Rather rough on the Toronto Star, which has for years been clamoring to have the Senate abolished. Does the Witness count its esteemed contemporary the Toronto Star, as a mere nobody?

Returning Citizens.

(Ottawa Citizen.)

It is interesting to hear the somewhat puzzling term, "Canadian immigrants," as applied to those coming into this country. It is explained by the fact that during the past year nearly 20,000 of those entering Canada from the United States were returning Canadians. This homeward flow is one of the most encouraging features of national development today.

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OBITUARY.

Joseph Porter.

After an illness lasting about six weeks, J. Joseph Porter, one of the best known barristers of this city, died Saturday morning about 7 o'clock in the Home for Incurables, aged about 83 years. The end was very sudden, and the attendants going to call Mr. Porter for breakfast found the lifeless body on the floor. Deceased had got out of bed with the intention of getting ready for the meal and had partly dressed before he succumbed.

Mr. Porter, who was unmarried, had lived in the Queen Hotel, Princess street, until Monday last, when he went into the Home. He was a son of the late Captain William and May Porter, and is survived by one sister, who lives in Toronto, and the wife of Rev. T. W. Patterson. He studied law with the late C. A. Stockton, being admitted as an attorney October 18, 1888, and as a barrister a year later. S. B. Bustin was admitted the same year and subsequently the two entered into partnership, the firm continuing for some years. Mr. Porter was a member of New Brunswick Lodge, No. 1, Knights of Pythias.

Mr. Porter was a man of studious turn of mind and although retiring in disposition had hosts of friends who will regret to hear of his death. He was a sound lawyer, one of the leaders in County Court practice.

A well attended meeting of the Bar members' Society was held at 12.30 o'clock, on Saturday, presided over by Judge Armstrong, who briefly referred to the death of Mr. Porter, and to the keen regret at his death, for Mr. Porter was highly esteemed for his personal qualities as well as for his abilities.

C. H. Ferguson, in a short address, voiced his own regret at Mr. Porter's death and the regret of the profession, which was seconded by C. F. Sanford, who also referred to the sorrow all felt at Mr. Porter's death. Whereas, The St. John Law Society has learned with regret of the death of John Joseph Porter, Esquire, Master of the Supreme Court, and a member of this society since 1888; and whereas, during the entire period of his practice at the bar Mr. Porter had displayed great industry and a wide knowledge of the practice of our courts and by his kindly disposition and genial manner he had won the good feeling, not only of his members of this society, but also of a large circle of friends outside the profession.

Therefore resolved, that this Society, as a token of respect for his memory, place on record their appreciation of Mr. Porter as an honorable member of this Society and as a man and citizen; and further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to his immediate relatives with expression of sympathy and regret of the members of The St. John Law Society.

Joseph P. Heffernan.

Joseph Phillip Heffernan, only child of P. P. Heffernan, Perth, Victoria, Canada, N. B., died at his home Tuesday, Nov. 19th 1912, after a long illness.

The deceased was born in St. John 17 years ago. He was graduated from the Andover High School in June 1911, and the following month he became a Junior in the Faculty of Montreal at Perth. His health failing he resigned his position and went to Hebron, New Brunswick, where he was employed in the lumber business. Receiving little benefit from the treatment there, he returned to his home June 20th. Since then he steadily failed until his death, which was a surprise to his associates, who deeply mourn his early death. The funeral took place at the Episcopal church, Friday, Nov. 22nd and was largely attended by citizens of both towns. The choir of Andover and Perth sang in the service which was read by Rev. J. R. Hopkins. The floral tributes consisted of beautiful pieces from the Sunday school class, the young ladies of Perth and several others. The procession was preceded by the Fifth and Tenth regiments. Burial was made in the Episcopal cemetery, Andover.

Bartholomew Connell.

After an illness extending over between three and four months Bartholomew Connell, one of the best known teamsters of the city, died yesterday morning in the general public hospital, at his home, 43 Duke street, after a stroke of apoplexy, which he suffered in his former residence, St. David street, one month ago. He was a native of the town of St. John and was survived by three sons and three daughters. The names of the children are, the Misses Mary and Georgiana, at home, and Mrs. Ellen McInnis, of this city; William Henry, who resides near Montreal, and Thomas and Francis Patrick, in the west. There are also two brothers, David James, of this city, and one sister, Mrs. Cassie Robertson, of Philadelphia.

Mr. Connell was a native of County Limerick, Ireland, where he was born 65 years ago. When a lad of 13 he came out to St. John with his uncle, Edward Reardon. He was a son of the late Thomas and Ann Connell, who had come out a few years earlier and lived on Brunel street. The funeral will take place from St. David street on Tuesday afternoon at 2.30.

Miss F. M. Coy.

News of the death of Miss Francis M. Coy, which took place at her brother's residence on Main street, Friday evening will come as a distinct shock to her friends in this city. Miss Coy was a native of Upper Gasquetown, but has been residing in late in St. John. She has been in ill-health for some time. The late Miss Coy was a daughter of Charles Coy, of Upper Gasquetown, and is survived by two brothers, David Coy, of this city and Henry Coy, of Upper Gasquetown, and one sister, Mrs. Annie Slesver, of Boston, Rev. B. E. Nichol will officiate at a funeral service at the residence of Miss Coy's brother, 54 Main street, Sunday evening at 9 o'clock, and the body will be buried by steamer to Upper Gasquetown on Monday morning for interment.

Miss Spinnay.

The death of Miss Spinnay occurred at her home in Musquoddy yesterday, after a lingering illness. She was the youngest son of H. N. and Ellen Spinnay and was 25 years of age. The funeral will be held today at 2 o'clock.

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FUNERALS.

The Late F. A. Jones.

The funeral took place Saturday afternoon at 2.30 o'clock from his late residence, 43 Duke street, of Frederick A. Jones, son of the late Hon. Thomas R. Jones. The services at the house were conducted by Rev. H. A. Cody, rector of St. James' church, assisted by Rev. Father Collins of the Mission chapel. A quartette from St. James' church choir was present and sang the hymns "Lead kindly Light" and "On the resurrection morn." The pallbearers were Hon. A. T. Dunn, Dr. R. F. Quigley, W. A. Quinton, George John.

The funeral services were beautiful and bespoke the esteem in which Mr. Jones' friends held him. Among the flowers were tributes from the finance committee of the Mission church and from Lazor Temple of the Mystic Shrine. The late Mr. Jones is survived by his mother, his wife, two brothers, Messrs. Charles D. Jones of this city, and Thomas R. of Seattle, and two sisters, Mrs. W. Chase Thompson, Montreal and Mrs. A. Gordon Cowie, St. R. F. Quigley, W. A. Quinton, George John.

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