

have been exterminated. The Commissioner of Dominion Parks, who is also charged with the enforcement of the Northwest Game Act and Migratory Birds Convention Act, will, no doubt, give further details regarding these Dominion game and wild life reserves, when he opens the discussion on game sanctuaries, which is one of the subjects that it is desirable to consider at this conference.

In the establishment and maintenance of wild life or game reserves in Canada there are unlimited opportunities for co-operative action between the Dominion and Provincial governments. In fact, the reserves in the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta are co-operative in character, inasmuch as such reserves are chiefly established by the Provincial governments in Dominion forest reserves. We feel, however, that closer co-operation is both desirable and possible, particularly in the matter of the appointment of wardens for such reserves. A wild life reserve fails in its object to a very large extent unless it is adequately patrolled; there are law-breakers everywhere, both white and Indian, and, if a reserve lacks sufficient protection, it will be a reserve in little more than name. The wild life inhabitants of a reserve must receive protection, both from human enemies and from the predatory animals that will be attracted to such a district providing more abundant food.

Effects of
Conservation
on Natives

In the conservation of our wild life one of the chief factors we have to consider is the native, whether he be Indian or Eskimo. His attitude towards the subject is naturally different from ours, and he affords a problem that demands sympathetic treatment and careful consideration. The Deputy Minister of the Department of Indian Affairs is a member of our Advisory Board on Wild Life Protection, and, in consequence, it is possible for us to give the fullest consideration to questions arising out of the relations of natives to our wild life and to take such action as may be deemed necessary and advisable. As this question will be discussed during the present session of the conference it is unnecessary to say more in this introductory statement than to point out that it affords, perhaps more than any other question, opportunities for co-operation between the Dominion and Provincial governments, and one of our desires is that this meeting and our free discussion will result in a greater degree of mutual understanding and co-operation in dealing with the problem of the Indian in the future.

In the foregoing remarks, government activities in the conservation of wild life have been chiefly considered. But, unfortunately, governments are more apt to follow than to lead public opinion in