

Lake of the Woods Control Board

possible, Mr. Chairman, to discuss these matters in detail because the bill is not before hon. members, nor can I indicate to them on a map what we have done. I would suggest, therefore, that this is all I need say at this stage.

Mr. Robichaud: It is not my intention at this stage to make a long statement which might delay the passage of this resolution. We of the official opposition have no idea whatever of opposing its passage. As the minister has explained, it is in the national interest to exploit this area and to remove these ten square miles from the Cape Breton national park in order to further hydro development in Nova Scotia.

The minister has mentioned that consideration was given to the replacement of this area by ground adjacent to the park, but there were complications because of fishing villages that were established in the area. I would suggest that it might have been a new venture for the department to have fishing villages in a national park as a special attraction to the tourists and the public in general. As fishing is one of our basic industries, it may have been worth while to give further consideration to the possibility of taking this new area as part of Cape Breton Highlands national park. However, again I wish to emphasize that we of the official opposition have no objection whatsoever to the present resolution.

Mr. Pickersgill: I should like to say just one word of congratulation to the minister for having acquired the Champlain Habitation. I am sure that some people all over the country will appreciate it as another addition to our national heritage.

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria): Mr. Chairman, it is not my intention at this time to say very much on this resolution. However, the few remarks I should like to put before the house are to the effect that while we understand that this is a development policy being put forward by the provincial government, I hope—while it is not my purpose to refer to what goes on in another legislature in the country—that the provincial government will move with great caution, because of the serious situation of the coal industry today, with regard to the developing of hydro power in this area.

I should like to make mention of the fact that I feel badly that we are losing part of the park, even although it is only ten miles and is an area which is quite a bit inland and which very few tourists or residents see or rarely have an opportunity to get into.

But I did not quite get all of the minister's remarks with regard to the proposed extension. In view of the fact that we already

have fishing villages adjacent or somewhat close to the park I cannot see why the department and the minister would not take a careful, cautious and interested look at the idea of expanding the boundaries of the Cape Breton Highlands national park to the extent that it would continue further to the northern tip of Cape Breton Island, where it now cuts off at the entrance to the South Harbour road in the vicinity of Effie's Brook. The boundaries could continue on up along the coast, up through Cape North, Sugarloaf, Bay St. Lawrence and Capstick in Victoria county and continue on into Inverness county which is all very picturesque country. I daresay it is much more beautiful than many other parts of the park. I should like to request that the minister and his department give every consideration to this suggestion. In fact, I would ask for a complete survey at the earliest possible convenience, with the idea in mind of extending the boundaries of the park rather than reducing them. That will be the extent of my remarks at the moment, Mr. Chairman.

Resolution reported and concurred in.

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle) thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-36, to amend the National Parks Act respecting the boundaries of Cape Breton Highlands national park.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

LAKE OF THE WOODS CONTROL BOARD**AMENDMENT ALTERING CONSTITUTION OF MEMBERSHIP**

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources) moved the second reading of Bill No. C-25, to amend the Lake of the Woods Control Board Act, 1921.

He said: Mr. Speaker, in introducing the resolution on the Lake of the Woods Control Board Act I mentioned to the house that most of the amendments deal with the composition of the board; how in the past there had been two members from Ontario and two from the federal government and how the new bill would provide for two from Ontario, one from the federal government and one from Manitoba; and how this dealt with power in the Lake of the Woods area in Ontario. My statement on second reading will be in greater detail and will deal with some of the historical aspects of this development. I shall have to be extremely precise in my statements because this deals with the affairs of two other governments besides the federal government.

Mr. Speaker, it is the intention of the government to introduce at this time amendments to the Lake of the Woods Control