

NORTHWEST GAME ACT AND MIGRATORY BIRDS TREATY ORGANIZED

Statement refers also to Important Matters having to do with Northern Game Animals and Dominion Parks

NEW GAME COMMISSION

A statement made by the Dominion Parks Branch, Department of the Interior, relating to the North-West Game Act, shows the efficacy of the Act, in placing the fur trapping and trading industry under control, in the interest of game conservation.

The statement refers to the organization of the Act, and also to the purpose of ascertaining the feasibility of developing the reindeer herds of the far Northwest as a possible meat supply, and to consider the domestication of the musk-ox in the same region, as a future food supply and also as a source of wool.

Details of the organization of the Migratory Birds Treaty, are also given, together with reports on the subjects of the conference on wild life preservation held February 1919, in Ottawa, and important matters in connection with the Dominion Parks. The statement is as follows:

Organization in connection with the new Northwest Game Act passed in 1917 has taken place under the present government. The most notable and important feature in this connection is the fact that for the first time in the history of the Northland the fur trapping and trading industry has been placed under adequate control. Under the new Act all white trappers and traders are under license. The license system provides:

1. A considerable revenue.
2. Greatly improved facilities for the protection of wild life during the closed season thus ensuring conservation of the fur industry which is at present the only existing industry of the north.
3. The system also enables the collection of reliable statistics with relation to the fur industry, a condition which has never existed before.

In connection with the Northern hinterland the Government has also taken a very important step by the organization of a commission for the purpose of first, ascertaining the feasibility of the development of reindeer herds for the purpose of providing a meat supply for the Dominion, and, second, ascertaining the feasibility of the domestication of musk-ox in the north not only for the purpose of a meat supply but also for the purpose of a wool supply.

With respect to both these matters the situation is as follows: It is estimated that there is an area of about one million square miles in the north eminently suitable for the development of reindeer and musk-ox herds. Throughout the world there is a constant invasion of the areas used for cattle grazing through the lands being taken up for the production of fruits and cereals and the meat situation of the world is therefore gradually becoming more and more acute. Northern Canada is not suitable for the production of ordinary farm products but from the fact that millions of Barren land caribou, which physiologically are practically identical with domestic caribou, are known to thrive there at present; and from the fact that musk-oxen also thrive in the North there appears to be good reason for the expectation that with the development of reindeer and musk-ox herds the north may take the place of the more southerly portions of Canada in the matter of meat production.

MIGRATORY BIRDS TREATY.

While this treaty was consummated prior to the advent of Union Government organization has taken place since.

This treaty with the United States provides for the protection both in the United States and Canada of practically all the beneficial migratory birds. Arrangements have been made with most of the provinces by which they have amended their game laws to harmonize with the terms of the treaty and by which the provincial game authorities enforce these laws. While the provincial laws have not all been satisfactorily amended, e.g. (Maritime provinces) a staff of wardens has been appointed in these provinces and active steps have been carried on not only for the enforcement of law but for the education of the public as to the necessity of adequate protection of beneficial bird life.

In furtherance of the policy of bird conservation some twenty-eight suggested locations in the West for breeding sanctuaries have been inspected. In addition the Dominion has created Point Pelee, the most important bird area in Ontario, into a Dominion Park in order that it may be maintained as a sanctuary. The Dominion has also established as bird sanctuaries Bird Rocks, Bonaventure and Perce Rock, (all in Quebec) under the terms of the treaty and at the request of the Dominion the province of Quebec has passed provincial legislation on similar lines.

In addition the department has been issuing special bulletins and otherwise carrying on an educational campaign throughout Canada with the object of enlisting the sympathetic support of the public for bird protection.

WILD LIFE—GENERAL.

Through the Advisory Board on Wild Life Protection which operates under the authority of the Department of the Interior, the first thoroughly national conference on wild life protection which operates under the authority of the Department of the Interior, the first thoroughly national conference on wild life protection was held in Ottawa in February, 1919. Representatives of all the provinces and leaders in wild life protection took part in the conference. The purpose was to bring together everyone in the Dominion specially concerned in the protection of the important wild life natural resources of the country and by the exchange of ideas to develop co-operation and efficiency throughout the country in the conservation of wild life.

NATIONAL PARKS.

The work in connection with National Parks has on account of the war chiefly concerned maintenance. Two important problems in relation to parks have been settled during the past year. For years there has been a conflict of jurisdiction with respect to parks in British Columbia, as between the province and the Dominion. An agreement satisfactorily adjusting this matter has been made with the province of British Columbia. Under this agreement the province withdraws from its position of hostility and undertakes to recognize the precedence of national parks laws. This arrangement is a very satisfactory one. In connection with this agreement the Dominion has undertaken to complete the construction of about fifty miles of automobile highway which is the last link in a 500-mile automobile route through the most scenic areas in the Rocky Mountains. It is anticipated that the completion of this route will result in an annual expenditure of millions of dollars by touring automobile parties from the United States and other countries. In return for this work the province has granted to the Dominion for parks purposes an area on the west slope of the main Rockies of about 350 thousand acres.

Somewhat similar conflicts of jurisdiction developed as between the province of Alberta and the Dominion authorities and a contract has also been made with the Alberta authorities satisfactorily adjusting these matters.

While little more than maintenance work has been possible in connection with National Parks a great deal of publicity work has been carried on through newspaper articles, lecture and moving picture films with the object of attracting tourists to the Canadian mountain resorts. A large number of exceptionally attractive films have been given very extensive circulation throughout the United States.

PENSIONS STILL WAITING

There are many additional names of soldiers by whom pensions might be claimed. The numbers given with each name should be quoted in replying to the Board of Pensions Commissioners at Ottawa. The Board has issued the following list of last known addresses of claimants who cannot be traced:—

Pte. Lionel C. King, 1st Sask. Depot Bn. (109188).

Dvr. Donat Martin, No. 4 D.D., formerly 5th Fld. Co. (5283G).

Pte. William Davis, 30th Bn., formerly 7th Bn. (2983).

Gnr. Thos. Callon, No. 3 D.D., (12507).

Pte. Francis A. Rinder, 27th Bn., formerly 45th Bn. (18753).

Pte. G. E. McManus, 25th Bn. (110403).

Pte. E. I. Rowlands, 23rd Res. Bn. (108464) (6245).

Pte. Laurence A. Johnson, 1st Dep. Bn., 2nd C.O.R., (38161).

Pte. Philip J. Antick, Special Service Bn. (20491).

Pte. James Collins, Royal Can. Dragoons, (3521).

Pte. Chas. Houston, No. 2 D.D., late 138th Bn. (63018).

Pte. M. J. Ryan, 1st Depot Bn. (107863).

Pte. William Sawrey, 4th Bn. (3536).

Sgt. R. A. Potter, 59th Battalion, formerly 20th Battalion (30832).

Pte. G. W. Roberts, No. 4 D.D. (117178).

Pte. John Smith, 1st C.O.R., formerly 39th Battalion (23872).

Pte. J. H. Davis, 52nd Battalion (105212).

Pte. William Jarvis, 18th Battalion, late 142nd Battalion (117063).

Gunner Robert D. Rochelle, No. 3 D.D., formerly 71st Battery (61476).

Sgt. John P. Packer, 1st Can. Div. (41702).

Pte. Harold Baldwin, 5th Battalion (2462).

Sgt. James Douglas 44th Battalion (31870).

Pte. Thos. W. Earl, C.A.S.C. (31798).

Pte. James W. Foley, No. 3 District Depot (119,282).

Pte. Chas. Cooke, C.A.M.C. (116139/7253G).

Pte. James C. Leggett, C.M.R., R.D. (112583/6964G).

Pte. Frank Gagnon, No. 4 D.D., formerly 28th and 94th Battalions (53509).

Pte. Robert Penny, 8th Battalion (31998).

Mrs. Annie K. Soutter, widow of Pte. John Soutter, 12th Battalion (4135).

Spr. Lloyd R. Weese, No. 3 D.D. (103751/64719).

Pte. M. J. McCabe, 187th Battalion (107827).

Cpl. Arthur E. Rogers, 6th S.S. Company (21485).

Pte. Romulus Bourget, 22nd Battalion (103976/64772).

Pte. Angelo Verti, 60th Battalion (53646).

Dvr. Guy Sumner, No. 2 D.D., formerly 19th and 99th Battalions (48816).

Pte. Leon Racine, Special Service Unit (19548).

Pte. Harry W. Manuel, "H" Unit, M.H.C.C., formerly 109th Battalion (20700).

Pte. Charles McConnell, No. 1 D.D., formerly 1st Battalion (43954).

Pte. James F. Hall, Forestry Depot, 230th and 41st Battalions (56571).

Pte. Arthur De Steunder, 1st Depot Battalion, 1st C.O.R. (104287).

Pte. Wilfred Lachance, No. 3 D.D., formerly 41st Battalion (59929).

Pte. William T. Coulthard, 43rd Battalion, formerly 63rd Battalion (26432).

Cpl. Jos. Wilfred Burke, 13th Battalion (62557).

Pte. Edward L. Feeney, 257th Battalion (33815).

Building in 1917.

For the year 1917 the total value of the building permits issued by thirty-five cities in Canada was \$33,936,422, as stated in the Canada Year Book for 1918.

ARMED U.S. VESSEL ALLOWED ON LAKES

Canadian Government accedes to Request that Training Ship may make Trip

The Canadian Government has given consent for the United States schoolship *Newport*, armed for the purpose of drilling cadets, to pass through the St. Lawrence and Welland canals. The permission was granted after consideration by the Committee of the Privy Council, as follows:—

The Committee of the Privy Council have had before them a report, dated 6th June, 1919, from the Secretary of State for External Affairs, submitting that he has had under consideration a despatch from His Majesty's Charge d'Affaires at Washington, dated the 22nd May, 1919, transmitting copy of a note from the State Department, inquiring whether the Canadian Government have any objection to the visit this summer of the schoolship *Newport* on a cruise up the St. Lawrence river. The schoolship *Newport* is lent to the New York National State Nautical School by the United States Government, is 168 feet long, of 1,010 tons displacement, and is armed, for the purpose of drilling the cadets, with two 3-inch and one 4-inch rifles.

The Minister, with the concurrence of the Ministers of Marine, Railways and Canals, and Militia and Defence, recommends that His Majesty's Charge d'Affaires be informed that there is no objection on the part of the Canadian Government to this cruise, nor to the passing of the *Newport* through the St. Lawrence and Welland canals; provided, however, that it is not proposed to retain this ship on the Great Lakes, but that she is to return to the Atlantic coast before the close of navigation.

The Committee advise that Your Excellency may be pleased to inform His Majesty's Charge d'Affaires at Washington in the sense of this minute accordingly.

All which is respectfully submitted.

RODOLPHE BOUDREAU,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

Canada Rapatriation.

A paragraph appearing in *Repatriation*, a monthly bulletin published in the interests of returned men in Australia, quotes the speech delivered in Sydney by Premier Holman of New South Wales in which he stated that that State had settled 1,100 men on the land. The premier claimed that this was a much larger number than had been settled in any of the other States.

New South Wales sent to the battlefields of Europe thirty-nine per cent of the total of the Australian Expeditionary Force. If the proportion of ex-service men settled on the land in the other States was equal to that of New South Wales the figures would be for the whole of Australia 2,820 men benefited by the Land Settlement Act up to the date of the premier's speech.

Up to the 17th of May, the Soldier Settlement Board of Canada had approved of 7,900 applications for the benefits of the Soldier Settlement Act and a great many more applications were before the qualification committees in the various provinces. These figures which will be largely augmented by the returns for the last two weeks of May and for the present month show that Canada is well in advance of the sister commonwealth in providing suitable farms for her war heroes.

Trades Union Census.

The total trades union membership reported at the end of 1917 was 204,630 for the Dominion, being comprised in 1,974 local branches of trades union organizations of all types, as stated in the Canada Year Book for 1918.