INTERNATIONAL FISH COMMISSION MEETS TODAY

KEEN DESIRE ON PART OF BOTH COUNTRIES TO EFFECT RECIPROCAL FISHING RIGHTS

American-Canadian Fisheries Commission Meets Today—Three Qestions of National Importance Under Consideration—Equal Rights to Canadian and American Fishing Vessels—Means to Prohibit American Fishermen from Catching Lobsters During Closed Season in Canada—Salmon Conservation on the Pacific Coast.

Three questions of paramount importance in the national life of the United States and Canada are now under discussion by the International Fisheries Commission, which will hold its first session in St. John this morning at 10.30. The questions now under the careful consideration of the commission have a history dating back far into the life of these countries.

The delegates representing both countries arrived in the city yesterday afternoon on the Boston train which was about three hours late. The personnel is as follows:—Representing the American government, Hon. W. C. Redfield, secretary of the department of commerce; Edwin F. Sweet, assistant secretary of commerce; Dr. Hugh M. Smith, United States commissioner of fisheries; Edward F. Quigley, assistant solicitor of the department of commerce as secretary of the American delegation.

For Canada—Chief Justice Hazen, J. Debarats, deputy minister of naval service; and W. A. Found, superintendent of fisheries for the Dominion of Canada. A. Robertson, of the British Embassy at Washington, also arrived with the party.

The reason for the creation of the American-Canadian Fisheries Commission is on account of the many controversal matters, some of vital importance, and others of a minor nature, which have been occupying the attention of the people of both countries for sometime. With the event of the present war, and the occasion of closer relationship with the United States and Canada, brought about by the present food crisis, it was the opinion of both governments that the time for discussing the question and arranging, if possible, a treaty, was indeed opportune.

"A keen desire on the part of all delegates to arrange a reciprocal arrangement regarding the fisheries has been the spirit present at the different sessions held in the United States," remarked one of the delegates to a Standard representative.

Three Important Questions.

The three questions which stand out as the most important under discussion relate, first to the privilege of fishing vessels of the two countries, whether they are American vessels in Canada waters, or Canadian craft in American waters. Secondly the matter of conservation of salmon in the Fraser River and its tributaries. And thirdly, the fishing of lobsters outside of Canadian territorial waters, during the time that the season is closed in the Dominion. All of the questions directly concern both countries.

As regards the first, that of the rights of American fishing vessels in Canadian waters, and vice versa, Mr. Sweet said that a Canadian vessel clearing from a Canadian port and fishing on the banks, cannot after her catch proceed to Gloucester or any other American port and dispose of her catch. She must first return from the port she cleared or some other Canadian port and there either change her character, from a fishing vessel to that of a merchant vessel, or transfer the fish to a vessel recognized as a merchantman, before she can enter an American port to dispose of the catch. This not only entails a considerable expense, but it necessitates an appreciable expenditure on the part of the fishermen or the dealers, as the case may be, and at the same time it means that the circuitous procedure delays the return to the fishing grounds.

But Litt! Opposition.

This question has received the consideration of the commission during the sessions at Washington in the presence of American fishermen, who were practically unanimous in the belief that the admittance of fish into American ports without such procedure would be beneficial to the fishing industry of the country. There was, it is stated, some opposition by a few of the fishermen in the Eastern states, who claimed that the privilege of permitting the Canadians to unload the fish on their return from the banks would have a tendency to cause a decrease in the price, on account of the increased supply, but as was stated to The Standard by a member of the commission, Mr. Sweet, this argument was rebutted by the additional amount of fish in demand by the consumers. In this respect as in other countries, due to the educational campaign being propagated by the food controller, the demand for fish is rapidly increasing and will continue to od so. Mr. Sweet said that even with the marked increase in demand, the amount of fish used in the United States and Canada did not equal that consumed in the United Kingdom. To bear out this contention he said that in Great Britain fifty-eight pounds of fish was the amount consumed per capita. In the United States the amount is eighteen pounds per capita. While in the Dominion it is about twenty-eight pounds per capita. This makes an average of twenty-three pounds of fish consumed per capita by both countries as compared with fifty-eight pounds consumed by each individual in the United Kingdom.

Former Treaties.

As regards American vessels in Canadian waters by the treaty of 1881 permission was granted to American vessels to visit Canadian ports for but four seasons, viz., when in need of shelter, repair, wood or water. With regards to sailing vessels there was also an agreement reached by the two countries known as the Modus Vivendi, whereby they could enter Canadian ports for similar reasons. This privilege is taken advantage of by the Gloucester fishermen who fish off the Newfoundland Banks. It is common to see them in Sydney harbor. But in view of the progress of the shipping industry when so many vessels are propelled by other means than sail, the law does not extend to include such craft. If an agreement is reached concerning this matter, and the indications point to it, most favorably, it will mean that American vessels will be able to enter a Canadian port with their catch and dispose of it here, or ship it in bond to the United States. It will also mean that they will be in a position to visit out ports for the purpose of obtaining help, stores and fishing requisites.

It will also benefit the American fisherman in the matter of effecting repairs. Instead of having to await their return to the port from whence they cleared they can make a Canadian port, and thus be able to return to the fishing area with little loss of time.

This question is probably of more vital interest to Canada than any of the others under discussion, inasmuch as the prices paid for fish in the United States is, as a rule, a little better than in Canada. However, it is contended that the reciprocal arrangement may be the means of levelling the price on the continent.

Respecting Lobster Fishing.

The second important question under consideration is that of the lobster conservation, said Mr. Sweet. It has been the custom in latter years with a few of the American lobster fishermen, to operate just outside the three mile limit during the closed season. This meant that while Canada lobster fishermen were obliged to refrain from catching this fish in the territorial waters of the Dominion American fishermen can drop their traps just outside the limit and take advantage of the restrictions placed upon Canadian fishermen by the government. The United States government had placed no restrictions whatever upon the lobster fishing. In discussing this matter casually with a Standard representative, one of the commission said that it could be dealt with by the State or by the federal authorities. In this respect the United States and the Canadian constitutions differ, as the matter of fisheries is dealt chiefly by the different states in America with the exception of the questions concerning interstate commerce and importation.

The Salmon Question.

The third important question under consideration is the salmon conservation on the Pacific coast. Notwithstanding the fact that Fraser River is situated in the Dominion, strictly speaking, yet there are waters in the United States which are connected closely with its flow. The sockeye salmon is considered the most valuable on the Pacific coast. It is their custom to travel up the Fraser River to spawn. At the lakes surrounding their exit American fishermen find a place to spend profitable time, and the number passing through is materially decreased. And again, as there are a number of canneries in British Columbia, the salmon which do manage to escape the American fishermen are caught up by the Canadian fishermen and disposed of to these corporations. For this reason the number of spawn is not liable to increase, and if the custom continues it will likely diminish the amount of salmon. As it is now there is a law prohibiting the fishing one day per week, but this is not considered sufficient to preserve this fish.

In addition to the above questions there are a number of minor matters to come before the conference while in St. John. Mr. Sweet said that it was the purpose of the delegates to hear any person who desires to assist in the important discussion and in American conferences many questions were asked by men who attended the sessions.

More Fish Consumed.

With reference to the fish consumed in the United States at the present time compared with ante-bellum days, he said that there was a decided increase, and the people were eating fish in many different dishes, and were satisfied with the national food. He said that it was not only a matter of preserving the fishing resources for the present time, but it was a duty the people owed to the coming generation, and care should be taken in the methods of preservation and conservation.

There were a number of fishermen from outside points to arrive in St. John yesterday to be present at the first session this morning, and to state their views on the matters under discussion. Among the number to arrive were A. H. Brittain, president of the Maritime Fish Corporation, Montreal, and J. F. Calder, Campobello, fish inspector for the Dominion government.

Mr. Sweet paid a high tribute to the delegates selected by the Canadian government, who he characterized as broad minded, intellectual and public spirited citizens. He said that Chief Justice Hazen stood out as a man of ability and intellect and in many ways reminded him of William Jennings Bryan, most noticeably in his delivery, when speaking.

Last evening the delegates were the guests of honor of Chief Justice Hazen at his residence on Hazen street.

This evening the members of the Canadian Club will have the pleasure of hearing Hon. W. C. Redfield at a banquet given in his honor at Bond's.

U. S. CAN SEND HALF MILLION MEN OVERSEAS

Secretary Daniels Announces There Will Be Sufficient Transport Racilities—Senator Hitchcock Gets Excited.

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Administration leaders prepared to reply to Senator Hitchcock, whose speech launched the debate which has been impending since Secretary Baker made his statement and the President made known his opposition to the military committee's plans for re-organizing the government's war machinery.

Penrose Wants to Know.

When Senator Hitchcock declared Secretary Baker had "wildly exaggerated" in predictions of ability to send troops abroad, Senator Penrose, Republican, asked: "I am curious to know what influenced the secretary to make such a statement so apart from the facts. Was it his sanguine and hopeful nature or lack of information to justify them?"

Replying, that he believed Secretary Baker merely lacked information, Senator Hitchcock said: "I consider it reckless—a terrible mistake to so mislead the country. Of course the secretary did not do it intentionally, but only because he did not have the information because there was no co-ordination of the shipping board with other government agencies."

Hoping to get one million men to Europe without sufficient ships to transport them was characterized by Senator Hitchcock as "living in a fools paradise." Unless something is done the United States will face the world's greatest disaster, he said.

"I can't believe the secretary intended it as a gigantic bluff, or intended to deceive the people," said Mr. Hitchcock, "but he didn't know; he was out of touch."

Senator Williams.

In fiery fashion Senator Williams instantly replied to Senator Hitchcock. He declared the Nebraska senator had made a "very strong indictment" against the executive departments of the government.

Referring to a statement by Senator Hitchcock that he did not tell all he knew because he might be charged with giving information to the enemy, the Mississippi senator declared: "He did tell almost all he knew, and he did give information very valuable to the enemy."

Senator Williams referred to agitation before the war of agitation to prohibit shipments of munitions to the allies.

A German Game.

"That was almost as foolish," he said, "as this war cabinet proposal. That legislation, to keep the allies from having American munitions was the German game then. The German game now is muckraking this administration.

"If what the Nebraska senator says is true, we are out of the war. If his indictment is true, we are already defeated."

The continental congress, he added, came very near ruining General Washington, "and all the asses that ever existed came very near ruining Lincoln and Grant in the Civil War."

Colds Cause Headache and Grip.

LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE Tablets remove the cause. There is only one "Bromo Quinine." E. W. GROVE'S signature on box. 30c.

NORTHERN MAINE BURIED IN SNOW

Blockade a Serious Check on Logging, and May Cost the Lumbermen Millions.

Not within the memory of the oldest lumberman has the logging industry had to combat a heavier snow blockade than that now prevailing all over the state of Maine. The record has been equalled if not surpassed with half the winter yet to come, and already the surplus of snow has cost hundreds of thousands if not millions of dollars, for it is generally agreed among operators that because of the extraordinary conditions in the woods the cut this winter will be one quarter to one third less than normal—or that even if a normal cut should be made not more than 70 to 75 per cent. of the logs can be hauled.

The Maine log cut for all purposes, by all operators, great and small, used to be estimated at about 800,000,000, but lately the extensive operations of the great pulp and paper concerns have brought the total up to about 1,000,000,000. A reduction of 25 per cent. in the quantity reaching driving waters would mean this year 250,000 M, worth anywhere from $5,000,000 to $7,000,000. The logs left behind on the yards would, of course, be gotten out another season, but the quality would be affected, a year's time, with interest on the investment, would be lost, and the market, now at top pitch, might in that time suffer a serious decline.

It was estimated the other day that the snow lay four and a half feet deep on the level all over northern Maine, with drifts six to fifteen feet high in many places, most highway roads being badly blocked and every logging road needing the services of the entire camp's crew to keep it open. Since last week more snow has fallen, and the average depth up north at present cannot be less than five feet.

Chopping was finished in most localities weeks ago, but the teamsters have been unable to take the logs away to the landings nearly as fast as they have been brought in and piled up. February generally is the hardest winter month in Maine, and March is not at all springlike in the country north of Bangor, so that, unless there shall come a decided change in weather conditions the logger's prospects are not cheering. Wages are the highest on record—as much as $70 a month (which with board equals $100) having been paid to many of the men, while there are a few working for less than $45 a month. Fodder and all supplies for operations never cost more than now, while the prices of food are simply staggering. An operator who has employed 700 men during the season estimates that the cost of feeding each man is not less than a dollar a day, for the modern woodsman must have the best and plenty of it, the good old days of "beans 31 times a week" having gone forever. Even if the men were content with baked beans, there would be no economy, with the price of the bans around seven dollars a bushel and pork costing 25 to 30 cents a pound.

News from the British provinces from Aroostook county, the Penobscot and the Kennebec river systems, is all to the same effect—mountains of snow and slow work in moving the logs. Henry A. Totman of Fairfield, who has had charge of the scaling for the North Anson Mfg., Company on the upper Kennebec, expresses the opinion that the drive on that river this year will be a third less than usual—probably 125,000,000 to 135,000,000 feet. The North Anson Company has mills at Fairfield, North Anson and Jackman, the latter a railroad mill, situated close to the Quebec boundary line. For the two mills on Kennebec waters a cut of about 20,000,000 has been made, but it is by no means certain that all the logs will reach the saws this year. Men returning from the Penobscot headwaters tell stories of remarkable snow blockades in the logging regions. tI is related that a man who had cut 1,500 cords of pulp wood took a prospective purchaser into the woods to inspect the cut, but when they reached the place where the wood had been piled not a stick was visible—only a vast smooth expanse of snow. But the wood was there, only buried out of sight.

There has been no January thaw this year, and the lumbermen are wondering what will happen if the mountains of snow melt suddenly in the spring.

DO YOU SUFFER FROM BACKACHE?

When your kidneys are weak and torpid they do not properly perform their functions; your back aches and you do not feel like doing much of anything. You are likely to be despondent and to borrow trouble, just as if you hadn't enough already. Don't be a victim any longer.

The old reliable medicine, Hood's Sarsaparilla, gives strength and tone to the kidneys and builds up the whole system.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is a peculiar combination of roots, barks and herbs. No other medicine acts like it, because no other medicine has the same formula or ingredients. Accept no substitute, but insist on having Hood's, and get it today.

FREDERICTON

Last Tuesday evening members of the Methodist Church entertained the soldiers at their rooms, which was much appreciated by the men.

Major Heron of headquarters staff, St. John, was a week-end visitor to the city.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kitchen are receiving congratulations of their friends on the arrival of a baby boy, which was born on Monday last.

His Honor Chief Justice Hazen of St. John, has been invited to deliver the Alumni oration at the U. N. B. on May 16.

Lieutenant Kenneth Love of the Army Service Corps who has been here for two years, left on Wednesday for Halifax to take up his new duties, Mrs. Love accompanied him.

The Fraser Memorial Sunday school of St. Paul's Church is to be opened formally on Wednesday next in the form of a social.

The Cathedral choir were entertained last Thursday evening by Miss Grace Winslow. The members enjoyed a snow shoe tramp early in the evening and then repaired to Miss Winslow's where the remainder of the evening was spent.

The Victor Hatheway Chapter of the I. O. D. E. held a basket social in the church Hall on Wednesday evening. Over $100 was realized and the funds will go to the Chapter to carry on their good work.

There were many friends in this city pleased to hear of the engagement of Miss Nettie Bridges of St. John to Captain Colin MacKay as both young people have hosts of well wishers.

The lecture last Thursday evening under the auspices of the Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade was most instructive. Captain Weaver who delivered the lecture spoke of his own experiences while serving in the Army Medical Corps at Malta and Salonika. For those who are not fortunate enough to take a trip to the Mediterranean it was indeed a treat. The manner in which our wounded soldiers were cared for at these two important military centres, was most re-assuring to the fathers and mothers of those who had sons there. A short musical programme was given. Mrs. Montgomery sang twice, and a male quartette rendered several selections. A number of returned officers were on the stage with Captain Weaver.

WILL PROTECT ART TREASURE

Paris, Feb. 3.—Measures have been taken by the authorities to protect the art treasures of Paris from air raids. The stained glass windows of the Sainte Chapelle have been removed to vaults. The sculpture on the Arc De Triomphe has been covered with sandbags. The decorations by Carpeaux, illustrating the dance, in front of the opera and other art works, have been protected similarly.

FIRE IN TRINITY CHURCH, QUEBEC

Quebec, Feb. 3.—Fire broke out here during the service this morning in the basement of Trinity church on St. Stanislas street. The fire is thought to have been caused by an overheated furnace. The basement of the building was badly gutted while the upper portion of the church suffered from smoke and water. While the building is being repaired services will be held in the Anglican Cathedral, Church Hall.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH, IN WELSH'S CASE

Montreal, Feb. 3—"Accidental death" was the verdict of a coroner's jury Saturday in connection with the ending of Private Alfred Welsh of A. Company, 1st Depot Battalion, on electric light wires just outside of the Guy street barracks last Friday night. In trying to get to the street from the roof of the barracks he caught in the wires, which electrocuted him. Welsh was a native of Newcastle.

Quebec, Feb. 3.—Col. G. E. A. Jones, acting secretary under the military service act at Quebec, dropped dead here tonight in the vestry of the Anglican Cathedral, while in the act of putting on his surplice preparatory to entering the choir. The deceased, who was an advocate by profession, was a graduate of Bishop's College School and Laval University. He is survived by his wife, two daughters, Mrs. Meighen, wife of Lieut.-Col. Meighen, of Montreal; Miss Jones, of Quebec, and one son, Mervin Jones, of Quebec. The late Colonel Jones was apparently in unusual good health today and his death is said to have been due to apoplexy. He was fifty-eight years of age.

DIED.

WHITE—Suddenly, on February 3, 1918, Rhoda, infant daughter of Amisa and Wesella White, at Whitehead, Kings county, aged five months and three days.
Funeral on Tuesday, at 2 o'clock.

BIEDERMANN—On February 3rd, at her late residence, 86 Mecklenburg Street, Annie, widow of J. Oscar Biedermann, leaving two daughters and one sister to mourn.
Funeral on Tuesday afternoon from Trinity Church. Service at three o'clock.

WILSON — The death of George Elmer Wilson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wilson, of Lorneville, occurred Friday evening, Feb 1st, at his home, aged 7 years. Besides his parents he leaves three brothers and two sisters.

HICKSON—In this city, on February 3, Maude E. Hickson, eldest daughter of the late A. W. Hickson, survived by her mother, one sister and two brothers.
Funeral from her late residence, 12 First Street, 7.30, Tuesday evening. Interment at Belleisle Wednesday morning.

AKERLEY—At Springfield, Kings county, C. W. Akerley, leaving wife, one daughter and two brothers to mourn.
Funeral from his late residence Thursday.

WILLIS—On February 4, 1918, at his late residence, 51 Sewell street, after a short illness, George T. Willis, aged 55 years, leaving a loving wife and two daughters to mourn.
Funeral on Wednesday from his late residence. Service at 2.30 o'clock.

Clearance of Suits

At Sharp Reductions

$10, $15 and $17.50

For men's suits that were $15 to $28. Odd suits that have accumulated after the season's selling and qualities we do not propose to repeat. Sizes 34 to 44. Some pinch-backs among them.

Clearance of Overcoats

A good selection of overcoats at $10.50, $12.50, $15.50, $17.50.

Chiefly Ulsters, but some smart Chesterfields in fancy cloths among the lot.

Gilmour's, 68 King St.

MINIATURE ALMANAC.

February—Phases of the Moon.

Last quarter	4d	3h	52m	a.m.
New moon	11d	6h	5m	a.m.
First quarter	17d	8h	57m	p.m.
Full moon	25d	5h	35m	p.m.

Date	Do of W.	Sun Rises	Sun Sets	H. Water a.m	H. Water p.m.	L. Water a.m.	L. Water p.m.
5	Tu	7.45	5.32	6.06	18.42	...	12.13
6	We	7.44	5.33	7.05	19.38	0.35	13.14
7	Th	7.43	5.34	8.02	20.31	1.34	14.14

THE WEATHER

Toronto, Ont., Feb. 4.—The weather is extremely cold over Ontario and Quebec, while in the west the temperature is rising quickly, with a Chinook blowing over the southern portions of Saskatchewan and Alberta.

	Min.	Max.
Prince Rupert	40	44
Victoria	46	48
Vancouver	44	50
Kamloops	32	44
Calgary	10	50
Elmonton	0	18
Medicine Hat	40	42
Moose Jaw	*19	30
Regina	*29	29
Prince Albert	*22	16
Winnipeg	*28	*6
Port Arthur	*24	*8
Parry Sound	*26	*12
London	*10	10
Toronto	*12	*2
Kingston	*6	*2
Montreal	*12	4
St. John	*12	20
Halifax	14	34

*—Below zero.

Forecasts.

Maritime—Strong winds and gales, northwesterly to westerly; local snow flurries, but generally fair and very cold.

Washington, Feb. 4.—New England—Fair and slightly colder Tuesday; Wednesday, fair, continued cold; moderate northwest gales.

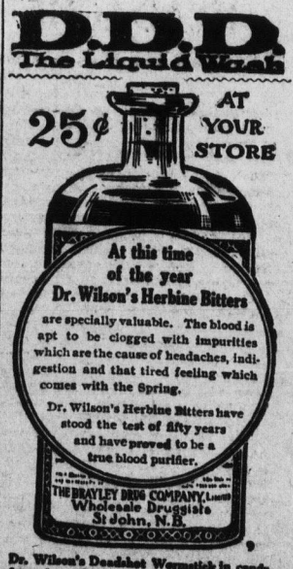
ATTACHED TO JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.

Owing to a change recently made under the Military Service Act, Lieut. R. A. Davidson, chief military representative in New Brunswick, has been transferred from the Militia Department and will in future act under the Department of Justice.

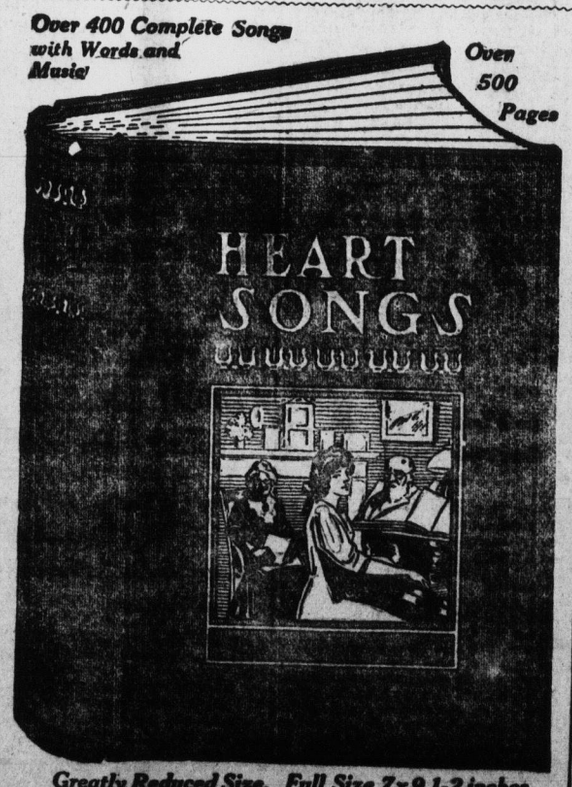
WHAT DOCTORS USE FOR ECZEMA

A soothing combination of oil of Wintergreen, Thymol and other healing ingredients called D.D.D. Prescription is now a favorite remedy of skin specialists for all skin diseases. It penetrates the pores, gives instant relief from the most distressing skin diseases.

E. Clinton Brown, Druggist, St.John, N. B.



Dr. Wilson's Deadshot Wormstick in candy form for children is a safe cure.



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