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MANITOBA'S STAND ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Provincial Ministers Leave Today To Attend Confer- ence At Ottawa

Premier Bracken, Hon. R. W. Craig, with Prof. Chester Martin, leave for Ottawa this morning for the conference with Premier King on the Natural Resources question.

The representatives of Manitoba will stand on the terms of settlement set forth in the resolution which obtained the unanimous approval of the legislature at the last session, it was learned. This resolution called for the immediate return to provincial control of all lands not alienated and an accounting as between the two governments for all the lands alienated from 1870 until the time of the transfer. This accounting, the resolution pointed out, could be carried on through a board of arbitration and was to be done upon a fiduciary basis.

Resolutions Adopted

The following was the resolution passed at the last session of the legislature:

"Whereas the self-governing provinces of the British dominions, with the exception of the prairie provinces of Canada have been endowed, upon assuming the duties of responsible government, with the control of Crown lands within their boundaries for the purposes of provincial revenue;

"And whereas the premier of Canada were held to warrant the denial of similar rights in respect of public lands to Manitoba in 1870 have long since passed away;

"And whereas the premier of Can-

ada, on behalf of the Dominion, has expressed the earnest desire of our government to bring about an early settlement of the question;

"And whereas the premier of Canada has further stated that the lands could without further delay be handed over to the provinces if the prairie provinces were prepared to ignore the transaction of the past, and that, if, however, the government of the prairie provinces would not be satisfied with such an arrangement, but would prefer an accounting between the Dominion and the provinces from the beginning by an independent tribunal, we would not object to such a plan;

Full Provincial Rights

"Be it therefore resolved that this house do urge upon the government of the Dominion the immediate recognition of full provincial rights for Manitoba in respect of public lands as from 1870.

"And that pursuant to these rights this house do hereby propose to the government of Canada that immediate steps be taken in conjunction with the government of Manitoba to transfer to this province all lands and natural resources within the province hitherto unalienated and to effect an accounting to the province by the Dominion upon a fiduciary basis in respect of the administration and alienation of the natural resources within the province since 15th of July, 1870;

"And be it further resolved that in the opinion of this house the accounting to which this province is entitled is not a mere balancing of receipts and expenditures by the Dominion in respect of Dominion lands, but an accounting to the province upon a fiduciary basis for

resources alienated or administered by the government of Canada; such accounting to proceed upon the recognition aforesaid of full provincial rights for Manitoba in respect of public lands as from 1870;

"And be it further resolved that if the above basis of such an accounting be conceded by the Dominion government, the details in the opinion of this house might properly be carried out by a board of arbitration; and that negotiations to that end should be promptly followed up by the government on behalf of this province."

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