

Dr. Hewitt spoke about the fur-bearing districts of the Northwest. British Columbia produces about one-third of the fur produced in Canada. We have established a system, under which we can give you exact figures of all the fur that is taken in the province and exported at any time. Mr. Hose, who is with me, will be pleased to explain the system and to give an idea of the amount of fur taken out yearly.

One year ago, the Game Conservation Board of British Columbia was created, of which I am proud to be chairman. During the short time that we have been in existence, we have accomplished wonderful results. I should like to see Conservation Boards and Game Protective Societies established in all the other provinces. In British Columbia two game protective associations have been established—one in the interior and one on the Pacific slope—comprised of representative sportsmen of the province. These associations have entered into the spirit of conservation and are doing a great deal of valuable work in preserving, protecting, and conserving game.

Hon. E. A. SMITH (Minister of Lands and Mines, New Brunswick): At the last session of our Legislature we passed what is known as the Forest Act. Formerly we employed a number of men, at a certain time of the year, to scale our logs. Then, a certain number of men were employed, during portions of the year, to protect our forest lands from fire, and we had another set of men temporarily employed for the conservation of our game, and known as game wardens. I do not think that any of these branches of work was carried on in the best interests of the province. The Forest Act, as passed last year, was coupled with the Forest Fires Act. Under the Forest Act we consolidated or combined those three outside services, and made the employees permanent instead of temporary. I do not think there was any saving of money; I did not take that into consideration. What I did take into consideration was chiefly the conservation of our game and our forests. In placing the Bill before the Legislature I contended that we did not get efficient service from our temporary employees, and that the appointment of permanent employees would give better results. Examinations of candidates were held, and no man was given a position who did not possess qualifications for the line of work in which he was to be employed; and, when selected for appointment, the first six months of his service was to be a probationary period. Lumbermen and others in the province are objecting to the new Act, but I feel that it was a forward step, and we are getting the results.