

had been chartered by the board of education of the city of Detroit. Kingsville is a beautiful town, situated in one of the finest counties in all America.

Mr. MARTIN: The best county.

Mr. MacNICOL: One of the finest, not only in Canada, but in America. It is situated in a perfect garden country, a fact which must be known to all who have been there. These buses turned at the main corner of the town of Kingsville for the purpose of going north for a distance of a mile or so to the sanctuary created by the late Jack Miner.

One of the men standing at the corner was Mr. Arthur Allen who, on several occasions, had proposed to the Kingsville council that they take steps to set apart a day. He had suggested that they should choose April 10, Jack Miner's birthday, as a day on which not only the children from Detroit, but those from all other parts of Ontario and the United States might visit the sanctuary. That is the origin of the bill. The idea was suggested to me while I was there, with the result that in the following year I introduced a bill. However, on account of the war, it was suggested to me that any action in connection with the bill might be deferred until after the war. I was glad to comply with the suggestion; I am always happy to cooperate if I can.

I know there is nothing I can add to either the name or the fame of Jack Miner. All the great men in America have done that; they have left nothing for anyone else to add. Therefore I shall not try.

I have been asked what states have wild life days. Perhaps I should explain that I have received literature from the United States. A tremendous amount of it has come to my desk, from all sorts of organizations. That to which I shall direct the attention of the house is the literature which reached me from that great American organization known as the National Wild Life Federation in the United States. From that literature I learn that it was the late President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, a very great friend of our own Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King), who originated the idea in that country. I might say, in passing, that it is a blessing the President and our Prime Minister were such good friends during those days of struggle through which we have passed. I believe that our Prime Minister's influence with the President was most helpful in those negotiations which took place between the United States and the British empire.

It was in 1938 that the late President set apart the first day of spring as wild life day in the United States. They set apart the week of March 21—and had I known that when I drafted this bill, instead of mentioning a single day I would have inserted the words "the week of April 10". Some people have asked, "How are you going to hold to April 10, when it might fall on a Saturday or Sunday, and in that way would not be effective in the schools?" I note that in some of the states this difficulty has been overcome by setting apart a week or a month and, if this bill is accepted, the necessary change could be made in this direction by way of amendment.

In the United States they have what is known as national wild life week. This is the statement made by the National Wild Life Federation:

National wild life week, originally proclaimed by President Roosevelt in 1938 as a period in which Americans should give thoughtful consideration to wild life, its restoration and preservation, will begin this year on March 21, the first day of spring, the National Wild Life Federation has announced.

Sponsored by the federation, wild life week is featured by many kinds of educational activities carried on by various organizations, groups and agencies affiliated with the federation. In addition there will be lectures, radio talks, newspaper stories, school programmes, etc., throughout the country, devoted to an intelligent approach to conservation of soil, water, fields and forests as well as wild life.

I am assured by the Miner foundation that they, and the organizations with which they are closely associated in Canada and whose work in connection with wild life conservation they sponsor, will supply all the literature required, and I have no doubt that they will carry out this undertaking.

Most of the southern states in the United States have adopted wild life weeks. They have followed the federal government's programme and have selected the week of March 21. In the south the season is much more advanced; in fact the geese and ducks all left for the north early in March. A little different programme is followed in the northern states, and I shall refer to Ohio as an example. Arbour day, which as I remember is on a Friday, in April, is selected and the week in which that day falls is set aside as wild life week. I should like to read two or three paragraphs from a proclamation which was issued by the state of Ohio in 1943. These read:

Whereas, for the past four years, the entire month of April has been set aside as conservation month in Ohio, thus kindling anew the interest of our citizens in all phases of conservation, and