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DAILY EDITION

Monday, Nov. 17, 1913

CANADA'S CHOICE
IS MADE EASY.

Mr. Borden's motto is "Canada Can't." Australia's motto is "Australia Can and Does."
New Zealand's is "We Can and We Will."
Sir Wilfrid Laurier declared at Teeswater on the 28th ult.: "We are growing as a national
people, and as a national people we are preparing to undertake all the duties and responsibilities
which appertain to the people. We are prepared to take our share to relieve England of the necessity of
defending us."
Which will Canada prefer, the hopelessness of Mr. Borden or the clear cut confidence of Sir
Wilfrid Laurier?

THAT CHANGE IN
SIR RICHARD.

Sir Richard McBride at a recent Ottawa Canadian Club banquet broke all rules of
decency and courtesy in order to advertise his allegiance to the Borden naval contribution idea,
but it took him longer to turn a back somersault from the unanimous position of 1909
than such agile politicians as Premier Borden and Hon. Mr. Foster.

In a speech at Vancouver on August 9th, 1912, Premier Sir Richard McBride of British Columbia said: "Here we have
the responsibility of guarding the portals of the Dominion, and we should be all the
readier to show that we realize the responsibility in this regard

and our readiness to act if need rises. There are even now being
erected or proposed costly railway terminals and big industries will follow these.
Factories and warehouses are springing up. IF WE PROPOSE TO SECURE THE
SAFETY OF THESE TREMENDOUS INVESTMENTS WE MUST BE SURE OF ADEQUATE NAVAL STRENGTH."
The same responsibility exists today of guarding the western portals of the Dominion.
The same necessity for protecting the tremendous investments on the British Columbia
coast exists today. By what species of political legerdemain did Premier Borden induce
his picturesque follower from the Pacific Coast to swallow his opinions and common
sense in order to join the "Canada Can't" contribution crowd?

CANADA AND HER
LITERATURE.

Six hundred men and women at the banquet of the Canadian Club of New York heard Hon.
George E. Foster, minister of trade and commerce, say: "There is a reciprocity deeper
and greater than the exchange of butter and eggs, tomatoes and potatoes. There is the
reciprocity of language and ideals and literature."
Now in regard to the latter, was the Hon. George really promising those six hundred
ladies and gentlemen copies of the government blue books containing the history of his
recent travels? We wonder.

IS SALMON INDUSTRY HURT
BY RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION?

STARTLING AND UNEXPECTED RESULTS SAID TO FOLLOW
CANADIAN NORTHERN CONSTRUCTION THROUGH
THE FRASER RIVER CANYON.

Ottawa, Nov. 13.—A loss of many millions of dollars to the
British Columbia salmon fishing industry, and probably the total
disappearance of the famous "big run" every four years, is one
of the startling and unexpected results of the construction of the
new Canadian Northern transcontinental line through the
Fraser River canyon. The loss is apparently irreparable. Capitalized, it means to the Pacific
Coast fishing industry, American and Canadian, in Puget Sound
and on the Fraser River, possibly half as much as the whole
Canadian Northern Railway transcontinental has cost to construct.

The facts of the case and the extent of the damage done are now being investigated by the
department of fisheries here, with a view to co-operating with the
British Columbia department of fisheries in taking all possible
remedial measures.

In August last at the time of the big quadriennial run of salmon
up the Fraser River to the spawning grounds it was discovered
that literally millions of salmon were being held back from
further ascent of the river beyond the narrow pass at Hell's Gate,
where C. N. R. construction, combined with the unusually high
water on the Fraser, has altered the currents, and eddies in the
river from previous years. The blasting and filling operations for
the C. N. R. along the ledge of the river at this point had so altered
the current that the salmon could not take advantage of the
cross currents and eddies of preceding years to make headway
against the abnormally swift flow of water and reach their usual
spawning grounds. In consequence millions of the big 4-year-old fish
turned back or died without spawning.

Efforts were promptly made by the provincial fisheries authorities
to restore normal conditions, and a part of the C. N. R.
construction was hastily demolished. A comparatively small
number of salmon got through to the spawning grounds.

The result will be that four years hence, when the salmon
spawned this year come back on maturity to spawn, the run will
be only the usual normal run of the past three years. The recurrence
of the "big year" runs every four years depends of course on the spawning being
equally maintained. This year, which was a "big year," the salmon
came up the river in the expected numbers and the total
catch was an immense one. But the number of fish spawning fell
far short. The next big run year, in 1917, will, therefore, according
to the fears of the fishery experts, prove to be a comparative
failure. And consequently, too, four years after that and for every fourth
succeeding year the same conditions will apply. The difference in
the value of the catch between the "big year" and the "off years"
is at least \$4,000,000 to \$5,000,000.

It may be that a similar blockade of salmon was caused when
the C. P. R. was built through the Fraser River canyon, and in
this may lie the recurring three year periods of comparatively
small runs. An alteration of currents on the fourth year after
the C. P. R. was constructed may have followed a change in the
railway line at the point of blockade. Thus the fish might
have all got through to the

spawning beds, with the result that four years later there would
be a similar big run.

In order to prevent a similar blockade of salmon in the Fraser
River near Hell's Gate next year runways for the fish are now being
made, and currents are being directed so as to give the fish an
opportunity to "tack" up stream at the places now made impassable
through the narrowing or the straightening of the narrows by
the railway work. The total cost of the remedial measures now
under way will probably be nearly \$250,000. An effort may be
made by the government to make the C. N. R. pay for this expenditure
or part of it.

SOME MISCONCEPTION
AS TO CONSERVATION

Mere Hoarding Would Prove Almost as Wasteful as Reckless Destruction

A common popular misconception with regard to conservation
is that it consists in merely saving or hoarding natural wealth
for the use of future generations. Nothing could be farther from
the truth. Mere hoarding is not conservative; it is almost as
wasteful as reckless destruction. The man who buried his talent
in the earth was told that he might at least have put it out at
interest even if he were afraid to venture it in business. Wise
statesmanship regards our natural resources as so much capital,
of which the State is the trustee. The community is entitled
to the interest, but the principal should be conserved for all
time. An exception to this rule must be made in the case of
minerals, such as coal, of which there is only a limited supply,
that, when once used, can never be restored. But in the case
of our forests, our lands, our seas and our wild animal life,
the existing supply of timber, of soil fertility of fish and of
fur bearers, should never diminish, but should rather increase.

To be convinced that this is possible, it is only necessary to
glance at Europe. In England, thanks to intensive cultivation,
the soil produces better crops than centuries ago; in Germany
the forests are so managed that in spite of a large output each
year's cut is balanced by the new growth, while the teeming
waters of the North Sea have supplied a half dozen countries
with fish from time immemorial. In respect to the threatened
extinction of our fur bearing animals, the new industry of
fur farming may be relied on to obviate this. Conservation
may be applied to mineral products in preventing unnecessary
waste, and the progress of science is continually unearthing
substitutes for the rarer substances. It may indeed be
confidently expected that, with wise use of our natural
endowments, there is no danger of humanity ever lacking any
essential materials.—Portland Canal Miner.

INFORMATION WANTED

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73. Other papers please copy. 4t.

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MINES AND MINING

Valuable Pamphlet Recently Issued by the Department

The mines branch of the department of mines has recently
published a very useful pamphlet presenting interesting information
on minerals and mining in Canada. This has been compiled
under the direction of Mr. J. McLeish, chief of the division of
mineral resources and statistics, who has had the co-operation of
several officers of the mines branch staff, more particularly
Messrs. C. T. Cartwright, L. H. Cole, H. Frechette, H. S. de Schmid
and A. W. G. Wilson. The publication is remarkable for its
concise, clear statements. Scarcely has so much information on
such subjects been given in so few pages.—Portland Canal Miner.

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