

THE DAILY NEWS
 PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA
 Published Every Afternoon, except Sunday, by Prince Rupert
 Daily News, Limited, Third Avenue.
 H. F. PULLEN - Managing Editor.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
 City Delivery, by mail or carrier, yearly period, paid in advance \$6.00
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 By mail to all other countries, per year \$7.50

Member of Audit Bureau of Circulations

DAILY EDITION Thursday, March 14, 1929

MISS BOWRON'S APPOINTMENT

Miss Lottie Bowron was recently appointed inspector under the educational department to investigate living conditions at outlying points where young school teachers receive appointments and where there is some doubt of their being proper accommodation for them. She is a woman who seems eminently suited for the position in every way except that she had been prominently identified with Conservative party activities. Her appointment was attacked by A. M. Manson on the ground that she would be used as a Conservative organizer wherever she went.

If Miss Bowron is going around the country talking politics, she should not hold the position, but if it is simply a fear that she may do so, then the criticism is not sound. It was not to be expected that a prominent Liberal would receive the appointment. We believe Miss Bowron to be a very capable woman and well suited for the position and doubtless the discussion in the legislature will be a warning to her to avoid politics in the course of her work. There is some doubt as to the efficacy of appointing such an official, but, at any rate, it is an attempt to deal with a difficult situation. The future will tell whether the appointment was justified or not.

TAKING QUICK ACTION

The government at Ottawa seems to be losing no time in regard to the work on the fishermen's floats here. The engineer already has instructions to survey a suitable site and it looks as if the work will be in hand soon. That is the kind of action we like. This weary waiting for improvements that never come is annoying. Prince Rupert has waited a long time for the building of these floats. Away back in the time when Mr. Hull was federal engineer and Col. C. W. Peck was member, probable sites were discussed and the work was expected to be done.

BARRAGE ON GOVERNMENT BY MEMBERS

Pattullo, Manson and Wrinch Urge Action in Regard to Salmon Fisheries

CANNERY MONOPOLY

Provincial Authorities Asked to Take Action to Preserve Fish in North

VICTORIA, March 13.—Criticism of the inactivity of the Commissioner of Fisheries in regard to infractions of regulations for the conservation of fish were leveled at Hon. S. L. Howe by T. D. Pattullo in the Legislature when the accounts of the Fisheries Department were under review.

Mr. Pattullo also charged the commissioner with setting up monopolies by his recommendation to Ottawa that no more cannery licenses be granted and took issue with him when he replied that the department was awaiting the decision of the Privy Council on cannery licenses before formulating a policy.

The department held a watching brief for the province, Mr.

Pattullo said. Grave infractions of the regulations were taking place and apparently he had done nothing. What was the use, he asked, directing attention to international conventions on fish preservation and ignoring the "mining" of fish under his very nose. Fish were being mined as the timber of the province was being mined and no word had been received from the Government that they were taking any steps to prevent it.

Howe Questioned

Mr. Howe was pressed both by Mr. Pattullo and Mr. Manson as to whether the Government had adopted a policy of limitation of cannery licenses at any rate pending the decision of the Privy Council on the right of the Dominion or the Province to grant licenses and was asked if the representations to the Dominion Government to issue no more licenses was made on the representations of the cannery interests and if the commissioner had received any assurance that the canneries would comply with the regulations for the conservation of fish.

Mr. Howe replied that the representations were made to Ottawa without any word from the cannery interests. Ottawa was asked not to issue any more licenses pending the Privy Council decision. He denied there would be any cannery monopoly. "As soon as B.C. knows its status we will formulate a policy," he said.

Mr. Pattullo thought it was strange that no representations had been made to the commissioner by cannery interests as representations were made to him during a time he was acting as commissioner of fisheries. He thought a search of the files might show representations went through the deputy.

Remiss in Duty

Mr. Manson claimed the Prov-

ince had the right on the issuing of licenses and the Dominion had no right at all. That was the ruling of the Supreme Court of Canada and stood pending any other decision. As the Supreme Court was unanimous there was not much probability that it would be upset. As it stood now it was wide open. Anybody could go into the canning business. Action should be taken to provide laws governing the situation. He spoke against limitation of licenses and curtailing the industry. Conservation of fish should be effected he argued by regulations, not by limiting the number of canneries. Fish had been "mined" for years in the face of persistent protests by the late Hon. William Sloan and he charged that now a ruling had given the Provincial Government control it was remiss in its duty in not taking the matter in hand.

Dr. Wrinch went exhaustively into various methods of conserving the salmon industry. He said that only one experiment by the Canadian Government, the drastic remedy of closing a stream for four years, had resulted in increasing the run, whereas the United States had got results by several methods. He also repeated statistics of an experiment made by a private fisherman which had resulted in trebling and quadrupling the supply until the Dominion officers had stopped him because they did not approve his method of closing the stream to all other fish that sockeye.

He urged the Minister to study these methods and see what could be done.

Premier Tolmie paid tribute to Hon. P. J. A. Cardin, Dominion Minister of Fisheries, and to the fact that a deputy minister for the department had been appointed. The Province was desirous of cooperating with the Dominion along the lines of conserving and restoring this important industry, he said. Mr. Pattullo agreed that the Dominion had done well to make a department of fisheries, but said the Province had its duty to perform also.

Dr. Wrinch pointed out that Quebec had been given control

of its fisheries and urged that Mr. Howe make application to have this precedent followed so that B.C. could also control this purely provincial industry.

The Letter Box

POINTS OF MORAL

Editor, Daily News:—

Olof Hanson's recent achievements at the capital aptly illustrates what a man of determination and pleasing personality can accomplish in diplomatic circles. It also emphasizes the fact that the influence of spell-binders in the House of Commons is waning, and that personal appeals to members receive sympathetic consideration and bring better results.

LOUIS FORKRUD.

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