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Artificial Spawning Grounds

WE ARE not certain whether chickens really come home to roost but we are sure that salmon come home to spawn even if the spawning ground has been man-made, the Fisheries Association of B.C. remarks. It points out that proof came last September when the first group of off-year spawners returned to the artificially constructed bed on the Fraser river which is now famous as the Jones creek site.

The channel was completed in 1954, and the following year 400 pinks and 160 chums were reported spawning. Of their estimated egg yield, 36 per cent of the pinks and 30 per cent of the chums survived to go to sea as fry, more than three times the average of natural survival. If all goes well they should return next autumn.

More important to the eyes of the scientists was the result of egg planting made two years ago when almost three million eggs taken from the Skeena system's Lakeelse lake were planted. Forty per cent of the plant survived and went to sea to set a phenomenal survival record. Of course, the acid test remained for this autumn but the spawners did not let the scientists down. At final count, 2,700 salmon returned to lay their eggs and complete their cycle.

It seems apparent now that pink salmon runs can be created on streams where none previously existed, provided there is a suitable supply of gravel and a controlled flow of water.

There is little doubt now that pink salmon have proved themselves amenable to artificial planting, but naturally the delicate sockeye which travels hundreds of miles up the coastal rivers to a tributary river presents a different set of problems. If they are to continue to survive and prosper, they must have free access to their spawning grounds throughout the entire length of their almost unbelievably long journey. The coho salmon require almost the same facility.

In view of the increasing demand for power development of B.C. rivers, there is tremendous significance in experiments to create artificial spawning grounds. It may well be that in continuing this work scientists will eventually find the answer to the question of how we can have power without destroying our great natural resource of fish.

Long Wait Ends

WHAT depression, war, and hostile occupation can do to the lives of little people is illustrated in the case of a Canadian Pole who has been reunited with his wife in Montreal after a 23-year separation.

The husband, Mr. Nicouai Gulych, came to Canada in 1933, and understandably lacked the means to bring out his wife and children in the years immediately following. In 1939 the Germans overran Poland, and by the end of 1944 it was under Soviet occupation. Only recently was Mrs. Gulych permitted to leave. Now the family hopes to bring out its children and grandchildren.

There was a time before World War II, when some immigrants to Canada were suspected of having no intention of bringing out their wives and children. Judges presiding over naturalization courts often asked pointed questions on this subject, on hearing applications from candidates long separated from wives and families left behind in "the old country." Frequently the sharp admonition was to bring out those dependents quickly.

In the case of the Gulych family, separation obviously was a penalty of hard times, war, and depression, in that order. The constancy that persevered in this case is admirable.

—Windsor Star.

As I See It

by

Elmore Philpott

Should MPs Vote?

PARIS—Canada again has a full delegation of 14 Senators and MPs of whom I am one of course, attending the second annual conference of MPs from all 15 countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

I am one of the two MPs who was also at the first meeting last year. I also had the honor of coming over a year ahead of the first meeting to discuss with Lord Ismay and the other NATO heads the desirability of holding joint meetings which have now come to pass.

The meeting this year takes place when the world has just had two hairbreadth, and perhaps merely temporary, escapes from war. Until the very last minute it was not even certain that the meeting would take place. It was even less certain that the Canadians would be able to come even if the others did.

Until a few hours before their plane took off from Ottawa, our men did not know whether or not they would be coming. Right now we do not know whether we will have to fly back to Ottawa before the end of the meeting to attend the special session of Parliament which the prime minister is expected here to call to endorse the despatch of Canada's contingent to the UN police force.

ONE notable difference this year is that the Americans are represented by a really topnotch team. Their 1956 list includes Senators Green, Russell, Fulbright, Humphrey, John on Capchart, Thye, Kuchel and Curtis. They also have nine congressmen of whom only one (Wayne Hays) was also here last year.

The British as usual at all such conferences have a very strong representation. Their leader is the universally liked Conservative Right Hon. Walter Elliot, but by the grapevine this morning, we heard that the Labor party leader, Hugh Gaitskell, is also coming over for some sessions.

The Liberal leader is on the British team. He is the Right Hon. Clement Davies, one of the most enlightened statesmen in the world today. He is the only prominent British parliamentary who has to his credit the fact that he pleaded with the British government of 1945 to delete the veto from the set-up of the United Nations.

Davies then held that even if a toothless UN meant that the Russians would not join, that would be better than being saddled with a set-up which would make clear-cut action impossible in time of crisis.

AS LAST year was the first joint meeting of the MPs from all 15 NATO countries we did little more than discuss the wisdom or otherwise of making them annual affairs.

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St. Andrew's Celebrates Jubilee

By CANON BASIL S PROCKTER
Rector of St. Andrew's Cathedral

Two events heralded the founding of St. Andrew's cathedral, the congregation of which today is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Anglican church in Prince Rupert.

On May 20, 1906, was held what is believed to have been the first Christian service of worship on Kaien Island. Bishop F. H. Du Vernet held this service at Camp Fairview, the Dominion government hydrographic survey camp. Then on June 17, 1906, Bishop Du Vernet held the first service in Prince Rupert in the Grand Trunk Pacific dining room tent.

However, the Golden Jubilee story of St. Andrew's cannot be told without mention of another man of great prominence who was part of this community for 32 years.

Rev. George A. Rix arrived with his wife in Prince Rupert from Orangeville, Ont., in 1913. He was rector of St. Andrew's for 18 years and later Bishop for 17 years.

Under his leadership the Anglican congregation was built and the church building completed. Though he never went overseas, he was the first chaplain ever appointed to the Canadian Army and throughout the First World War and post-war years he was in closest touch with the men who went from Prince Rupert and the families they left behind.

The lower part of St. Andrew's was the church from 1913 to 1924 and the construction of the upper portion was begun in 1924.

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The Editor,
The Daily News:
Canon Basil S. Prockter's letter of November 23 regarding a cartoon, drinking and dance, is away off the target at least a mile.

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