

zens. They have been living there for many years, many of them have their homes there, and he thought it would not be just to these men to attempt to move them suddenly. He understood there is a *modus vivendi* between the Dominion and Provincial Governments, by which the department was to be carried on by the Dominion Government for some time to come, and he hoped that the bill would be held over until the second session of the session, in order that the Government might consider the matter further.

From Top to Bottom.

Mr. Auld (South Essex) made a spirited reply to Mr. Powell. He did not think the Ottawa people ought to have much to say with reference to the fisheries of the Province, so he would not ask to have the bill laid over. As the representative of a county surrounded on three sides by lakes and rivers, he knew that in the past the fishermen, who constituted an important element of the population, had great difficulty in obtaining that consideration

which they deemed themselves entitled to. From what he knew of the way the department had been administered in the past he would have it reorganized from top to bottom, and would not consider for a moment whether a man lived in Ottawa, Toronto or anywhere else in the Province, but he would have men put into the offices who would have some consideration for the people of the Province. The head officer at Ottawa is on record as saying that whitefish cannot be caught on the Canadian side of the Detroit River. That might do for Ottawa, but here they wanted a man who will always do justice to the Province of Ontario. The Canadian fishermen are only allowed to fish in certain limits; just across the line they are allowed to fish with all kinds of nets—pound, hoop and gill—and every device known to catch fish, while on the Canadian side only pound nets can be used, and gill nets are not allowed. Within twelve miles on the American side can be found a hundred nets, and for sixty miles on the Canadian side not one. To-day there is only one solitary license on the Canadian side in the Detroit River, and on the American side there are a hundred. It would, under these circumstances, be best to start out with a new staff, and he did not think the suggestion to consolidate the work in any way under the game wardens would be wise, as these officials did not understand the fishery industry. The fisheries are now worth several hundred thousand dollars yearly, but with proper administration will in a few years bring in four times the amount. The hon. representative from Ottawa spoke about the fish hatcheries, which he did not want to have removed from that city. He reminded the hon. gentleman that there is a fish hatchery in Essex, but if it was found desirable to move it to some other and better place, which he did not believe it was, he would have no objection. One thing he did say, that the whole policy of the Fishery Department in restocking the fisheries of the Province is wrong; that of the millions of small fry turned out into the lakes

and rivers, not one in a thousand matures and becomes fit for food. They should be kept for nine months or a year, until they are larger in size, when they could be safely turned into the lakes and streams. He repeated his desire to have men appointed who would foster and encourage the industry in the Province. The men at the head of affairs at Ottawa might be good deep-sea fishermen, but they are no good in regard to fresh water fishing in Ontario. He strongly protested against the suggestion of the hon. member for West Elgin that none but those solely occupied in fishing be licensed. There should be no discrimination of any kind; many men were compelled to resort to other means of gaining a livelihood during a portion of the year.

Col. Matheson contended that Mr. Auld's remarks were out of order, and Mr. Hoyle also said that Mr. Auld had not understood him. He merely wished to simplify matters. Already they had many issuers of different licenses, and if more were appointed it would be necessary soon to get an encyclopaedia to guide the public. Game Wardens were not overburdened with work, and there were no reasons why they should not be made to do some of the work.

Mr. Hardy's Reply.

Mr. Hardy, in reply to the question of the hon. member for Ottawa, said that it was probable if it was found necessary or desirable that they should have some officer of the department at Ottawa who was competent and able and satisfactory to appoint, in connection with the position of the deputy commissioner, or one of the higher officers, such a man might be employed. But they had nothing to do with the staff at Ottawa. Because they were connected with the fisheries there it did not follow that they would be connected with the fisheries here. Their appointment would depend wholly upon the Lieutenant-Governor in Council; but speaking in a general sense and without being understood as committing himself by a pledge on the part of the Government, he thought it was desirable, if they should find an officer at a reasonable salary who had such information as they desired to make use of, that some such officer as that should be taken from the department at Ottawa. As to bringing more than one, that was a question which he was not able to answer at the present time. They were not themselves informed to any considerable extent as to what the duties might be, what they required or what they might involve. He had in his hand a return showing some of the Dominion officers. The list, which was read, was a long one, the salaries ranging from that of the Deputy Minister at \$5,200 to \$330. Mr. Hardy went on to explain that that staff was a very large one. It had relation to the fisheries of the Dominion, and related also to the lighthouses and matters connected with marine, and the salaries were much larger than they could hope to pay; they could not expect to move them to Toronto and pay them such salaries as they had there to any considerable extent. Nor could they expect or desire that the staff could be as large. Just what the number would be, however, would depend upon the information