

predations. He did not intend to go further than that. The Province will therefore be compelled to enforce the regulations so far as the Government desire to enforce them for the protection in inland waters and along the lakes, and also to provide for the issue of licenses.

More Direct Control Needed.

Mr. Garrow corroborated the assertion that the fishermen all along the lakes have for years been very much dissatisfied with the regulations under which they had suffered owing to the indifference of the authorities at Ottawa, who, being big men, could not perhaps be expected to give their attention to such small matters. He had been told by many experienced fishermen that one of the evils of the present system was that they had not experienced inspectors. The office had been peddled out among a lot of men who knew nothing about fishing; all they do is to issue licenses; they have no control or superintendence at all, and receive about \$100 a year. The requirements of the fisheries necessitated the presence of an inspector with some power, as if a fishing ground played out and the fisherman wanted to change his residence he had to obtain permission to do so, which could only be gotten from Ottawa, and months might elapse before he received it. What is wanted along the lake front is not a number of inspectors at \$100 a year but a practical man, who would receive \$500 or \$600 a year, and who would give his whole time to the work, and have power to change fishing grounds when necessary.

Mr. Miscampbell said the burning question with the fishermen in the Georgian Bay district was the three-mile limit, and whether this Government or the Dominion Government have the right to fix the locality of the fishing grounds. The mesh of net to be used was also a question much discussed. It was questionable whether the importance of the fisheries of the inland waters was properly appreciated, affecting as it did hundreds of thousands of the citizens of the country. Personally he endorsed the remarks of the hon. member for South Essex in opposition to the suggestion that fishing licenses should be confined to those men only who have no other occupation, because it is well known that many of the fishermen have to employ a portion of their time in other occupations than fishing. He asked whether, at the second portion of the session, it would be possible to amend or repeal any portion of the bill, and receiving a reply in the affirmative expressed his approval of the measure being passed.

Mr. Carscallen (Hamilton), discussing the meaning of the judgment of the Privy Council and the relative powers of the Dominion and Province under it, said it appeared to him that the Provincial powers stopped short at issuing licenses. The regulations regarding the time, manner in which fish can be taken, the implements used and the fixing of close seasons were subjects for Dominion legislation, the Dominion being also empowered to impose a tax for revenue as a condition to the right

to fish. It appeared to him that the question is one of very great Provincial importance and ought to be approached without regard to its political effect or bearing whatever; the great object being to avoid any conflict with the Dominion Government respecting the rights of either party under the judgment. Unless some other arrangement has been made both Governments may be maintaining a set of officials to cover the same ground. The question at present seemed complicated.

In replying to Mr. Carscallen, Mr. Hardy said they had a right to levy a revenue. The Dominion also had a right to levy a revenue. The Province had not only a right but it was their duty to enforce the law. The general law of the land was put in force by the Provincial Government. They, therefore, had the right to enforce or **the duty of enforcing such regulations**

or laws as might be made by the Dominion Government. But the Minister of Marine and Fisheries did not contemplate doing anything in connection with the Provincial fisheries, having regard only to the international aspect of them.

Mr. Thompson (Centre Simcoe) asked that proper precautions be taken to preserve the bass fisheries in Georgian Bay, and also that the property of tourists be made secure by having the fishery officers also sworn in as Provincial constables.

Dr. Pyne (East Toronto) suggested that the illegal killing of fish might be minimized if a registration fee was imposed upon the owners of nets. The illegal killing was not so much done by regular fishermen as by settlers over whom the inspectors had no oversight, not knowing who had nets or who had not.

Hon. Mr. Hardy explained that such a condition could be laid down in the license if it was considered expedient by the expert who would deal with the question. He did not think it proper to burden fishermen with such a restriction at the present time. It was a matter for future consideration.

Mr. Wardell (North Wentworth) asked that the inspectors and other officials employed by the Government in the backwoods of Muskoka should see that the dams constructed by the lumbermen across the lakes of that region be supplied with proper fishways, so that the fish could get up the waters to spawn.

Dr. Barr (Dufferin) spoke of the necessity of protecting the rights of the settlers and of the sportsmen interested in fishing.

The bill was then reported and stands for its third reading on Thursday.

Questions.

Mr. Brower—Have inspectors been appointed to attend to the destruction of the San Jose scale in the East Riding of Elgin? If so, how many and what are their names? What salaries do they receive and for what length of time are they employed?

Mr. Davis replied as follows:—The district of East Elgin is included in the territory allotted to A. H. Woodbridge of Kingsville, who was appointed as inspector under the San Jose scale act. He appointed four assistants for East Elgin, each of whom has