

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Two men representing the fish industry, one from the West and one from the East.

Hon. Mr. BRADBURY: And one from the Department.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Yes.

Hon. Mr. BRADBURY: That means the addition of three laymen. I am credibly informed that the gentleman who had the honour, I think, of being the first chairman of this Board—he is now one of the leading professors at McGill—was in the city within the last week, and, on learning what was taking place, he protested to the Deputy Minister in the interest of the fisheries of Canada that the proposition meant the destruction of the usefulness of the Biological Board. The statement which I made to the House the other day that the members of the Board were not consulted regarding this Bill, was, I believe, absolutely correct. This gentleman, I presume, knew what he was talking about when he gave this information.

This Board, as I say, is purely biological in its nature. I want to give the House in a few words some of the things it has been doing, to show how absurd it is to attach to it laymen who know practically nothing about the subjects that come before the Board.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I am sorry that my honourable friend was not here last night when I read the statement from the Minister, and when I informed the Senate that the Department had an appropriation of \$70,000 in the Supplementary Estimates for the purpose of vigorously prosecuting a policy for the development of our fishing industry. A plant will be put up on the West coast and one on the East coast, and investigation will be carried on in regard to the curing, the salting, the freezing, and the cooking of fish. All this is for the purpose of developing the industry. It is intended to take advantage of the knowledge of this large Board of scientists, and to add to the Board two men who are familiar with the practical side of the fishing industry, and one man from the Department. If these gentlemen still remain in their ivory tower and refuse to come into contact with the practical men, it is time that they were thrown to the winds. I am told by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries that he will conduct a vigorous campaign for the purpose in view, which is a commendable one, and that if, through the defeat of this Bill, he has not this instrument with which to carry on his work, he will be obliged to postpone his efforts until next year and to drop the amount in the Estimates. He has there an organiza-

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tion which he can implement by adding to it three men; and I have not yet heard a reason why these representatives of science, who are not fallen from heaven, should be so much afraid of being polluted by contact with laymen.

Hon. Mr. BRADBURY: I am sure the House has been edified by the display of eloquence of our honourable leader in regard to this question. I may say that it has not impressed me a little bit. The Biological Board was formed for certain purposes. That Board, I understand, has functioned and has done splendid work—work of which these laymen will have not the slightest knowledge.

Hon. Mr. ROCHE: What is it they have done?

Hon. Mr. BRADBURY: I can give you a résumé of it. I hold in my hand the report of the Canadian Biological Board of 1914-15. I will run over two or three headings: "Investigation into the Pacific halibut fisheries, by Professor Arthur Willey; Notes on egg and larval stages of the halibut, by Professor Prince." what would these practical men know about that?

Hon. Mr. ROCHE: All about it.

Hon. Mr. BRADBURY (reading): "The commercial value of the kelp beds of British Columbia; lobster sanctuaries and hatching ponds; report on barren oyster bottoms."

Hon. M. SCHAFFNER: Take it as read.

Hon. Mr. BRADBURY: There is a whole list of this kind of thing, showing the work this Board has performed. I agree with my honourable friend that if this Board is not functioning to suit the Department of Marine and Fisheries, the proper way is to disband the Board, not to add to it and thus add to the expense of the country. My honourable friend makes a great deal of the fact that \$70,000 is going to be spent this year. They spent nearly \$50,000 last year in this investigation. This is no new scheme of developing our fisheries—talking about how to cook fish and salt fish and cure them.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: How many members constitute the Board to-day?

Hon. Mr. BRADBURY: Nine, I think.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Will they not remain with a majority to direct their investigations and their work as they see fit? How are they being injured by the addition of two practical men and one Departmental man when they still remain in the majority?

Hon. Mr. BRADBURY: I hold no brief for this Board. I am not claiming that they are