

*Supply—Fisheries*

of the landed catch of the famous fishing province of Nova Scotia, so I assume it ranks high if not highest in the nation.

• (4:20 p.m.)

I would be derelict in my responsibilities to my constituents were I not to take a very brief moment to appeal to the minister and his new parliamentary secretary, the hon. member for St. John's West,—who I am sure will agree with me coming as he does from a fishing area,—to assist in securing the co-operation of the minister's colleagues in the cabinet to see that requests for further development of the facilities in the area which I represent are given favourable consideration. Wharves are part of the infrastructure there, and it is folly to think of expanding or improving our fisheries without an adequate infrastructure. Many of the facilities to which I propose to refer specifically were fine structures which have now been outgrown and require enlarging and improving. On what is known as the French shore let me first of all mention Meteghan. This is a fine fishing port which is now limited because the wharf there is simply not big enough to offer adequate protection for the fishing fleet, which has now grown in size.

Yarmouth is a developing fishing port. Already two more fish processing firms have entered the area, but the present public wharf is inadequate. The harbour needs an additional wharf on the west side in order to take care of the inshore fishermen, who must not be forgotten. I believe it would be advisable for the government to acquire the old C.P.R. wharf from which the boats used to sail from Yarmouth to Boston and which is now abandoned. It will be necessary very shortly to expand the wharf facilities in Yarmouth proper, so I suggest that this property be acquired now.

At Pinkney's Point additional wharfage is absolutely essential. The port presently cannot handle adequately the number of boats which use the facilities, and this number is increasing year by year.

At West Pubnico a very fine wharf has been built but this too is completely inadequate at the present time. The condition there will become worse as time goes on and as more boats attempt to use it. This is a wharf from which fishing both inshore and offshore is conducted.

With regard to Cape Sable Island, which is a very important fishing area in the community, the department earmarked some

[Mr. Bower.]

sums in the estimates to construct a wharf at West Head. Engineers visited the site and tenders were called, but nothing has happened and the people there would like to know what is going on. This island is within the boundaries of Shelburne county.

In the Port Latour area an additional wharf is required at Smithsville. Some 50 to 60 boats located there have no wharf to use; they lie scattered all over the place.

Shag Harbour, which is one of the greatest lobster fishing ports in the world, has a wharf which is now completely overcrowded and inadequate. At Pleasant Point, which is in the Lockeport area, nothing has been done to improve the facilities despite repeated requests for improvements in order to service the boats fishing there.

I would also appeal to the minister to use his good influences with the Atlantic Development Board to ascertain what has become of the programs which were planned and announced in connection with the provision of fresh and salt water supplies to the fish plants at Lockeport and Shelburne. This has created a situation which is causing grave concern to the area surrounding both these towns. I am not going to hold up any further the consideration of the estimates but want to wind up on this note. Having heard the very able exposition of the hon. member for Queens-Lunenburg in regard to the so-called 12-mile limit, I heartily support everything he said. I would assure the minister that mere promises to regard the matter as urgent are not going to satisfy for much longer the people in Nova Scotia, particularly those in the constituency of Shelburne-Yarmouth-Clare. They require action.

**Mr. Barnett:** Mr. Chairman, the hon. member for Shelburne-Yarmouth-Clare tempts me to enter into a discussion with him as to whether Comox-Alberni may not be a better fishing area in Canada than his constituency, but I suppose that the best way to settle that matter would be for us to take one another on a conducted tour of our respective constituencies.

I have noticed that the Minister of Fisheries has been busying himself with his pencil taking notes as various members have raised points in the discussion this afternoon, and if his pencil is not yet too dulled there are a couple of other points I should like to raise for his consideration before he replies to these estimates. One of them has to do with the discussion that took place earlier on the