

information as well. After talking to the members of the Fraser River Harbour Commission, who were apparently notified yesterday that this Bill was coming before the House today—they had not done any preparatory work until yesterday, I found that they had indicated that this Bill will include land that is privately owned. When drawing the boundaries prescribed by the Bill on seven different maps, it can be found that each indicates that some private property is included in the boundary description.

I am quite surprised that the Hon. Member who moved this Bill, as well as the Hon. Member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor) who seconded the reference to the committee today, both of them strong advocates of property rights, may in fact be proposing to expropriate private property, take it away from some innocent individuals who are probably themselves not aware of the implications of this Bill.

Mr. Friesen: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I know that the Hon. Member who spoke just now is a teacher. His teaching capacity lacks credibility because he has not read the Bill very well. It specifically speaks to those lands that are now controlled by the Harbour Commission. It does not deal at all with private property.

Mr. Miller: I would like to thank the Hon. Member for that interjection. I am not sure that the Hon. Member himself has studied the boundary descriptions. I must admit that my information comes only from the Harbour Commission and I obtained it only today. As I understand it, they do have access to seven different maps of their harbour. In each case they indicate that there is some private property included in this jurisdiction. The previous speaker from the Government side had also indicated that the lands in question take in far more than simply the boat basin and that property.

I am not objecting to the use of any property that is now in the hands of the Harbour Commission being transferred to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Perhaps there is some validity to that. However, if there is private property involved, I think we must look at these property descriptions first to determine if they conform with what is presently under the Fraser River Harbour Commission and if, in fact, there may be some possibility that the Harbour Commission has land in that description that is privately owned and should be excluded from the Harbour Commission.

With the consideration of the long-term aspect of the fishing industry and the question of whether private property rights are affected by this bill, we are quite prepared to consider the possibility of transferring that property to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans because realistically it should be under that Department. If it is serving the fishing community, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans has the responsibility to provide the facilities to make that industry an efficient one and to meet the demands of individual fishermen. There is support from the fishing community for this transfer of land. We would be prepared to see a more thorough study of this Bill when it reaches the Committee on Fisheries and Forestry. We hope that it will be possible to clarify any misunderstanding

Gunderson Slough Harbour Act

about those boundaries and to work out an agreement which would be satisfactory to the fishing community.

Mrs. Ursula Appolloni (York South-Weston): Mr. Speaker, I would begin by asking the Hon. Member who introduced this Bill to refrain from interjecting about Members' former occupations before coming to the House because I must warn him that I will also be referring to the matter of private property. It could be that in his great wisdom the Hon. Member did make a mistake. If I may quote Robert Burns:

The best laid schemes o' mice an' men—

and Tory Members.

Gang aft a-gley;

However, I am opposed to the substance of Bill C-611, an Act to transfer control over certain lands commonly referred to as Gunderson Slough from the Fraser River Harbour Commission to the Ministry of Fisheries and Oceans under the Fishing and Recreational Harbours Act. If passed, this Bill would split almost in half the area presently administered by the Fraser River Harbour Commission. This Commission is one of the most successful of all ports, with an economic impact of \$5 billion in the Fraser River area. The figure represents one of the major findings of a port study conducted in the summer of 1981. The results were determined from the 1980 fiscal year information provided by 208 of the potential 327 port and port dependent industries. The direct businesses surveyed in the Fraser port study represented 23 different industries, but the final results were aggregated into ten industry sectors which describe the major components of the port impact.

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Direct industries dependent on the Fraser Port contributed 13,487 full-time equivalent employment positions to the regional economy. Secondary employment added a further 19,724 jobs, to yield a total impact of 13,211 employment positions. The total payroll impact was estimated at more than three-quarters of a billion dollars. Three hundred million dollars was derived from a direct component, with the remaining \$450 million attributed to the secondary component. The two major generators of payroll in the Fraser port study were the wood products industry, which paid out \$220 million in payroll, and the transportation industry, which provided approximately half that amount. The \$5 billion is the total sum of goods and services of the users of the port at the time this study was completed.

The area to be transferred, if the limits in Schedule 1 attached to the Bill are to be interpreted, includes ten acres of the Fraser-Surrey Dock, which is situated on the south bank of the Fraser River opposite the autoport. This area also includes five acres occupied by Titan Steel, one of the successful developments of the Fraser River Harbour Commission. Private lands are also included in this transfer, which also includes a road owned by the municipality of Delta and the Burlington Northern Railroad right-of-way. The Harbour Commission has 12 to 14 leases covering that area as well as