

the Canadian Naval Department. Without any desire to reflect too severely on the hon. gentlemen opposite who inaugurated the Canadian navy, I think I speak the sentiments of the people of the Pacific coast when I say, that the Canadian navy is regarded there as a joke, and I do not think that department should administer the fishery protection service. I think it would be far better administered directly under the Minister of Marine and Fisheries through his superintendents, who understand the requirements of the business. I would like to impress on the House the importance of this question. We are in the habit, in the eastern part of Canada, of regarding the resources of our country, which lie at considerable distances from the centres of population and activity as so remote as to be worthy of very little attention. I wish to tell this House that the fishery industry on the Pacific coast is of vital importance to the whole Dominion of Canada, and not simply as a source of revenue to the country. As we have pointed out, our fisheries in British Columbia produced last year over \$10,000,000. To give some idea of the growth of the industry, I will give some figures of the product of the fisheries of Canada and British Columbia, respectively, at different periods:

	Canada.	British Columbia.
1876	\$11,000,000	\$105,000
1889	21,000,000	5,300,000
1906	29,000,000	10,000,000

Had our policy been such as to conserve the fisheries of the Pacific coast, I believe that their product would have reached the value to-day of \$20,000,000. There is no question in my mind that, within the next five years, the value of this product will easily double, especially in view of the fact that, as I understand, the Minister of Marine and Fisheries is inclined seriously to take this question up and deal with it on its merits.

I wish to draw attention briefly to a most remarkable change which has come over the personnel of the fishermen of the Pacific coast. Ten or twelve years ago that business was carried on almost exclusively by white men and a few Indians. In 1889 there were between 9,000 and 10,000 white men and Indians, mostly white men, engaged in the business. At the present time it is a rare thing to see a white man working at it.

On the contrary, we have upwards of 10,000 Japanese engaged in this business. I submit, Sir, that it is an outrage to the people of Canada that such a condition should have been allowed to develop under our very eyes. Yet it is the direct result of the immigration policy we have had under the late administration during the recent years. Possibly people in the east may think that this is an insignificant matter

Mr. STEVENS.

but I would point out to them the fact that this industry, one of the most prosperous in the Dominion, has practically passed entirely into the hands of aliens, and these aliens belong to a race which is making great progress in their home land, and is developing one of the most progressive foreign policies of any nation in the world. All you have to do is to take a map, and examine the centres of activity of the Japanese, and you will find that their activities extend from Japan, around the north by the Aleutian islands, down the Pacific coast of British Columbia, Oregon and California, thence through Mexico to the South American continent. Wherever any commercial advancement is to be gained, you will find the Japanese. I have no quarrel with them for extending their business activities, but the people of British Columbia have been protesting during many years, and are protesting even more seriously to-day, against our government allowing these people to invade our shores and take control of one of the most profitable industries we have at present. Just see the effect of this influx on the life of British Columbia. If we have not sufficient white labour to take hold of this fishing industry, and other lines of business, it is because the class of people from whom we should draw that labour has been kept out of our country by the immigration laws we have had in force the last fifteen years which permit the immigration of Orientals. Take the fish-curing industry, under proper conditions that ought to be carried on by the boys and young men growing up in the families of white fishermen, but as that supply is to-day lacking, we are obliged to call in the assistance of Japanese and other Orientals. The same thing applies to other lines. Take the domestic help problem, you have all no doubt heard of the scarcity of domestic help on the Pacific coast. What is the reason? It is because the class of people from whom we otherwise would draw our domestic help has been kept out of the country and we have become entirely dependent on these Orientals. And what is to become of our merchant marine, if we allow this condition to continue? Hitherto we have drawn the masters of our vessels sailing into the port of Vancouver largely from the families of fishermen in the maritime provinces. It is from that source that we have obtained the captains, mates and sailors of vessels in our merchant marine. But, under our immigration policy, instead of our encouraging the building up of a class of people from whom we could draw our seamen for our commercial marine, we are encouraging an alien race, from which we can never expect to get the class of men best fitted to command and man our vessels, and we