

couver Island and along the west coast, and they did not sign because they were particularly interested in that one site but rather because they were interested in the subject generally. It was signed by people in Victoria, Vancouver and the district which I represent, and the district which is represented by Mr. MacNeil and by people at fishing centres generally.

Mr. GREEN: I think in fairness to the members of this committee who do not come from British Columbia it should be made quite clear that this question only concerns the Fraser River run and that, for example, fishermen in Mr. Neill's district are not affected one way or another.

Mr. NEILL: I object to that. We are vitally interested.

Mr. GREEN: I say they are not interested because of the fact that they are affected.

Mr. NEILL: We are, pardon me.

Mr. GREEN: From the places where these people reside it is quite obvious that they have nothing whatever to do with fishing involved in the area where these traps are located.

Mr. NEILL: I want to go on record as objecting to that. You might as well say that laws passed in Ottawa are only for the people of Ottawa. These petitions are filed on behalf of fishermen in British Columbia, and I am quite prepared to prove that.

Mr. KINLEY: As I did not hear it mentioned this morning I would ask if the petition now being referred to is from the employees at these four traps.

The CHAIRMAN: You will find that petition published in the return.

Mr. REID: Mr. Green I think will admit that the question of traps in British Columbia is a question of vital interest to all. It is not merely a question of the four traps in Sooke. We are not arguing the principle that traps should be established at Sooke at all, that is established; having established that we establish the principle that traps should be allowed at other points in which other fishermen are interested. I think that is a fair statement to make.

Mr. GREEN: I do not think it is. We are concerned with the Fraser river run only.

Mr. REID: It is a fair statement.

Mr. TOMLINSON: I think it is a fair statement.

Mr. TAYLOR: The Fraser river only is interested in this particular instance.

Mr. REID: The Fraser river is one point, you can't get around that; they are vitally interested, but I claim that the principle at stake is the principle of traps for the whole province of British Columbia.

Mr. POTTIER: Are there other places where they use traps in British Columbia? It seems to me that the matter of principle is involved.

Hon. Mr. MICHAUD: That might be true to a certain degree, but we must not overlook the fact that for 33 years the principle has been adopted that no traps should be permitted in any other area than that at Sooke.

Mr. REID: I grant that, Mr. Minister, if you take the resolution as it was brought down. We thought we were coming down here to debate the question of traps at Sooke; now we find that it embraces the whole question of traps in British Columbia, that means the whole thing.

Mr. NEILL: Yes.

Hon. Mr. MICHAUD: You must not forget that this was the principle which you submitted to the house, and which I undertook at your request to bring before the committee.

Mr. GREEN: The minister stated distinctly in the house that there would be no licences issued to any other places.