

Mr. BRODEUR. Some time ago my hon. friend (Mr. Barnard) read an article from a paper published in Victoria, and stated that there were depredations on the fisheries of British Columbia, and particularly on the west coast of Vancouver island. The hon. gentleman has been trying to poke fun at me, because, as he hints, I am not familiar with the geography of the country, but I would point out to the hon. gentleman that he read the newspaper article in such a low voice that I could not hear it, and then, after reading the article, he referred especially to Hecate straits, which lead me to think that his remarks were directed particularly to these waters.

Mr. BARNARD. I am afraid the hon. gentleman was not listening.

Mr. BRODEUR. On the contrary, I was paying every attention, but unfortunately, I could not hear the hon. gentleman's reading, and so, while part of my answers was directed to what I did hear, the other part may not have been appropriate to his question. If, when the hon. gentleman wishes to question me in future, he would give notice, I shall bring with me all the papers in the matter and be better equipped to answer him than I can possibly be speaking on the spur of the moment. However, the hon. gentleman will find, from the public documents, that we have largely increased, in recent years, the fishery protective service on the British Columbia coast. Perhaps it is not yet as efficient as it should be in view of the very active development of the fisheries there and the necessity for properly protecting them. I think, however, that the new addition made to the fleet will enable us to cope with the situation more effectively. It is true, as stated by the hon. gentleman, that some years ago we had a vote in the estimates for the purchase of a vessel, but although we did not purchase a vessel then we did charter one for the special purpose of looking after the fisheries.

Mr. BARNARD. Was that the 'Wm. Jolliffe'?

Mr. BRODEUR. I do not remember the name of the vessel.

Mr. BARNARD. Is she not released from charter now?

Mr. BRODEUR. If it was the 'Jolliffe' I do not think she is now chartered.

Mr. BARNARD. Was there any other vessel chartered for that purpose?

Mr. BRODEUR. I do not keep all these details in my memory, and I cannot now recall. I may say that after the vote appeared in the estimates the plans had to be prepared, and we afterwards thought that we could purchase the 'Rainbow'. Notwithstanding what my hon. friend says, I think the 'Rainbow' is suitable for doing a large part of this work. She may not be

able to enter certain waters where poachers are likely to be found, I do not think it advisable that poachers should be informed as to what our plans are, but I can assure my hon. friend that we are taking all the necessary steps to protect adequately the fisheries of the British Columbia coast.

Mr. LOGGIE. Mr. Speaker, I desire to ask the Minister of Marine and Fisheries whether there is a close season when herring traps cannot be used, or does the season extend over the whole year? I desire also to ask him, what is the maximum length of the leader from the shore to the bowl of the trap? As I understand, the herring trap is one which takes all kinds of fish frequenting our waters, including mackerel and salmon, which are fish of great commercial value to Canada. With respect to salmon, there is a close season, when Canadians fishing in purely Canadian waters cannot take them even under license, and I would like to ask the minister, can the American or Canadian, as the case may be, fish for salmon on the Labrador coast, or the Magdalen Islands coast at a season when it is not legal to take salmon in the other coastal waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence? This is a very important matter which may very seriously affect the fishing interests in purely Canadian waters. I quite realize that the concessions given to our United States friends are equal to those given to Canadians who go to fish in those dual waters; but at the same time I would draw the minister's attention to the fact that licensing the American citizen gives him a prior right in placing his trap, and, as I understand, the leader of this trap extends practically to the shore, so that to all intents and purposes he has privileges which a Canadian has not in purely Canadian waters. For example, I understand that mackerel traps are practically prohibited along the St. Lawrence coast. There is one on the north coast of Prince Edward Island, but it is the only one, so far as I am aware, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. It is under a heavy license fee, and it was there for many years before the licensing plan was in vogue. So that mackerel traps are practically not allowed in the purely Canadian coastal waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, whereas we are now licensing, in the coast waters of Labrador and the Magdalen Islands, a trap which is to all intents and purposes a mackerel trap, and which will also take salmon, which I believe frequent those waters, especially the Labrador coast, in large quantities, and at a season when our own fishermen are not allowed to take them. I think it only fair that the minister's attention should be brought to these facts.

Mr. BRODEUR. I do not know whether my hon. friend has seen the regulations