

*Supply—Fisheries*

ARDA there is no reason why in these small communities there should not be some small fishmeal plants put into operation. This would enable those parts of the fish that are now wasted to be utilized, to the benefit of the fishermen.

With respect to the short term program, Mr. Chairman, the most efficient way of giving assistance to the fishermen in my riding would be to provide them with a source of cheap credit. I have mentioned this matter a number of times and I am going to keep on repeating it. There are many good, hard working fishermen who could produce ten times as much as they are now producing and could make a much better livelihood for themselves and their families, but they are prevented from doing this because there is nowhere they can go to obtain cheap, long term credit. A fisherman—this happens quite often as a result of our heavy winter storms—has his whole fishing premises swept away; his fishing gear is lost, and even his boat. There is nowhere he can go to obtain the money with which to build up his business again. A man may build a boat for himself in the winter; he needs \$700 or \$800 to buy a modern diesel motor to put in the boat, but there is nowhere he can go to obtain this money. I believe this is the most effective type of assistance with which our fishermen could be provided under the short term program.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I would remind the minister that whatever national goals we may have with respect to a national fishery development program, and however much money we may be prepared to spend upon it, it will still be a waste of money, time and effort if it is not geared to benefit the individual fisherman. We have already had too many programs which have benefited everybody else but the fisherman. This could very well happen with this national program that we hope will come. Unless he is the central figure, unless the whole program is built up with safeguards to see that whatever money is spent is to assist the individual fisherman, he may not benefit at all. In my province the provincial government has lent millions of dollars to the fishing industry, but the fisherman has benefited little, if at all. We must avoid the same thing happening under this program; because unless a fishery development program is going to benefit the fisherman, there is no point having it.

**Mr. Rynard:** Mr. Chairman, in the short time left before five o'clock I should like to make a few remarks with regard to the

[Mr. Carter.]

fisheries and particularly as they are related to our inland waters. In the area in which I live we have one of the great inland waterways in the world. I would like to say first of all, in connection with the Atlantic and Pacific fisheries, that this is an industry that nets us \$200 million a year, I believe, and we occupy third place in the world with regard to the sale of fish. I think Japan is first, Norway second, and Canada stands third. We have the Atlantic and the Pacific oceans, apart from all the inland lakes in this country. I believe we are sometimes inclined to forget our inland lakes. This is particularly true with regard to the northland, to which people come from the United States, pay a great deal of money for their trip, have their fishing and then go back home. This is a great source of revenue, but once the fish in these areas begin to be depleted we will lose this revenue. This is happening today in the inland lakes; I refer particularly to lake Ontario, lake Erie, lake Huron, Georgian bay, and lake Superior. This is a great problem.

If I may now deal with the biological problem, Mr. Chairman, I would ask the minister whether his department has found that harbour seals are carrying a parasite. If so, is this parasite transmittable to other fish that are used commercially? I do not know whether the harbour seal can be used commercially, but I would like the minister to tell us whether this parasite can be transmitted to other fish; in other words whether other fish can be host to it.

Mr. Chairman, I see it is five o'clock.

**The Chairman:** It being five o'clock, I do now leave the chair.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** It being five o'clock, the house will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely private bills; notices of motions, papers; and public bills.

**Mr. Robichaud:** Mr. Speaker, if the house would give unanimous consent perhaps we could carry on in committee with the estimates of my department. Would the house agree to this course being followed?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Howard:** Mr. Speaker, we are quite happy to accede to that eminently good suggestion.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Does the house agree to the suspension of private members' hour?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.