

a major contributor to Canada's domestic food supplies, and provided vast quantities of fish to meet the critical food needs of the United Kingdom and some of Canada's other allies.

The people connected with our fishing industry have shown admirable enterprise and skill in developing these resources. During the war, for instance, canned salmon production set a new high record. Canned herring production increased many hundredfold and, as the need for vitamin oils increased, the comparatively small production was expanded into a large-scale enterprise of great importance. There is no need for us to turn back in this regard, providing our resources are subjected to sound conservation control and management.

Conservation involves more than merely Canadian action. Joint administration by Canada and the United States has already saved and restored the Pacific halibut fishery, and is at present rebuilding the famous sockeye run of the Fraser River system. Similarly, scientific research by biologists and technologists is yielding outstanding results, especially in the field of vitamin oils, where there is every prospect, under wise planning and direction, of notable developments in the future.

The Minister of Fisheries has already announced plans for a more effective administrative staff on both coasts to cope with the many problems arising out of a more intensified and diversified fishing operation. At the present time a class of 44 probationary fishery inspectors, all young veterans of the war, is undergoing a three and one half months training course in British Columbia, to fit them for the duties that lie ahead in that field. I do not know what further plans the Minister of Fisheries may have in mind to stimulate the progress of fisheries in British Columbia. Whatever they may be, they must be judged on their merits. At the same time, I am sure that honourable senators will take a sympathetic attitude toward proposals directed to this end. Canada's fisheries possibilities have perhaps not yet been fully realized throughout the country. One thing at least is certain: it is in the national interest that we make the most of these resources.

It is also within the power of the Parliament of Canada to have a very profound effect upon the preservation of such vital industries as lumbering and mining, which seem to come chiefly within the field of provincial regulation. As a result of the recent trend to do away with dual taxation, it will now be possible for the dominion to place its taxation of industry upon a much more scientific basis than has ever before been possible. I sincerely hope that

opportunity will be taken to consider the effect of taxation upon the long-range welfare of our basic industries.

The perpetuation of mining depends upon continued exploration and development of new fields. Taxation of the earnings of the mining industry can be so adjusted as to give encouragement to this development. There is already an important policy in effect in this regard, in allowing a depletion factor in calculating the earnings of mining companies.

A very eloquent plea has been made for a similar depletion allowance to the lumbering industry, based on fair present-day values. I wish to associate myself with this plea, and to urge most strongly that the government no longer delay action on it.

I should like to suggest also that in dealing with this matter our taxation advisers study the practicability of giving further allowances to the industry itself for reforestation, something which up-to-date the Government has not been able to do. Only by some such policy as this, I submit, can our important forest industry be preserved in the years to come.

The prospect of the dominion being able to play a more constructive role in taxation policy has been greatly improved through the successful outcome of the negotiations with the provinces for taxation agreements. I am more than pleased to know that six of the nine provinces have now entered into agreements with the Dominion Government.

It will be remembered that one of the primary purposes of the programme of redistributing the taxation powers of the dominion and provinces was to make it possible to institute in this country a programme of social services consistent with the principles of the Atlantic Declaration, the Charter of the United Nations, and the common aspiration of humanity.

It has been long recognized that, in a nation so closely integrated as Canada, the introduction of social services piecemeal by provinces is impractical. The extent to which such a programme can be carried out on a national scale depends very largely upon the proportion of the national income which is available to the national government for taxation and distribution in this way.

As early as 1944 the present government laid down a very broad scale programme of domestic legislation, which has already been largely implemented. The last session of parliament was dominated by the great programme of veterans' rehabilitation. The great remaining problems at this moment are the