

which will need to be investigated. There is for instance the matter of hatcheries, which has been referred to. I do not say that I am in favour of doing away with hatcheries; as a matter of fact, from my study of many years of hatchery methods, I thought that some improvement might be made in connection with the hatcheries of this country. But I have never advocated that the hatchery system should be discontinued, for I do not believe that this would be wise. Then there is the matter of the enemies of the salmon; for instance, the hair seal. This is a subject that must be studied. The hair seal at present destroys more salmon than the fishermen can catch. The fishermen have great difficulties to contend with in bringing in their fish, which are caught in the nets, before the seal can destroy them. There is also the danger from trout, which destroy the salmon spawn. Then there is the question of the restoration of the spawning grounds, thousands of acres of which, in the upper reaches of the Fraser river, have been entirely depleted, being now barren. Are these spawning grounds going to be restored? If you cannot restore them and get the fish to go there and spawn, then of course the run of sock-eye salmon will never be restored. What I want to know is whether this matter is being taken up seriously, or whether it has simply been handed over to Dr. Forester, who is looking into it and will perhaps in the dim and distant future submit some report which will be pigeon-holed. Is this what will happen, or do we intend to get down to business and see whether something practical cannot be accomplished? I must say, I am not satisfied with the information which the minister has given us to-night, and I really think the department should show more interest in the subject.

Mr. NEILL: I may explain that this biological station is not at Nanaimo but at Departure Bay, which is in the district of Comox-Alberni. I visited it last fall, but I am sorry to say that my memory is not sufficiently vivid to enable me to describe exactly what investigation they were carrying out. Dr. Clemens was not there, but I met his assistant, who showed me over the grounds and explained carefully the kind of work he was going in for and the methods employed. I can only say, speaking in a general way, that I was favourably impressed with the economy and the efficiency with which the station was being run, and with the fact that there was being carried on a work of a thoroughly useful character. I am sorry I cannot state the precise work he was engaged

on, but the impression left on my mind was that we were getting good value for the money spent on that station.

Item agreed to.

Building fishways and clearing rivers, \$30,000.

Mr. BAXTER: I would like this item to stand, because there is something regarding New Brunswick about which I wish to get some information. It depends upon the information I get whether I shall be justified in making any observations in this House or not upon this subject.

Item stands.

To assist in the conservation and development of deep-sea fisheries, and the demand for fish, \$95,000.

Mr. BAXTER: This is a very large question, and I do not think this is the time of night to enter upon a discussion of it. I know there are some hon. members, in this part of the House at all events, who have expressed an intention of discussing the question of getting better markets for deep-sea fish. We might let this item stand.

Item stands.

To provide for investigations into practical and economic problems connected with fisheries, \$10,000.

Mr. BAXTER: I would ask that this item stand, because I do not think any of us understand what is intended by it.

Item stands.

Progress reported.

On motion of Mr. Graham the House adjourned at 11 p.m.

Monday, May 11, 1925

The House met at three o'clock.

DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION ACT AMENDMENT

Hon. J. A. ROBB (Minister of Immigration and Colonization) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 112, to amend the Department of Immigration and Colonization Act.

He said: This is a very short bill. The amendment is necessary as a result of the courts of British Columbia deciding that section 4 of the Immigration and Colonization Act had the effect of transferring to the Minister of Immigration and Colonization the power conferred on the Minister of Justice by section 43 of the Immigration Act.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: What is the effect of the amendment?