

vessels in the south which carry nets 4,850 feet long and some 320 feet deep. It is natural with the decline of the tuna fish elsewhere that these boats should search for more productive areas. Many of those vessels contain freezing units, by which the fish that are caught can be preserved indefinitely.

It can be seen that, under the treaty, the commission on which I sit has some responsibility in saying to Canadian fishermen that they may not fish for salmon during certain months or during certain week-ends of the year. The fishermen may reply that they are not fishing for salmon, but everyone knows that nets do not catch only one species of fish.

I would suggest to the government that when introducing a measure such as the one now before us, consideration should be given to the points I have mentioned, so that in future inestimable harm may not be done to our sockeye salmon industry. I shall have something further to say about the Japanese peace treaty when it comes before us for ratification. At the moment, at least, we are protected from Japanese fishing operations in relation to salmon, herring and halibut.

In my opinion, honourable senators, this is an excellent bill. It is well to bear in mind, however, that in so far as fishery research is concerned Canada is away behind the times. I hang my head in shame when I realize that Japanese fishing interests know all the routes followed by the fish on our Pacific coast, and where they go, but we know little or nothing. Japanese scientists can tell that there are in the open seas definite lines or roads along which these fish travel. In years before the war, when I was pointing out these facts to the government, very little attention was paid to Japanese activities. I do not know whether we can expect anything better now, but let me say that we have a Fisheries Research Board which needs in the worst way to be overhauled. If I were speaking outside this house I might use stronger language. Much of the money allotted to this work is being wasted, and it is a fact that a foreign nation knows more about our fisheries and fishing routes than we Canadians know ourselves. I wonder whether honourable senators know that, although by treaty the Japanese have agreed not to fish for salmon, herring or halibut, before the war they were able to introduce into the waters of the Pacific nets six miles long. Do not suppose this is a "fish story"; I am giving facts. These people could, if they desired, plant the nets right across these lanes: they know where they are,

because their scientists located them when Japanese boats were off our shores before World War II. I pointed these things out to the government.

As I have said, this measure is splendid as far as it goes, and I commend the government for it. My chief reason for rising tonight is to point out that something further should be done. Too long have fisheries been looked upon by the government as an orphan, instead of one of the mainstays and basic industries of the country.

Hon. Mr. Baird: In reply to the question of the honourable senator from Toronto-Trinity (Hon. Mr. Roebuck), I think I can assure him, although I am less learned in the law than he, that embedded in the existing Act are provisions dealing with this matter of boarding and search that he has mentioned.

Hon. Mr. McDonald: Before the honourable gentleman takes his seat, will he tell us what have been the reactions of the appropriate departments of the provincial governments to the provisions of this bill?

Hon. Mr. Baird: Not any that I know of.

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was read the second time.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

Hon. Mr. Baird: Honourable senators, I move that the bill be referred to the Standing Committee on Natural Resources.

The motion was agreed to.

PRISONS AND REFORMATORIES BILL SECOND READING

Hon. H. R. Emmerson moved the second reading of Bill G, an Act to amend the Prisons and Reformatories Act.

He said: Honourable senators, some years ago British Columbia established an institution for the rehabilitation of young offenders or delinquents sentenced to terms of not less than three months and up to two years less a day. In 1950, at the request of the British Columbia government, an amendment of the Prisons and Reformatories Act was made, whereby the inmates could be transferred from Oakalla Prison Farm to New Haven. This New Haven institution has been so successful that the provincial government has established a second institution, which they term the Young Offenders' Unit, which, although a part of Oakalla Prison Farm, is in a separate building. The present amendment, which is requested by the government of British Columbia, is merely to enable them to transfer these young offenders from the