

opportunity to put those concerns on the record and to remind the minister of them.

● (1520)

If I may continue, there are just a few other matters I would like to comment on, and one is an apparent attitude that troubles some of us. I realize there are two sides to all of these stories, but sometimes a beef or complaint can arrive on a member's desk when officials of the department do not see eye-to-eye with a constituent, and we have to find the second side of the story. I bring this before the House again because it seems to be an attitude problem that is all too prevalent and that comes to our attention quite often.

We have people in the Department of Fisheries and Oceans serving the west coast with great skill. These men are scientists, bio-scientists and engineers who have entered the field of applied bio-sciences. Sometimes it has been my observation, rightly or wrongly, and I will ask the minister to take the opportunity perhaps to correct me, that a degree of possessiveness sometimes reaches these men in respect of their examination of ideas or inventions that come in from the marketplace.

One of these in particular was an application to the department on the west coast for some assistance or research for a herring pump. The Department of Fisheries, so the newspaper article and the individual involved reports, did not take up the suggestion although the performance of this pump had been demonstrated and did need improving. I should like to point out that this was an entrepreneur, an inventor, a mechanic, a man who had applied knowledge and was seeking some assistance from the department in respect of this mechanical aid to the industry.

That pump, that project, did not receive encouragement from officials in Canada on the west coast and it was taken to Los Angeles. That pump is now being manufactured in Los Angeles for a wider market than specified—

An hon. Member: And exported into Canada.

Mr. Huntington: Yes, and is being exported in Canada. Canadians are buying these pumps now manufactured in the United States for one of the purposes intended. The principle of the pump can be expanded and researched into other areas. It is this type of thing that causes an unnecessary level of anxiety in the community. Perhaps more open-minded attitudes, more discussion and less elitism between the scientist, the mechanic, the entrepreneur and the marketplace would be in order and advisable.

I mentioned yesterday that we are very concerned about the diminishing herring population inside the Gulf of Georgia. I will not repeat all of my remarks on that other than to say that on March 13, 1980, there was an article which appeared in the Vancouver *Province* that said officials had rapped herring research, and that they had only a mere pittance for studies. If it could be substantiated that they are not getting enough money for research and they want to come before a committee and make a case, I am sure every member from the west coast

Fisheries Improvement Loans Act

would help them impress upon the government the need for that research.

However, following that article I did receive input from people who are very interested in the performance of the department on the west coast. One gentleman who keeps me informed on a variety of matters pertaining to the coastguard, fisheries and environmental matters said he just did not agree with the newspaper article, that federal fisheries people say they are short of funds in herring research, and implied that the disaster is the result of penny pinching.

I do not want to see the herring resource on the west coast dry up for any reason, whether it is from overfishing, moving in on the roe harvest, or whether it is for lack of research.

In support of his statement, he goes on to say:

Any half-intelligent commercial fisherman could see what was happening.

That is so, Mr. Speaker. Anybody knowing the waters, knowing the resource and the marine resource on that coast, could see that there was a serious imbalance and a reduction in a very important feed resource for salmon. He points out that even he could see it, as I have just said, and could have given them, as could any fisherman, the advice for a lot less than the \$600,000 appropriated. He goes on to say:

Actually the detailed reports prepared by the department over the last eight years are very complete and very informative.

He points out that the department has all the technical know-how and all the facts, but for some reason or other does not properly use the information available to it. He suspects that either there is political interference or union pressure.

I have also noted that newspaper articles coming from the unions on the west coast express the same concern I am expressing here and codify this concern. They also point to the fact that perhaps we should be putting more emphasis on the herring fishery as a food herring industry similar to that which has been developed, and which we admire very much, on the east coast of Canada.

In summary, then, I want to echo the voice and the concern on the west coast that we should stop the herring roe fishery until maintenance of that species of population is assured and protected, and under a sustained management load. I would like to see us stop the harvest of herring for sport fishery use so we can replenish the stocks of herring in all the little bays, ponds and holes in the ocean bottom where they used to be in abundance. The populations are being removed. If there is other scientific evidence that this is for reasons other than man's harvest, or excessive harvest of the herring resource, then let us hear it from the minister.

I should like to see the problem between Canada and the United States resolved through the international salmon commission. I would like to see that commission start to move on the development of technology that is well known, well established and ready to go in the development, enhancement and implementation of hatcheries closer to the ocean on our river systems on the west coast.

We have already had an announcement from the Thirtieth Parliament that we were to spend some \$119 million on