

Mr. NEILL: Are they ladies?

Mr. BERTRAND (Laurier): Yes; they are expert dietitians. The sundries item includes departmental advertising in fisheries periodicals and magazines. The item of \$5,000 for printing is not very large. There is also provision of \$2,000 for establishing an experimental kitchen for demonstrating; subsidies to freezers, \$4,100; equipment and supplies for demonstrator, \$1,200, and enforcing, \$1,480. This amount has been reduced this year by \$10,000 because, as I explained the day before yesterday, we have transferred the inspection department to item 70, which has been passed.

Mr. NEILL: The inspection department?

Mr. BERTRAND (Laurier): Instruction, I should have said. Since the war we have cut this amount considerably because we do not need to develop the demand for fish to too great an extent for the reason that we have not a supply equal to that demand. As to deep sea fisheries development, I do not think the name is a proper one.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): I agree entirely; it is a misnomer.

Mr. BERTRAND (Laurier): Hon. members may rest assured that next year it will not be cited in that way, because it raises a good many questions.

Mr. NEILL: Am I to understand that none of this has been spent on the Pacific coast?

Mr. BERTRAND (Laurier): There is some in the magazines for advertising, and in the cook books and so forth, but on the Pacific coast the situation is not the same as it is on the eastern coast.

Mr. NEILL: God forbid.

Mr. BERTRAND (Laurier): I beg your pardon?

Mr. NEILL: God forbid that it should be.

Mr. BERTRAND (Laurier): According to what the hon. member has heard, perhaps, God forbid that it should be; but the demand for help is not so acute there, or when the help is required it is for an amount much larger than these amounts.

Mr. NEILL: Well, the minister manages to conceal it pretty well, because it is not in this item. I wonder that members from Nova Scotia do not blush.

Mr. BERTRAND (Laurier): These demonstrators demonstrate how to use western fish in the great centres like Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg, so that the Pacific coast fishermen get some benefit out of it too.

[Mr. E. Bertrand.]

Mr. NEILL: I will let it drop and I will not say a word to-night about the \$160,000 of which they annually rob British Columbia of our share.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Keep your hands off that; that belongs to us.

Mr. BLACK (Cumberland): I am not satisfied to allow this item to pass without a statement from the minister with reference to the brief submitted by the united marine fishermen. The hon. member for York-Sunbury, the hon. junior member for Halifax, and other members have brought this matter to the minister's attention. This brief arises out of the annual convention of the united maritime fishermen, held at Amherst, Nova Scotia, on November 24 and 25, 1943. I will quote from the covering letter:

The committee prepared a questionnaire containing thirty-four (34) questions dealing with production, equipment, shore facilities, marketing, transportation, finance, organization and education. These questionnaires were sent to all organized groups of fishermen in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick as well as to many individual producers. The large number of forms returned is indicative of the interest the fishermen are taking in present day as well as post-war planning for their industry. Information was also obtained from leaders, officials, government statistics and royal commission reports on the inshore fisheries. From this information thus obtained the attached brief was prepared.

I think it is only fair to the members of this house and especially the members from the maritimes that a statement be made by the minister at this time as to what he will do with respect to this brief. Is he approving the representations made in it? If not, why not? If he is approving a part of them, then let him tell us about it. If some of the representations are under consideration and he wants to have more time, then let him tell us. Certainly we are entitled to some statement from him before the item passes.

Mr. BERTRAND (Laurier): We have studied the brief to see what we can do. The hon. member was speaking about education. We have a vote of \$50,000 which will come on later, and out of that there is \$37,000 spent in the maritimes, through the St. Francis Xavier extension department. We are paying subsidies in connection with a new kind of boat, \$165 per gross ton, and we are having our laboratories in Halifax and St. Andrews by the Sea develop the fishing industry. We are building mechanical driers to replace the old method of drying fish, and generally we are doing all we can to help the fishermen in the maritimes. If the maritime fishermen want to follow the advice of the department I am sure their lot will be far better in the future,