

*Supply—Fisheries*

the list. The cash value of fishing craft and gear in British Columbia in 1961 was \$56 million, whereas in the province of Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island combined, it was about \$43 million.

Now, Mr. Chairman, since I come from the Pacific coast I must necessarily mention the international north Pacific fisheries treaty. Although there may have been disagreement amongst the various segments of the industry in British Columbia as to the recommendations of the north Pacific fisheries commission, I want to try to convince the minister that in one respect every phase of the industry in British Columbia is unanimous, and that is in opposition to the relaxation of the application of the abstention principle as contained in the present convention. Even the fisheries association of British Columbia, which had previously approved the recommendations of the commission, is opposed to the relaxation of this principle.

In the limited time I propose to take, Mr. Chairman, I want to deal briefly with one specific phase of the fishing industry of British Columbia on the Pacific coast. I refer to the salt water sports fishing industry. Although I enjoyed the minister's talk tonight, I was disappointed that he did not mention this particular phase of the fishing industry, because it is already an important part of our industry on the Pacific coast and is becoming more important. As an example of the extent to which sports fishing on the Pacific coast is developing, I may tell you that in one day, August 6, 1961, according to an aerial survey made by the officers of the fisheries department—I might pause to commend the excellent staff of that department—close to 2,000 sports fishing vessels were counted in the straits of Juan de Fuca and Georgia. There are, on the average, about two and a half people per boat, so that means on one morning there were about 5,000 people engaged in sports fishing on the inner waters between the mainland and Vancouver island.

Although this was in August, Mr. Chairman, and the best fishing time of the year in our province is late summer, the fact is that sports fishing takes place all year round. In so far as the tourist business is concerned, sports fishing is also important and growing in importance. It has been estimated that in 1962 there were 300,000 tourists who came to British Columbia for the specific purpose of taking part in salt water angling. It is estimated that these tourists spend, on an average, \$50 per person per day. In so far as the tourist business is concerned, the sports fishing industry brings in some \$15 million per

year to the province of British Columbia. In addition to that, it has been estimated that the total value of the sports fishing industry in British Columbia is over \$50 million a year.

Many organizations on the Pacific coast have combined to promote the business of sports fishing. The organization set up by them is called the amalgamated services society. I would suggest to the minister that he seriously consider the suggestion put forward by this society for the establishment of a sports fishing commission on the Pacific coast. For one thing, this society feels that there should be a great deal more done in connection with the rehabilitation of and research in the sports fishing species, namely, springs and cohoes. A great deal has been done in connection with some species, but these are mostly in the net fishing species.

In closing, then, I commend to the minister serious consideration of the brief submitted by the amalgamated services society to the previous minister, dated February, 1963, and which was too late for him to act upon although I know he was very interested in it.

**Mr. McLean (Charlotte):** I should like to congratulate the minister upon his appointment and also the deputy minister. I have known both of them for a great many years. The industry that I represent is the sardine industry, and it is known all over the world. The word "sardine" is the same in three languages, Spanish, French and English. If you will pay attention when reading a book in the future, you will probably see the word "sardine" mentioned.

One hon. member said tonight that the fishing industry was a sick industry. I do not agree with him as far as the sardine industry is concerned. Our sardine industry will take a back seat to no other sardine industry in the world. We can compete all over the world. The only thing we have to do is keep the government out of our hair and let's go to it. I have a few more notes here, but it is difficult for me to read my own writing.

Since coming to Ottawa I have heard that the government has some kind of a butter problem. I always say we have a sardine problem but we are not asking the government to do anything about it. We have 100 million tins of sardines on our shelves at the present time, but we are going to dispose of them through private industry. We have in our industry the seiners, the weirmen and the packers. We need the three trades in our industry. The seiners are mobile; they go after the fish wherever they are. The weirmen are stationary and the fish must come to them. Therefore we need regulation in our industry, and I would say that for five or six years