

biological board, constituted as it was a few years ago, was the first to enter a complaint in regard to the fishery situation, contending that the hatcheries were not doing the good we expected them to do. As a result they studied the losses in the fish hatcheries and to-day we are getting some results and cooperation. The minister at least might have given the board credit for that. He might also have given the board credit for having investigated such matters as lobster canning. Although they made an extensive study of that and would have put it where it was before, yet they lacked the support of the department and the officials connected therewith.

The minister might have told us, too, that scientific studies must play some part in these classes for fishery officials, but when the classes were started first they lacked absolutely that backing and support. The fishery officials who attended those classes naturally would find the course of study very difficult at the time, the same as any student in a university would, but it would take only three or four years to give them a background whereby they would understand what the board wanted. What does the minister expect the board to do? Does he expect the board, composed altogether of scientific men, to go out and examine personally all these things? They cannot do that. They must depend upon the reports provided by the officials of the department and if those officials lack the education and knowledge expected of them, there is only one thing to do: either get a new class of officials, or have the present one educated so that they can supply satisfactory results to the board.

I agree with the statement that a great deal of the work of the board has been done in eastern Canada, and that very good results have been obtained therefrom. I do not know whether one should give the credit to the board or not, but the whitefish supply in lake Ontario, for example, increased very noticeably from 1913 to 1924. In 1913 the catch was only 495,000 pounds, whereas in 1924 it had risen to 2,653,000 pounds. If cooperation can secure a result like that, cooperation is the one thing that the whole department should strive for. I have a report of the first classes called by the biological board. The superintendent of fisheries pronounced them of no value whatever, though he did not attend one class. He did not know anything about them. That is lack of cooperation. I am sure, however, the board is getting cooperation and better results to-day. There is a great deal that the minister could have given the committee to-day with

regard to results achieved by the board. If hon. members will look over the reports and papers furnished by the National Research Council, they will find very few practical papers. I am surprised that the minister, in speaking of the people employed, said that they were not paid anything. They are certainly paid the expense of carrying on that research work. I have tried to find out from the minister and the department how these researches are allotted. By a lot of studying I have obtained the information myself, and there seems to be a lack of direction, of getting finality in this research work. The only papers in the report are the "Bottom fauna of lake Nipigon" and "An investigation into the question of early putrefaction of eviscerated fish in which the gills have been left"; that was given in 1919. I am sure the minister could have given the committee a splendid description of the results secured, if he had taken only the success in regard to the freezing of fish and that kind of thing. The board is at the bottom of all this work. The study of fish is a distinctly scientific subject, and the direction must come from scientific men with a knowledge of fish history, fish food, aquaculture and so forth. They must also make use of that information, for practical purposes. The department is falling down, in that respect and also in not placing before the board the information given in the house by hon. members as to where the failure of the fishing industry is taking place, and in not saying to the board: "Give us a solution of the problem." The minister can increase the board by giving the western section of the country their own men on it and a field to work in. Salmon life on the Atlantic is altogether different from salmon life on the Pacific, and the western people should have an opportunity of dealing with salmon life on the Pacific. Before I sit down, might I ask what pay is given to the members of the board?

Mr. CARDIN: No pay.

Mr. ROSS (Kingston): That is one answer which the minister might have given to the committee.

Mr. CARDIN: I gave it this morning.

Mr. ROSS (Kingston): I have been sitting here and I must confess I did not get all this information from the minister.

Mr. CARDIN: My hon. friend was out of the chamber at that very moment, but I gave it this morning.

Mr. ROSS (Kingston): I heard the statement made this morning, and I also heard it repeated this afternoon, that the minister