

*Supply—Fisheries*

Charlotte obviously knows a great deal, not only about Atlantic fisheries but more about Pacific fisheries than does the hon. member for Vancouver South. The hon. member for Vancouver South interrupted the hon. member for Charlotte when he was speaking about the importance of the United States market to Pacific fisheries as well, and made the following remark, as reported at page 3180 of *Hansard* for January 10, 1958:

No, no. I am sorry, my friend, but may I interrupt you for a moment. We sell no salmon in the United States whatsoever.

I may inform my fellow British Columbian, whose riding incidentally overlooks the largest salmon cannery in the world, that sales of salmon to the United States are extremely important to the British Columbia salmon industry. We do not sell very much canned sockeye salmon to the United States; that is sold mainly in Canada and the United Kingdom. However, there has been an excellent market, and a growing market, for sales of our canned pink salmon, some chum salmon and for occasional sales of canned coho salmon. Then, so far as sales of fresh salmon are concerned, fresh and frozen and cured salmon are all sold in very large quantities right down the Pacific seaboard. Most of the big fishing companies have refrigerated trucks which run each day carrying these products to the United States markets.

The government of which I was a member did manage to have the United States reduce the tariff on canned salmon and on fresh and frozen salmon, which helped this industry immeasurably. The tariffs and quotas which are requested by the United States congress are mainly on fresh and frozen fish and on filleted fish. Since this is not a major part of the salmon sales to the United States it would have, as I say, not quite as crippling an effect as this plan would have on the east coast, but nevertheless the effect would be very serious.

I therefore urge the Minister of Fisheries to use every means he can to continue the pressure on the United States government so that if the tariff commission again recommends an increase in the tariff on Canadian fish, and quotas cutting down the amount that may be imported, the President will be in a position to again veto such recommendations.

The other problem I wish to raise is one which was dealt with at some length by the hon. member for Comox-Alberni, and that is the matter of the conflict between fish and power on the Fraser river. The government of which I was a member had made its position quite clear on this problem in British Columbia, and it has been discussed many times at length in this house. We believed that if possible we should strive to have both

fish and power. In spite of all the scientific work which has been done in many countries so far, and very able work, it has not yet been possible to find any satisfactory way of moving adult salmon up over the high dams or of moving the fingerlings down over the high dams, so we felt we should have an interim policy until these problems had been solved.

This policy was that no salmon stream should be dammed until every non-salmon stream had been used for power purposes. When all the non-salmon streams had been exhausted, then very careful study should be given to the relative economic costs of power from other sources, power from thermal methods whether that be coal or gas or oil or even nuclear sources, before one of the greatest fishing resources of the world should be destroyed.

I am happy to say that this is one of the few fields in which Premier Bennett of British Columbia and I are in complete accord. He, as spokesman for his government, has repeatedly stated that in public, and more than that he passed an act in his legislature to support the Fisheries Act of Canada in the control of the construction of dams.

This matter has come to the fore because of the statement made by General McNaughton, to which the hon. member for Fraser Valley referred. General McNaughton, of course, is obsessed with the need for power in British Columbia. He is a very distinguished engineer and a very distinguished scientist, but he seems remarkably blind to the repeated studies which have been made by distinguished scientists in many parts of the world and by the United States corps of engineers on this problem of passing salmon over the high dams. He apparently still believes it is a problem which could very easily be solved; but he has only to look at the Columbia river, which is so dear to his heart, to see that a great salmon fishery on that stream has been ended because of a series of high dams on the United States side.

I would like to point out further to General McNaughton that the Fraser river is not an international river, as is the Columbia, and does not therefore come within the jurisdiction of the international joint commission of which he is the senior Canadian commissioner. The Fraser river, so far as power is concerned, is entirely within provincial jurisdiction.

So far as fisheries are concerned, there is of course federal jurisdiction to ensure the passage of fish through the river. I would urge the minister when he makes his statement in reply to make the position of the new Conservative government very clear on this