

Fishing Vessels

thing contained in the statement, is that no provision is made for bringing to an end a situation existing on the Pacific Coast under which fishermen have sales contracts which tie them to the fishing companies. I had hoped that the minister would have taken that aspect into consideration and developed this program in such a way as to permit fishermen who have been tied to fishing companies for a long time to become independent. At the moment the policies of the government permit the fishermen there no alternative methods of obtaining capital for their enterprises.

In closing, I should like to suggest to the minister that there ought to be developed a very tight set of rules and regulations for submitting applications so fishermen will know in advance exactly what their entitlement is under the program and so these matters will not be left entirely in the hands of some local administrator, without their having recourse to written documents which will enable fishermen to determine whether they are or are not entitled to the assistance this program is designed to provide.

Those are the principal comments I wish to make. Having listened to the minister's announcement today I repeat that, to the extent it improves the ability of Canadian fishermen to fish well, it is a welcome change of policy.

[Translation]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, we welcome any measure designed to help the fishing industry. In my opinion, all members unanimously agree to any improvement in the field of fisheries.

The Minister of Fisheries and Forestry (Mr. Davis) said a moment ago—

[English]

Where there are too many boats already, applications for assistance will be turned down. Where new species are being developed or where new fishing techniques can really pay off, they have a good chance of being approved.

[Translation]

And the minister ended his statement by saying:

[English]

There will be greater stability in the boat building end of the business and we will have a better and more productive fishery as well.

[Translation]

Even if the department is about to provide assistance at the rate of 35 per cent for the building of a few fishing vessels, I do not

[Mr. Barnett.]

believe this will facilitate the sale of one more sardine in Canada.

Fishermen are having trouble selling their production. It is not by doubling the number of boats or by making their boats bigger that we will help them sell their products. The minister is perfectly aware that already in some regions there are too many fishing boats. The fishermen's problem is not one of boats but of marketing.

Canadian fishermen are asking for a national policy to promote a better productivity and especially a better distribution of their production. Even if the productivity is improved and the number of boats is doubled, their income will not increase if the production is not sold.

Although this bill is supposed to help fishermen, the problem of marketing in Canada must be considered. When the products are sold, the minister could then suggest ways to increase the Canadian production and to enable the fishermen to compete on the international market while controlling the domestic market. If the fishermen were sure to sell their production, the minister would not have to deal with the problem of boats, because the fishermen would look after that.

• (3:10 p.m.)

[English]

AGRICULTURE**ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF 2-4-5T HERBICIDE**

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, as indicated in previous discussions in the House, I now wish to announce the following restrictions, effective today, on the registration and sale of 2-4-5T weed killers. Registrations for 2-4-5T weed killers sold for use around homes, on lawns and recreational areas are cancelled as of today. This means that such products may no longer be sold to the public.

Registrants have also been notified to discontinue the distribution of 2-4-5T for use on cereal crops where it has been used on a limited acreage for the control of specific weeds that are resistant to 2-4D. This was the only registered use involving food crops. The use of 2-4-5T for vegetation and brush control on rights-of-way, rangeland and other similar areas is not regarded as presenting a significant hazard. Registrations are being continued for these purposes.

This action follows a study of recently completed experiments which showed that