

Storage Facilities for Fish

expenditures. In order to achieve a balanced program, the committee suggested that the formulation of national policy be assisted by a widely representative national board on marine activity which would make recommendations to the minister responsible for science policy. I ask the minister where that board is and whether its members have been named.

Implementation and co-ordination of policy in marine science and technology would be the responsibility of departments with marine interests, the Canadian Committee on Oceanography and a Canadian ocean development corporation. I ask the minister, before he leaves the chamber, what has happened to that development corporation.

I do not ask my question rhetorically; it is an important matter. This Crown corporation would be responsible for organizing marine development and innovation projects in industry, for the rapid establishment of a solid technological base and for the promotion of marketing products and services at home and abroad. Marine environmental problems would be kept under review by the proposed environmental council reporting directly to the office of the Prime Minister. In consideration of the challenges and opportunities existing in our ocean frontier, the committee stated that a major, national program in marine science and technology is needed.

With regard to technology and industry, the committee drew attention to the need for effective promotion by the government, promotion which has been totally absent during the past year. The committee said:

Marine technology is about to enter an era of rapid growth. Its development requires close attention to ensure an orderly growth with a substantial Canadian participation. Here is an area that can benefit the investor and provide meaningful employment to skilled Canadians, if we are willing to accept the challenge. If Canada does not act, others will try and they will reap the benefits.

Canadians have been active in the areas off our coasts for some time, and the technological capability necessary to support our coastal fisheries maritime forces and scientific activities offshore does exist, but mainly in government and university laboratories. Unfortunately this expertise has not found its way into industry.

That expertise does not exist outside of government or the university laboratory because the government has failed to heed one of the essential recommendations of that report and get on with the job of promoting the development of the ocean and establishing a development corporation. In other words, the government has failed to recognize that the greatest resource available to Canadians is not necessarily found on the land but, in all likelihood, may be found in the sea. That is the policy the government has failed to implement.

The administration of that policy would be the responsibility of the proposed Canadian ocean development corporation of which we have heard virtually nothing. I spoke one year ago about the scale of expenditure in connection with this and I want to enlarge upon those remarks. I referred to expenditures in the order of \$300 million in 1980 when I spoke on November 30, 1970. I dealt with the question of costs and I think it is worth repeating what I said. As recorded on page 1600 of *Hansard* for November 30, 1970, I said in part:

What about the cost factor? That is clearly set out in the report of the Science Council. They call for an escalation in expenditure

so that by the 1980's our investment will be in the order of \$300 million. I support this proposal. Surprisingly enough, the figures that I worked out one year ago differ from the figures of the Science Council with respect to 1980 by only \$15 million. One of the things we must be concerned about, if we are to accept this proposition after careful study, is this: we must make sure that the build-up, if it does take place, will be sustained. I imagine that the Science Council would support this idea, although it does not particularly deal with it in its report.

I am alarmed because the government has seen fit to deal with this matter only in the last ten or 12 months. The United States of America, the United Kingdom and a dozen other countries around the world have already made extremely important and significant progress in this area. In many instances other countries have made significantly greater progress than Canada in an extensive examination of the resources of the sea and the relation between those resources and national goals. I quote briefly from the report made to the President of the United States by the commission on marine science, engineering and resources, as follows:

The nation's stake in the uses of the sea is synonymous with the promise and threat of tomorrow. The promise lies in the economic opportunities the sea offers, in the great stimulus to business, industry, and employment that new and expanded sea-related industries can produce. The promise lies also in expanding the nation's horizons, in strengthening its international position and peaceful collaboration among nations, and in the possibility that action today will permit man to make a start toward ultimate control of his planetary environment. The promise lies in making available new reserves of important minerals and in ensuring new sources of food.

The threat lies in the potential destruction of large parts of the coastal environment and in the further deterioration of economically important ports, recreational facilities, coastal shellfisheries, and fisheries on the high seas. There is the threat inherent in any failure by the nation to utilize successfully its fair share of a major planetary resource; the United States simply cannot afford less than its best effort to utilize the global sea. Finally, there is the threat that unbridled international competition for the sea's resources may provoke conflict.

A time of decision is here. Multiple pressures force the nation to turn to the sea, and multiple opportunities await the seaward turning.

Those words are prophetic. The government, with all its interdepartmental committees, cabinet committees and various ways of dealing with the business of the nation, has had one year to ponder this problem. Surely it has had sufficient time to give us some word about the ocean development corporation, the relationship between the Atlantic Ocean, the Arctic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, Hudson Bay, the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the resources of these waters in terms of fish and the tremendous mineral content, the resources that are on the seabed and under the surface. Now that we are well launched into the 1970s, surely now is the time for a statement on national goals with respect to the sea. It is to this matter that I direct my remarks.

• (4:40 p.m.)

It is regrettable that with only 15 or 20 minutes remaining in today's sitting no speaker on the government side has directed himself to this important concept of awareness and utilization in the fullest sense of the resources that lie off our coasts.

Mr. Ray Perrault (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, implicit in the resolution advanced