

Fisheries

charges will bring to the government an additional revenue of approximately \$300,000 next year.

I ask the Minister without Portfolio, the Minister of Fisheries and the other ministers of the government, where in the name of heaven do they think the money will come from with which to pay these increased charges? Fishermen's incomes have declined and they are not in a position to pay any additional charges of this nature. I warn the government that its present policies with regard to the Atlantic provinces, and especially its lack of policy with regard to our major, primary fishing industry, cannot be continued indefinitely without creating major social and economic problems in our area.

Our Atlantic coast fishermen are crying out for the protection which would be afforded them through the implementation of Canada's Territorial Sea and Fishing Zones Act which was passed under a Liberal government in 1964. When can we hope to see the geographical co-ordinates established and the base lines drawn so as to give protection to the new, queen crab industry, for example, which in Nova Scotia alone had last year an estimated landed value of \$1 million?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I consider it my duty to interrupt the hon. member to remind him that the bill being considered by the house at this time deals with export trade in freshwater fish. The hon. member has in his remarks strayed some distance from the bill before the house. If he is allowed to make this kind of speech, other hon. members would be able to discuss salmon fishing in the Pacific, for example, and the general policy of the government regarding saltwater fish.

If the Chair allows the hon. member to continue along these lines it will be impossible to prevent other hon. members making speeches dealing with fishing in Newfoundland, on the west coast and in our salt waters generally. I would think that the hon. member, having made his point in a rather strong fashion, would want at this stage to return to the matter before the house, which is export trade in freshwater fish and the establishment of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation.

Mr. Crouse: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is rather unusual for one from the east coast to get off course, but it happens once in a while. Perhaps the cold, winter weather has somehow affected my magnetic compass. I wanted to relate some of the problems of the east

[Mr. Crouse.]

coast fishing industry to this bill. In a few moments I shall deal with the bill itself and hope to relate the problems of the saltwater and freshwater fishing industries; therefore my remarks will be relevant to the bill.

The fishermen on Canada's Atlantic coast are asking in all earnestness when the government will take some action with regard to the problems I have mentioned. They face real problems because of the scarcity of fish on our inshore banks, coupled with the low prices they are receiving for their catch. Many of them realize they must go farther out to sea if they are to catch sufficient fish to provide a livelihood for their families.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member cannot simply disregard what has been said by the Chair. If there is to be order of debate, the hon. member's remarks should be relevant to the bill now before the house. The hon. member's remarks are entirely irrelevant and I do not propose to allow him to continue along these lines.

Mr. Crouse: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I mention the problems of the east coast fishermen and the promises made to the industry because there is a relationship between that situation and the promises made in this bill. Having read the provisions of Bill C-148 I cannot help wondering whether it will also fall short of its promise to our inland fishermen. The bill calls for a board of directors for the corporation, composed of a chairman, a president, one director for each participating province and four other directors each of whom shall be appointed by the governor in council to hold office for a term not exceeding five years. In addition, the board may employ such officers and employees as it considers necessary, and while the head office of the corporation will be in the city of Winnipeg, meetings of the board may be held in other parts of Canada as the board may determine. All of this expense, plus a paid advisory committee of 15 members, will be incurred and yet under clause 15 of part I it is stated that:

• (3:40 p.m.)

The corporation shall conduct its operations on a self-sustaining financial basis without appropriations therefor by parliament.

Under the former system of marketing the fishermen in this segment of the freshwater fishing industry received approximately 50 to 60 per cent of the export price. This was small indeed, but it will be interesting to read the annual report of this corporation, which I note must be prepared and submitted to the