

*Supply—Fisheries*

marine laboratories are expanding. Graduate students are being trained in all aspects of oceanography. New research ships are carrying out scientific investigations along our coasts. We can, therefore, expect rapid development in the next few years. We are not alone in this work, for all major maritime nations are now taking part. Throughout the world roughly 50 research ships are constantly at sea carrying approximately 600 technicians and trained people.

Through this increase in scientific effort we hope to plug a big gap in our knowledge concerning the earth on which we live, and we hope to learn more about the habits of the fish, which are part of the food resources which automatically renew themselves. In its natural state, acre for acre, the sea is producing as much as the land; yet man is only taking about 1 per cent of his present food requirements from the ocean. When we come to farm the ocean we can expect it to produce a much greater quantity of desirable food, just as scientific farming on the land has improved the production of grain and vegetables. Through the proper management of the ocean, we can greatly increase our well-being on the land, but this will have to be done by international agreement. Some countries have already made a start along these lines. Japan is trying out salt pond farms in the inland sea, where yellowtail are raised and dumped into the adjacent sea when grown. England is farming plaice somewhat in the same manner as trout rivers are restocked, and we are raising oysters in Prince Edward Island to help re-establish that industry. I must give due credit for this to the officials of the department, some of whom are present with us tonight.

In my opinion, research along these lines should be expanded. We are not doing enough to restock our rivers and our lakes with trout and with salmon, especially in the Atlantic region and in my own province of Nova Scotia. If further developments were carried out along these lines, these fish would not only provide a valuable source of food but they would also encourage tourists to visit Canada in greater numbers, thereby bringing greater economic benefits to everyone. I would, therefore, urge upon the minister to give consideration to the scientific development of our fisheries when he sits down to review plans for next year's estimates.

I know this government and the present minister are greatly concerned over conservation. I listened with interest on June 4 when the Prime Minister made a statement to the house on the law of the sea and his plans to unilaterally establish a 12-mile exclusive fisheries zone along the whole of the

Canadian coastline somewhere about mid-May, 1964. This action, of course, will be beneficial to our inshore fishermen, but it will not materially affect the landings of our deep sea fleet. It will create problems with France and the United States, both of whom have treaty rights in some of the areas affected. It will also create problems with Portugal, a country which has a traditional fishing right on our coast. It is regrettable that this action had to be taken unilaterally. Although it will provide exclusive fishing zones for our inshore fishermen, it does nothing about our major problem which is the conservation of our fisheries resources on our offshore banks. As a result of our Conservative shipbuilding program, there has been a boom in the construction of large deep sea fishing trawlers in Nova Scotia. In fact, in 1962 a total of 98 ships of various sizes were constructed in that province alone. The fishermen manning these ships are now in a position to make larger catches of fish and to have greater earnings without endangering their lives.

As an example of this, I should like to put on the record figures provided by the Dominion bureau of statistics. The cumulative fish landings in the maritimes during the first nine months of 1963 amounted to 556.6 million pounds valued at \$38.4 million. Figures for the similar period during 1962 were 542.1 million pounds valued at \$34.6 million, and during 1961, 515.6 million pounds valued at \$30 million. In other words, in the first nine months of 1963 the income of all our east coast fishermen increased by \$8.4 million when compared with their income in the first nine months of 1961. I submit some credit for this increased earning must go to the former administration, which so wisely assisted in a program for the building of larger fishing trawlers.

This increased fishing activity on our offshore banks is creating other problems. We do not have a cold war on our east coast today, we are having a fish war. The greatest problem facing Canada's fishing industry at present on our east coast is the over-concentration of ships from all nations on our offshore banks. One of the peculiarities of the fishing industry is that it functions in an area that is international in character. This was commented upon by the former minister of fisheries. The means of production, the sea, is not private property. Apart from territorial waters, it is not subject to the law of any state. For this reason, many fisheries problems have to be dealt with internationally because unilateral measures generally have far reaching consequences for the industry in other