

Mr. WATSON. Our chief exportation is pike or jackfish, and I am of opinion that the greater the facility that can be given for the exportation of those fish or their extermination, so as to allow the whitefish to increase, the better it would be. If any restrictions are to be placed on the export of fish, I would like the Minister of Customs to place them on whitefish, and allow the people to export all the jackfish they can.

Mr. PLATT. In reference to the question of twine, the Minister has stated that there is no duty on twine, but I have here a specimen manufactured by W. J. Knox, of Glasgow, which paid 20 per cent. duty, while the fishermen want it free.

Mr. HESSON. There are tons of twine made by Ryan & Son, and also in Halifax, and I do not see the necessity of importing it free. They make twine of all varieties, and I believe they could compete with any manufacturer.

Mr. EISENHAUER. I desire to say a word or two on the fishermen's bounty.

Mr. FOSTER. The item is passed.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. It is understood that any of these items can be discussed.

Mr. FOSTER. That is a statutory item.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. We constantly discuss statutory items if there is anything to be said about them. That is the object of putting them on the Estimates.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. No; they show the expenditure of the year.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. They do not show the whole expenditure for the year.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. They show the estimated expenditure.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I never before heard a refusal to allow discussion on an item because it was a statutory item.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Go on.

Mr. EISENHAUER. I understand that the amount paid to the fishermen for bounties in 1887 exceeded the \$150,000 authorised by statute, and that it is the intention to reduce the amount per ton in 1888 in order to bring the expenditure within the sum authorised by statute. I do not think that is a proper thing for the Government to do, because they cannot take credit for voting this amount of \$150,000. In 1876, they received \$4,500,000 from the United States for the rights and privileges which the fishermen of that country had enjoyed for many years in our waters. They have received the interest or the benefit of that amount for twelve years, and they have paid this bounty for only half that time; so I think it is not fair to the fishermen of the Dominion to reduce the amount simply to keep the total within the sum voted. The fishermen of Lunenburg have not received their bounty for last year, and I am told that in other counties that has been the result. I should like to ask the Minister if that is the case?

Mr. TUPPER. The rate per man has not been reduced. The rate per ton on the ships had to be reduced, and for this reason: It is not correct to say that the amounts payable in 1887 were not according to the regulations, but perhaps the hon. gentleman's figures are taken from some purporting to be for that year. It is true that, in 1887, the amount came to \$163,000, and the vote was insufficient to make the distribution among those who were properly entitled to it, so it was necessary to make a reduction in order to keep within the statutory vote.

Mr. EISENHAUER. I know that the Government cannot go beyond that, but I think the fishermen should receive some consideration at their hands.

Mr. TUPPER. The Government are powerless in the matter.

Mr. EISENHAUER. I am aware of that, but the hon. Minister should remember that the fishermen have no protection against foreign fish. Although there is a duty of 50 cents a quintal on foreign fish, it is no protection to them, because the fish come in as if there were no duty at all. I asked the Government during the earlier part of the Session whether any change was proposed in the system of bonding foreign fish, and I could not hear very distinctly the reply of the hon. Minister of Customs. I think he said they were considering the matter or something of that kind. I bring this matter to his notice now in case there may not be an opportunity later on. I think that a radical change is necessary in the system of bonding foreign fish. The Minister of Customs is well aware that these fish come in, and are allowed to be handled as much as we handle our own fish. They are allowed to be dried on the wharf, to be put in store and taken out again if necessary, and I think that some change in that system is necessary.

Geological Survey..... \$60,000

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I would like generally to know the territory that is going to be geologically surveyed. It seems to me that a good deal more of this money is being frittered away than there need be, and we do not get any considerable new territory thoroughly surveyed and brought in. Of course I speak on a somewhat superficial examination of the hon. gentleman's reports, as the work may be more thoroughly done than I suppose.

Mr. DEWDNEY. I asked the director some few days ago to give me some information with regard to what they propose to do during the coming season, and he has furnished me a memorandum giving the names of the officers he is to send out, and the regions they are to explore. In British Columbia it is proposed to send Dr. Dawson, who has been working there the previous year, and Mr. Bowman to work on Vancouver Island. Mr. Macoun, the botanist, will be sent into the New Westminster district. In the North-West Territories it is proposed to send Mr. McConnell, who has been in the Yukon district for the last two years. It is proposed to send him to Peace River to report on the coal oil fields. That will be new work entirely. Although it has been reported that we have extensive oil districts up there, they have never been looked into very closely. In Manitoba, Mr. Tyrrell will continue his exploration about Duck Mountains. The hon. gentleman, no doubt, is aware that it is reported that there is also coal oil in that neighborhood. In Ontario, Mr. Lawson will continue his work east of Port Arthur. Mr. Bell continues his work in the Sudbury district; and Mr. Cochrane will complete the topographical details of the region about Owen Sound. In Quebec, Mr. Ingall continues his work in the phosphate regions of Buckingham and Templeton. Mr. Ellis will complete a map of the Eastern Townships from Lake St. Peter to the Vermont boundary. Mr. Adams will work in Chambly county, and Mr. Low in Quebec and Portneuf counties. Mr. Bailey continues his work in connection with the Temiscouata and Madawaska districts. Mr. Chalmers continues work in southern New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Mr. Fletcher continues his work in Pictou county, and Mr. Faribault in Halifax county.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I would like to know from the Minister whether, in the North-West, where we are lords of the soil, it is the intention of the hon. gentle-