

Supply—Fisheries

Mr. Noble: The minister did mention kokanee, which is the reason I raise this point. I thought the minister might have understood that I wanted to know about the kokanee project.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Chairman, one other item I want to deal with is the oolachon fishery. The minister will recall at one time when Dr. Needler was here that I sent over some smoked oolachon for him to try, and I hope he enjoyed it. It is quite a staple part of the native Indian fishery and is not fished commercially, partly because the fishery regulations were altered a few years ago to permit commercial venture into the oolachon fishery. It is primarily a food fish for the native Indian people. They objected to this commercial fishing of oolachon and a regulation came into effect to prohibit commercial fishing of oolachon in district 2, or words to that effect.

The native people engage occasionally in a system of bartering as well as in direct sales of oolachon in the Prince Rupert area, especially to the large number of native Indian people who move into and live in Prince Rupert, which incidentally is a practice endorsed by the government in the hope that the native people will find employment in urban areas where it might not be available at home on reserve communities. Because of the practice of the native people, thinking in terms of a communal economy, of catching fish for neighbours and friends who may live in town, and because of the practice of selling oolachon at \$1 a bucket, which is the usual price in the port of Prince Rupert, one young lad was charged under the fisheries regulation during the oolachon season this year with contravening the regulations by fishing for oolachon for commercial purposes.

This was considered to be something of a travesty against the common understanding that existed. What occurred undoubtedly was that when the original objection was put forward by the native people to a commercial fishery they were thinking in terms of canning and fishing companies fishing oolachon and either freezing or selling it fresh, not in terms of individual native Indian people fishing oolachon to bring it into Rupert either to give it away or sell it to their own native Indian people, who otherwise would not have the opportunity, because they live in an urban area, to go out and fish oolachon themselves. As I say, this concept was not in their minds when the original request was made to keep the canning companies from exploiting the oolachon fishery.

[Mr. Robichaud.]

I would urge the minister to look at this regulation and see whether or not he can revise it. The oolachon fishery is, perhaps, the last remaining part of the native Indian culture which we can preserve, and we should permit them to fish for their own purposes. If the minister would look at it from that point of view, this would overcome a great many difficulties.

The minister nods his head. My saying that he has done so will appear on *Hansard*, so I can keep the floor and ask another question. *Hansard* will show that the minister agrees that he will at least look into this matter.

Before I sit down, Mr. Chairman, there is an item which does not appear this year. Last year there was a \$10,000 item by way of fee for membership in the international council for the exploration of the sea. This year no such item is listed. Perhaps this year there is no necessity to pay a fee to that council, or perhaps the council itself has ceased to function, but I should like an explanation of this.

Mr. Robichaud: I will try to get the information for the hon. member, but I cannot give him the detailed information at this time. It may be that this amount is included in some other item, but I am sorry, I do not have this information. I will try to get it for the hon. member.

Item agreed to.

Fisheries management and development—

5. Operation and maintenance, including Canada's share of the expenses of the international commissions detailed in the estimates and of the costs of programs and projects shared jointly with the provinces and industry, and authority to make recoverable advances of amounts not exceeding in the aggregate the amount of the share of the international great lakes fishery commission of the cost of work on lamprey control and lamprey research, \$21,000,000.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Chairman, on page 165 of the blue book, under the industrial development service, including the provincial projects, there appears an item for \$1,250,000 in relation to programs and projects shared by provinces. I would appreciate, if the minister has it available, a detailed listing of these joint programs so far as the province of British Columbia is concerned.

Mr. Robichaud: As the hon. member has mentioned, Mr. Chairman, this amount in the estimates is to cover shared programs with the provinces. I must say that most of the provinces that take advantage of this program are the Atlantic provinces, and to some extent the province of Quebec. We make the same offer to the province of British Columbia, but