

top. These cannot be harmed by marketing techniques, and so on. Perhaps the standards are much higher up here now, for I have given up trying to eat fresh fish. It always strikes me as a mighty shame that the people in this part of the country do not have a higher standard of quality before they buy it from the market.

I have even heard it said that there are some housewives in Ottawa who think that good fish does not smell like fish, it does not smell like anything, it is pure and sweet. It is on this standard that I choose not to order fish any more than I have to when I am in this part of the country. I would certainly hope that there will be a little better co-operation and some attention given to this, because the market for fish has got to be

broadened within our own country. On a per capita basis we are not making any ground at all. When we compare our consumption with some of the European countries it is very discouraging. That is merely a comment, not a question.

The Chairman: It is not necessary to read all the clauses, is it?

Hon. Senators: No.

The Chairman: Is it the wish of the committee that I should report the bill without amendment?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Whereupon the committee concluded its consideration of the bill.

Mr. Dempsy: Yes, Mr. Chairman, we do meet frequently with the provinces. In the Province of Quebec, for example, the federal government enters into the federal legislation and the provincial legislation by arrangement with the province. Our officers are charged with provincial authority.

Recently we have had discussions with Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island with the object in mind and the development of provincial legislation which will complement the federal legislation.

As a matter of policy, the minister has advised the provincial ministers that the federal officers would enforce provincial legislation. It is the wish of a number of provinces that we will be meeting shortly with Ontario and the other western provinces in the hope that we can have the complementary legislation which would fill the gap of which you speak.

Senator Smith (Queens-Bathurst): I think it is evident, Mr. Chairman, that those of us who have lived most of our lives on the coast have a set of standards which respect to acceptable quality. As a personal example let me say that the only fish that I will order in Ottawa is smoked fish or a salt cod—something that has been cured—or a frozen scal-

Mr. Carlson: Yes, I have to say that they are so far as I am concerned.

Senator Smith (Queens-Bathurst): Before the motion is put, Mr. Chairman, I wonder if Mr. Dempsy would give us a word on the subject of the inspection which is an endeavour to improve the quality of the fish after it reaches its destination in one of the provinces of Canada. You do not have the (constituted) power to inspect fish after it has crossed a provincial border in the first place, do you?

Mr. Carlson: We can inspect it at the point of consumption, at the point of origin. The only fish we cannot inspect or deal with is fish sold for consumption within a province.

Senator Smith (Queens-Bathurst): Have you any power that enable you to go into a market and inspect that state fish which is sold to the consumer, is not that a provincial matter?

Mr. Carlson: As far as I know, we have never done that.

Mr. Dempsy: Except on an advisory basis.

Mr. Carlson: That can be done, and is done, by the local officials, and sometimes by the Food and Drug people.