

investigated is whether something can be done to restore the run of sockeye salmon on the Fraser river. Who is going to do that? It is not a matter for some man who is engaged in industry but for a scientific authority; one who will devote all his time to the work, and not a university professor who will simply employ part of his vacation for the purpose. I think the department is derelict if it does not make arrangements to carry out the promise which was given to us. We cannot play with this question. I do not think the minister is anxious to play with it as he must appreciate its importance. In connection with the Fraser river there are various matters that have to be taken into consideration. One of these, of course, is whether or not it is possible to make some arrangement with the fisheries board of the state of Washington. There must be co-operation between the authorities of the state of Washington and our government if anything permanent is to be achieved. I should like to ask the minister also what is the present state of the negotiations with the state of Washington authorities as to the Fraser river. I understand, and no doubt the minister has the necessary particulars, that some negotiations have been carried on, and that a joint committee has been appointed composed of representatives of the state of Washington and of the Canadian Department of Marine and Fisheries. It would be interesting in fact I think it is necessary, to know what is going on in this connection.

Mr. CARDIN: The situation at present is more encouraging than it has ever been before. The negotiations that are being carried on are quite satisfactory and the department is hopeful that the results obtained will be equally gratifying. No definite decision has been reached so far. As regards the employment of an experienced man to look into the question of the restoration of the fisheries on the Fraser river, Dr. Forester is devoting his time to a study of the matter. The biological board, at its next meeting, will consider the question of increasing the number of its members and, if a decision is reached, the request of my hon. friend, to appoint someone with a special knowledge of conditions there, will no doubt be taken into consideration.

Mr. McQUARRIE: What are Dr. Forester's qualifications?

Mr. CARDIN: He is well known as a scientist and has been recommended by the biological board.

Mr. McQUARRIE: Where is he located?
[Mr. McQuarrie.]

Mr. CARDIN: He is attached to the station at Nanaimo, under Dr. Clemens.

Mr. McQUARRIE: That is hardly studying the Fraser river.

Mr. CARDIN: This is his particular work; he is looking particularly into the Fraser river situation.

Mr. McQUARRIE: But the minister says that he is at Nanaimo. What investigation is he carrying on? I am not asking these questions merely for the sake of taking up the time of the committee. The matter is an important one, as the minister must realize.

Mr. CARDIN: I quite understand the importance of the subject. I understand that he has been carrying on an investigation on the Fraser river for quite a while.

Mr. McQUARRIE: Has he been actually on the Fraser river?

Mr. CARDIN: Yes.

Mr. McQUARRIE: Could the minister furnish the committee with any details as to what investigations he has carried on?

Mr. CARDIN: He is supposed to make reports to the biological board, who in turn will report to the department.

Mr. McQUARRIE: When was he appointed?

Mr. CARDIN: Over two years ago.

Mr. McQUARRIE: And has he not made any report yet?

Mr. CARDIN: No report has been made to the department, but possibly he has reported or given information to the biological board. So far the department has received no information from the board.

Mr. McQUARRIE: I submit that the department should be interested in the matter.

Mr. CARDIN: The department is, indeed.

Mr. McQUARRIE: Then I think that the department should ascertain what reports Dr. Forester has made to the board, and we should have the details of them. Surely there is not much object in having a man make investigations unless some action is to be taken or unless we can know what reports he submits.

Mr. CARDIN: These investigations must necessarily cover a long period; he cannot report every few months.

Mr. McQUARRIE: But he has had two years now in which to study the situation. I admit that there are a number of matters