

in the department itself, because, for example, there is included in this item the salary of a secretary to the minister amounting to \$3,960. As a matter of fact I have no private secretary, and I hope to be able to carry on without one, that is to say, without a private secretary brought into the department. I am using a clerk whom I already found in the department, and he is carrying on the work at an additional salary of \$600 a year, so that I am saving \$3,360 on that one item. A number of deputy ministers receive \$9,000, and my explanation to my hon. friend was the exact explanation I gave to my colleagues, namely that it would be inconsistent with the value of the fisheries to the country if with respect to salary we deliberately placed the deputy minister in a position inferior to that of deputy ministers of other departments of government.

Mr. DUFF: But he was in that position last year and the year before. He had less than the others.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: What are all these extra sundries?

Mr. RHODES: The Department of Fisheries has not hitherto had a minister, and this is only for the purpose of placing the department in position comparable to that of other departments which have ministers. There was a minister, but for only a short time, and this department has never been placed in line with other departments with respect to that item.

Item agreed to.

To assist in the conservation and development of the deep sea fisheries and the demand for fish, \$190,000.

Mr. VENIOT: On this item I should like to discuss the question of salmon fisheries. The committee will remember that in the last three or four weeks I drew the attention of the Minister of Fisheries to the new set of regulations which have been adopted by the department in connection with the salmon fisheries, particularly in the province of New Brunswick. I made the suggestion that the matter should be further looked into, as the regulations were not acceptable to the salmon fishermen generally. I was not at that time referring principally to the drift net fishermen but to the fishermen who fish along the coast and open bays and in the rivers by net. The minister told me at that time that it was his intention to send Mr. Found or some other representative of the department to look further into the matter and see if the hard-

ships complained of could be met. Mr. Found went down, and he did meet quite a number of complaints. I understand he held meetings at Charlo, Chatham and St. John. On his return he recommended doing away with the new licence, as well as with the regulations which had been rather strict concerning the placing of nets out of fishing gear. In doing that however he substituted another regulation. I hold in my hand a memorial, a copy of which was sent I believe to the Department of Fisheries, objecting to the new regulation which calls for the placing of nets out of fishing gear. In the past the nets were supposed to be out of fishing gear from sundown on Saturday night until sunrise on Monday morning. Even then the regulation was very difficult to observe. Many times it was impossible to raise the nets along the shores and bays on Saturday nights owing to frequent storms in the Baie des Chaleurs. The same did not apply where nets were being used for salmon fishing in the river. The fishermen in certain portions of the Miramachi would not be affected as much as those in the estuary or the bay of the Miramachi, along the Baie des Chaleurs, in the Restigouche bay or up as far as Heron island. As I say the regulation was difficult to observe. The fishery wardens were very generous however in their treatment of the fishermen when they say it was impossible owing to storms to comply with the law. Where it was obviously impossible to comply with the law, violations were not recognized. Under the newly amended regulations which have come into effect since the visit of Mr. Found to the province of New Brunswick the fishermen are required to raise their nets out of fishing gear on Saturday morning at eight o'clock and leave them in that condition until eight o'clock on Monday. In order to have them properly out of fishing gear however the regulations designate that ten feet of the nets shall be separated or open. Fishermen are complaining, especially along the bay shores that that regulation is unreasonable. In order to comply with the regulation and be within the law they would have to readjust their nets at considerable cost. The lacing of a portion of their nets to the lead would have to be done, and such lacing would have to be taken off each Friday night or Saturday morning at eight o'clock. If a storm came on the regulation could not be complied with. Should a storm arise on Sunday or Monday and continue as it often does in Baie des Chaleurs for two or three days at a stretch, the fishermen have their nets out of fishing gear for three or four days in-