

*Supply—Fisheries*

market is capable of expansion to 30 million pounds. I would double it and call it 60 million pounds if we have the facilities to supply the market. We have the greatest and the best market in the world right on our front doorstep. That is the market that I think we should cultivate and go after. If we do I think many of our fish marketing problems will be solved.

There are over 170 million people in Canada and the United States and there is a natural increase of three or four million a year. These people have to be fed and they need fish. If our fishing industry is alive to the situation and its possibilities, if they go after this market, I feel sure it will solve many of the marketing problems we have on our hands today.

I am sorry to say that the salt codfish industry in Newfoundland has been in a depressed state for a number of years. This is not the fault of the fishermen or anybody in particular. The problem has been with us for many years and it is not easy of solution. So much so is the problem with us that our people are giving up fishing, and if it continues for a few more years we will have very few people fishing. An effort has been made this year, through the Minister of Trade and Commerce, to set up a different marketing system. I do not wish to speak about it because the government has not made any pronouncement with respect to it yet. However, the minister said this afternoon that there will be a guaranteed price to our fishermen, and that in itself will do much to get them fishing again this summer.

When I was home one fisherman asked me about it and when I informed him of this he said: "I am going fishing again". I am glad the announcement was made by the minister this afternoon because I think it is a very important one. I hope the price will be announced in the near future so that our fishermen will have some guarantee as to where they stand this year and some encouragement to prosecute the fishery as they have done in the past. This is very important, and I hope the minister or those responsible will make the announcement as soon as possible because in a very short time now our fishermen will be getting ready to prosecute the fishery.

I have one thing to say regarding scientific research. Much has been going on in Newfoundland and eastern Canada in the last few years with respect to research into our fisheries. There is one type of fish that I want to bring to the attention of the minister and his officials. It is a fish that we call capelin and it rolls in on our beaches in the

[Mr. Stick.]

hundreds of millions. Nothing has ever been done with it although it is a tasty fish and one that I think has great possibilities. I do emphasize here and now that the minister should take steps to get his research department to do something about research on this fish because in my opinion there are great possibilities if proper research is carried out. At the present time it is used mostly for fertilizer in Newfoundland. This is a waste of good food, and I think it should be stopped. I think some method should be found to process the fish and market it. I believe if it gets to market people will take to it.

Mention has also been made of the trade mission to Europe of the Minister of Public Works. We have a problem that arises through fishermen from European countries coming to fish on the Grand Banks. It has been said that this is the greatest reserve of fish in the world today. The Grand Banks lie some 110 to 120 miles off the coast of Newfoundland. So much intensive fishing has been done there in the last few years that there are signs of depletion. The international commission that has been set up must look into the matter, and if these people are to enjoy the privilege of coming to our shores and getting supplies, which they do every year and which we want to continue, then they must give us something in return. This is a bargaining point which I hope will not be overlooked by the minister when he goes to Europe. I hope he will emphasize that point. We have enjoyed the friendship of Portugal and Spain in these fishing grounds off Newfoundland for hundreds of years. We want that to continue, but trade is a two-way street. We do not want to give all the privileges to them and get nothing in return.

I mentioned this fact, and I mentioned also that I hoped the personnel of this commission going over to Europe would include a representative of NAFEL. If the minister wishes to reply, I would ask him to give me the names of the gentlemen who will form that commission. I feel that it is important that a representative of NAFEL, our marketing agency, should be a member of that commission. I advocated that a year ago when the trade commission went to South America, but nothing was done. I advocate that again now, and stress the fact that I consider it essential.

Now, we come to international conservation. Mention has been made here of the three mile limit. Foreign trawlers, some of them up to 2,000 tons, come by the hundreds to fish in Newfoundland waters. They can come within three miles of our coast. There is a lot of confusion about this three mile