

Senator McCUTCHEON: Very pleasant arrangements for the crew.

Dr. DAVIDSON: I have often wondered if there was some alternative use of the vessel during the winter months, but it also might be difficult to find a vote wording in the estimates for the purpose that I might have in mind.

The CHAIRMAN: Senator Aseltine, I believe you have a question to ask.

Senator ASELTINE: Page 10, under Fisheries the top item, Vote 5d.

Dr. DAVIDSON: I will read the explanatory note, Mr. Chairman:

Article II of the Convention on Great Lakes Fisheries between Canada and the United States of America provides for the establishment of a commission to be composed of two national sections, each section composed of not more than three members appointed by the respective contracting parties. At a meeting of the contracting parties held in June 1964 to review the activities of the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission it was proposed that Article II of the Convention be amended to provide for not more than four members of each section. It was suggested by the Department of Justice that legislation in the form of an item in Estimates be sought to authorize such an amendment. Approval in principle for inclusion of an item in Supplementary Estimates for 1965-66 was authorized by the Treasury Board in September 1965. The amount of \$1 included in these supplementaries will indicate approval of the amendment to article II of the Convention on Great Lakes Fisheries between the respective contracting parties.

Senator McCUTCHEON: In connection with that explanation, may I ask you this. Authorization is given for the increase of a number of members of each of the contracting parties, and this provides for the appointment of such, and that is, as you have indicated, an amendment to the existing legislation. Now, what happens next year? Is the legislation going to be amended or—

Dr. DAVIDSON: This is a standard authority, and if I understand it correctly, what happens is that if the effect of this is to change the import of any section in any act of Parliament or in any schedule to any act of Parliament, when the statute revision is carried out by the Department of Justice, which is done every ten years, it will take note of this and will effect the change in the wording of the legislation in the Revised Statutes.

Senator McCUTCHEON: But the passage of this item will effectively change the legislation until the Revised Statutes are revised?

Dr. DAVIDSON: Yes, that is, if this is on the statute books now in statutory form. I speak without precise knowledge, but I presume that Article II of this Convention is to be found in the schedule to the Great Lakes Fisheries Convention Act, and this has the effect, therefore, in the interim, pending the revision of the statutes, of effecting this particular change in Article II of the Convention which is attached as a schedule to the Great Lakes Fisheries Convention Act.

The CHAIRMAN: Of course, it is possible that the Convention itself might provide for just such an amendment without the necessity of legislation.

Senator McCUTCHEON: Then surely it would not be necessary to bring in this item.

The CHAIRMAN: It would still be necessary because of the appointment of the fourth member.

Senator REID: How did this originate in the first place?

Dr. DAVIDSON: This is a question I cannot answer. The only thing that I can say is that this is the result of an agreement reached between the representatives of the Canadian Government and the representatives of the United States Government that this would be done; and this is for the purpose of fulfilling the commitment entered into at that time.