

gether. When the cut in the rate was announced I received communications from fishermen on the Pacific coast who told me to bring a message to the Liberal chieftain and the government stating that they were pleased to see the adjustment brought about for which they have been working for the past few years. I hope the government will make further efforts towards removing the duty altogether, and putting halibut on the free list.

Mr. BENNETT: What are the rates under the new arrangements with the United States for the importation of fresh halibut?

Mr. DUNNING: One cent.

Mr. BENNETT: The same as our own?

Mr. DUNNING: Yes.

Mr. BENNETT: It is a reciprocal rate?

Mr. DUNNING: Yes.

Mr. BENNETT: What was it previously?

Mr. DUNNING: Two cents.

Mr. BENNETT: And before the Fordney-McCumber tariff, what was it?

Mr. DUNNING: Two cents.

Mr. BENNETT: What are our exports? I believe all the halibut from this country went to the United States, and no halibut to speak of is shipped from the eastern coast. Practically all of it comes from the Pacific coast.

Mr. DUNNING: Last year there were 26,205 hundredweight shipped to the United States, valued at \$230,000.

Mr. BENNETT: Fresh?

Mr. DUNNING: Yes, fresh halibut.

Mr. STEWART: Are there any imports of halibut?

Mr. DUNNING: Yes; my figures are reduced to pounds. From the United States we imported 40,000 pounds, valued at \$3,000, and from Newfoundland, 208,000 pounds, valued at \$18,000.

Mr. BENNETT: Did Newfoundland get the benefit of this rate?

Mr. DUNNING: The British preferential is free at the present time.

Mr. BENNETT: But the minister will recall that there is some question about Newfoundland. Does Newfoundland get the benefit of the free rate or the cent rate? I should think it would be free.

Mr. DUNNING: Yes.

Mr. BENNETT: I am not sure about it.

Mr. DUNNING: All products of the fisheries of Newfoundland are free.

Mr. BENNETT: Yes, but the minister will remember some question was raised about it. There is not a very firm foundation, but I assume it is on a free basis.

Mr. DUNNING: Yes.

Mr. NEILL: From which coast do importations come, the Pacific or the Atlantic?

Mr. DUNNING: I have no way of identifying the ports at which the 40,000 pounds entered.

Mr. BENNETT: I think it is admitted that practically all the exports go from the Pacific coast.

Mr. DUNNING: Yes.

Mr. BENNETT: As I heard the hon. member I thought he said that the value of exports of halibut amounted to \$230,000.

Mr. DUNNING: I said \$230,000 represented the value of exports to the United States only. To the United Kingdom we exported 22,516 hundredweight, valued at \$208,000.

Mr. BENNETT: That would total what amount?

Mr. DUNNING: It is \$447,000 worth, or nearly 50,000 hundredweight.

Mr. BENNETT: Nearly \$450,000 worth?

Mr. DUNNING: Yes, in total exports.

Mr. BENNETT: Is not the hon. member for Skeena in error when he states that it means \$70,000 to the fishermen? The total value is \$450,000, and the reduction of duty is from two cents to one cent, or a fifty per cent reduction.

Mr. HANSON: The total output of Canadian fishermen is between 6,000,000 and 7,000,000 pounds. Whether it is sold in Canada or the United States or elsewhere they have been under a handicap of two cents per pound, as compared with American fishermen. That amount of fish could not be consumed in Canada and consequently has to be exported. I am not saying what we shipped to the United States, but the fact is that we had to look to that market or to Great Britain.

Mr. BENNETT: Then it costs the consumer a cent a pound more?

Mr. HANSON: The fishermen will get one cent per pound more.