

in connection with the labelling of lobsters. I think there were a couple of bills in connection with the labelling of lobsters. In British Columbia at the present time it seems to me the situation is very serious. I discussed the matter in the House, more particularly in connection with the Fraser River, but there are other questions as well which should be considered, and of course must be taken up. We have in British Columbia three districts, I think the three large districts, districts Nos. 1, 2, and 3. Now, Fraser River is in No. 1 district. Now, Mr. Stork and Mr. Dickie would be more particularly interested in the other districts. There are questions there which should be taken into consideration. There is, for instance, in district No. 2 the question of whether the gas boats should be allowed on the Skeena River or not. Then there is the matter of licenses between the different districts. At the present time I understand that the fisherman, if he desires to fish in two of the districts, must take out a license for the two districts; if he wishes to fish in three districts, he must take out three licenses. There has been a strong demand that a man with one license should be entitled to fish in other districts if he desires to do so. I know in my district, a great many of our fishermen do go up to the Northern waters to fish and although I am interested in the Fraser River I am also interested in the upper waters as well, because as I say, a great many of my constituents fish in those districts. Then there is the matter of the treatment of returned men, perhaps the treatment of white men by the Cannerymen and the alleged discrimination that is taking place there or that exists in favour of the Japanese. I have been told that the Cannerymen—I am not making any definite charges as to any of the Canneries because there are men who have no doubt different ideas, and who are playing the game with the white men—but as a general thing I am told the Cannerymen are not doing the right thing as far as the white men are concerned, but instead of that they are giving preference to the Japanese. That does not refer particularly to the Fraser River district, but to the Northern districts and I am told returned men have no chance at all with the Cannerymen, that they cannot make a living in the North, that they cannot get an opportunity to fish, that they are not given any encouragement; on the other hand, he is discouraged from taking part in fishing in the Northern waters. If that is so I think it is a matter that should be taken up by this Committee. It may be that we cannot pass any legislation on it but it has been suggested to me that representation should be made to the Cannerymen that they should give the white men and more particularly the returned soldier a square deal. There are also other matters. There is of course the question of the number of Orientals employed in the fisheries of British Columbia and that applies not only to the Fraser River district, but to other districts as well. There are I think it is admitted by every one except possibly the Cannerymen—there are too many Japanese employed in the Fisheries of British Columbia, altogether too many, and that applies as I said before to all the districts. They have simply come in there and have taken possession of our fisheries, and I am told that in some districts the Japanese consider that they really have a monopoly and that they have the right, the exclusive right to fish in those particular areas, and that if a white man comes in there it is made so uncomfortable for him that he has to get out. If that is true and it has come to that pass that the white man has to keep out of certain areas because the Japanese say so, this country is fast developing into something that we would not like to have. Those are matters that have to be taken up now. What I would suggest is that the Committee should consider in carrying on this investigation whether we should deal exclusively with one particular subject to start with, that is, say the Fraser River, or whether we should in our investigations cover the whole subject of the fisheries situation in British Columbia. We have in this City certain officials of the Fisheries Department, who have quite an extensive knowledge of Fisheries conditions in British Columbia. Some of them have spent a good deal of time out on the Pacific Coast. I can refer particularly to Mr. Found,