

know little and care less about fisheries; and to refuse the Japanese an opportunity to deplete the coastal fisheries of this country does not conform to their kind of dream of a Utopian world. That is the kind of mentality we have been up against in endeavouring to protect the fisheries interests on the Pacific Coast.

There is another reason why I am somewhat perturbed at the present situation. Two years ago the President of the United States sent a delegation to Japan to investigate the fisheries of that country, and to acquaint themselves with the views of Japanese fishermen and fishing interests. I have before me a copy of the report they presented to the President. The delegation point out that it was made plain to them by every Japanese fishing association, every fisherman, and every cannery owner, that it was their intention to fish as widely as possible in the seas of the world, and that to restrict them would strangle the economy of their great country. We must bear in mind that at the Yalta Conference the United States and Great Britain agreed to the cession to Soviet Russia of the southern half of Sakhalin, and thereby took away the living of 150,000 Japanese and fishery products worth about \$3,000,000 a year; and that the MacArthur line precludes the Japanese from fishing near Sakhalin. I hold no brief for the Japanese, as anyone who was in the House of Commons when I have spoken there concerning them will know. The honourable senator from Edmonton (Hon. Mr. MacKinnon) smiles: he has heard me a good many times in the other place on this subject. But one must be fair and look facts in the face. Here is a nation of 85,000,000 people living in a country about one-third the size of British Columbia with a population of only a little over a million. Before the war about a million and a half Japanese depended for their livelihood on the fishing industry. In their small country they cannot grow enough produce to support their population, so fish has become their main article of diet. Yet Allied statesmen handed over to Soviet Russia all the island of Sakhalin, whose southern half was ceded to Japan by the Peace Treaty of 1904. And as an extra gift, Russia has received all the small islands scattered over 700 miles of the Pacific which had belonged to Japan from time immemorial. We in British Columbia are somewhat concerned about these things.

I would remind honourable senators that Canada has two gateways. Broadly speaking, until recently general attention has been directed mainly towards Europe, and very little regard has been paid to the problems

of the Pacific. In my opinion this is a dangerous attitude: we should take more interest in what is occurring in the Pacific region, and in the activities not only of Russia but of other countries. I trust that the projected agreement will include not only provision for protecting our coastal waters but other matters which I think are serious and important, and I hope that the Canadian delegation will not back down. The United States would like to confine Canadian fishermen to coastal waters, which by the old "cannon-ball law" extend only three miles from shore. We need a policy which will preserve our right to fish on the high seas. But for the agreement entered into by two countries to preserve halibut and sockeye salmon there would now be none left. And there are more things to be discussed with Japan than fishing for halibut, cod or salmon. Her rights under the whaling convention should be discussed. Then there is the fur seal fishing off the Pribilof Islands. At one time the Pribilof Islands, acquired by the United States in 1876, had a herd of 5 million seals, but as a result of ruthless slaughter this herd was eventually reduced to something like 500,000. Finally the United States, Russia, Japan, and Canada reached a sealing agreement, and the herd was built up to about 4 million seals just prior to the commencement of the last war. Incidentally, honourable senators will recall that just before the last war broke out Japan signified her intention of withdrawing from this sealing treaty. According to the terms of the agreement Canada undertook to prevent its fishermen from killing seals on the high seas while the animals were on their way up to the Pribilof Islands, and in return our country received three or four hundred thousand dollars a year from the United States government. All these matters are extremely important to us. I fully realize that the United States has been spending something like \$1 billion a year for the last four years in Japan, and during that period has loaned Japan some \$400 million annually. During the time that General MacArthur was in Japan no Canadian could trade with that country; all trading rights were reserved for the United States. I suppose the Americans, because of their huge expenditures in Japan, felt justified in keeping those rights to themselves. But our businessmen in British Columbia are wondering just where they are going to stand in matters of Japanese trade now that that country is on her own, so to speak, and particularly when the Americans leave Japan's shores after having looked after that country for some four or five years.

It is unfortunate, I think, that the treaty with Japan was not proceeded with despite the lack of sanction by Soviet Russia, who