

*Supply—Fisheries and Forestry*

and for its foresight in establishing artificial and controlled flow spawning channels. The \$10 million Babine project is a classic example of the work being conducted toward increasing salmon runs. The only way we can increase income and production per fishing unit is through licence limitation, which is a long term project, and by increasing or restoring the size of the salmon stock. As I have suggested, the project now being carried out should increase the sockeye and pink salmon runs extensively in the next few years.

However, the situation with regard to the coho and spring salmon stock is not nearly so rosy; in fact it is unsatisfactory. In this regard, possibly we had better take a lesson from our neighbour to the south, who has greatly increased his stock by the hatchery method, in spite of the many difficulties that have had to be overcome. I refer to such obstacles as dams, pollution and a limited number of suitable rivers. None of these obstacles confronts us, except possibly pollution, and even that is present to a lesser degree. Although we have no dams to contend with yet, and an unlimited number of suitable rivers, coho and spring salmon stock is decreasing at an alarming rate, and for two basic reasons. The first is the heavy fishing pressure and the second is the damage caused to our natural spawning streams and watershed areas by indiscriminate logging practices. Our natural spawning channels are still, and heaven forbid it should ever be otherwise, the best areas for salmon stocks. It would seem therefore that the preservation of these stocks through the preservation of our natural spawning channels should receive top priority from our Department of Fisheries. On the west coast I have seen, and I continue to get reports about, the damage caused to these spawning beds and watershed areas by logging operators of both small and large magnitude. The necessary legislation exists to prohibit such conduct. I therefore urge that this legislation be enforced—and that it be rigidly enforced.

In so far as salmon rehabilitation is concerned, I would recommend that the Department of Fisheries conduct a survey of all the streams on the west coast suitable for the introduction of spawning channels. May I offer for special consideration the Kennedy lake system of Vancouver island?

I keep referring to this problem of pollution. I have referred to it this afternoon because I am quite convinced our rivers, streams and lakes are being polluted at an alarming rate. I am convinced also that if any

[Mr. Durante.]

department has some authority over the prevention of this condition it is the Department of Fisheries. I urge that legislation to prevent the pollution of rivers, streams and lakes be introduced as soon as possible. Earlier I made reference to the fact the Canadian commercial fishery had contributed to the Canadian economy. I should like now to make a reference to the sports fishery, whose value to our economy is inestimable. Certainly, there is no—

**The Chairman:** Order, please.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Before Your Honour sees the clock, may I make a suggestion? I believe that if we do proceed to private members hour the bill to be debated would be one of mine. I am anxious to get a chance to debate it, but I believe this is the last full day we will have on these estimates, and there is a desire to continue a discussion of the fisheries estimates. I would be willing therefore that you not see the clock. But I hope that some time during the hour you will see the hon. member for Surrey.

**The Chairman:** I believe the procedure we should follow is for the committee to rise and report progress, then, any hon. member may make a suggestion along the lines suggested. If there is unanimous consent we can revert to the committee of supply.

Progress reported.

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, may I now say "ditto" to what I said a few minutes ago?

• (5:00 p.m.)

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is it agreed?

**Mr. Crouse:** Mr. Speaker, speaking on behalf of the official opposition may I say we welcome this opportunity to continue with the debate. I should like to thank the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre for waiving private members hour. I would concur with his suggestion that the Chair should recognize the next speaker as being the hon. member for Surrey, even though there are a few more of our members who are anxious to participate in the debate between now and six o'clock.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please; the hon. member for St. Paul's.