

leader sometimes says too much. He talks so rapidly and says so much that he is apt to say something he does not mean. And as regards the Prime Minister, for whom I have every regard—in fact I have more probably than I should have—he tries to see how long he can talk and how little he can say. That is a positive fact. Every hon. member knows that and the people of the country know it. That is not the sort of speech that should be made here. If you have something to say, say it and sit down. Sometimes you will see somebody talking out a bill at eight o'clock—to me, the most disgusting thing in the world. All these private bills should be dealt with immediately and voted on, no matter whom it hurts. Last night there was a private bill before the committee and there was a great deal of talk on it, when the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lawson) suggested that we forget all about it and take up some other bills. That should not have to be done in this house. Why should a private bill be discussed night after night and not be disposed of? The rules of the house should be changed in order to allow us to get on with the business. We act like a bunch of school kids in a kindergarten. I am not scolding but I think there is room for improvement in the conduct of the business of the house.

I support anything that will help any part of the country. That is the policy of my party and it has always been. It is the policy of my leader and it was the policy of his predecessor. We will do all that we can to help both the maritimes and the prairies because we want to hold confederation together. If we wreck confederation, if we wreck Canada, the brightest spot in the empire, it will mean the breaking up of the empire. We must be careful not to go too far with any foolish nonsense.

Mr. DUSSAULT (Translation): Mr. Chairman, I wish to congratulate the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Michaud) on the resolution he has just introduced in the interest of the fishermen. This class of our population is to be found not only in the maritime provinces or the Pacific coast, but also in my province, where fishermen are specialists. It is in the constituencies of Levis and Bellechasse that all the eels in the world are caught. But our fishermen still have in cold storage their entire catch of last year. If the proposed salt fish board is going to help these fishermen, I

[Mr. Spence.]

shall support the measure and I congratulate the minister on having taken means to promote the export of this fish.

Our fishermen find themselves in a difficult position because of the fact that their product is consumed only by Germans and that we are not trading with Germany. The sole market left to them is therefore the German population of New York, but they want their eels fresh.

I do not know of any effective way of aiding our eel fishermen. If the experts of the Department of Fisheries can find a way of helping them to dispose of their catch, I can assure the minister that he will have not only my own support but also that of all those who may benefit from the effort he is making to see that our fishermen receive a fair remuneration for their work.

Mr. MacNEIL: I support the suggestion of the hon. member for Comox-Alberni, that the name of the board be changed from salt fish board to fish board. After all, there are marketing problems in all branches of the industry, and if the emphasis is placed on salt fish to the exclusion of other branches of the industry, confusion may result. May I ask the minister if he will take into consideration some procedure by which reference may be made to such a board of any serious marketing problem which may arise in any other branch of the industry?

Mr. MICHAUD: Any problem regarding marketing in any other branch of the industry can always be referred to the department, and we have men who can advise them although they cannot take their place. My hon. friend knows well that, for example, on the Pacific coast, in connection with that branch of the fisheries which is called "the industry", those who look after the marketing and exporting are very well organized, are meeting with considerable success, and should be interfered with as little as possible.

Mr. MacINNIS: Will this federal board interfere in any way with the marketing legislation in British Columbia with reference to salt fish?

Mr. MICHAUD: No, not at all.

Resolution reported, read the second time and concurred in. Mr. Michaud thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 130, to provide for the constitution of a salt fish board.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.