

Supply—Fisheries

The hon. member has also suggested on various occasions since I have been in this house that a federal fund should be provided to supply fresh water for the city in which he lives. He has spoken on that matter on several occasions and all I can say is that in eastern Canada when we want a water supply in the cities and villages the taxpayers in the particular locality set out to provide it for themselves.

But in this case when the men who go down to the sea in ships are protected by this insurance fund the hon. member for Moose Jaw saw fit to criticize the fact that it was costing the taxpayers of this country \$225,000 per year. Let me say at this point that I stood on my feet and supported a grant of \$65 million for the western farmers of Canada and I would add that it would take something like 260 years, if my figures are correct, for that same amount to be claimed by the fishermen and seamen in this great country of ours.

Another comparison I might make while I have this matter in mind is that this sum mentioned by the hon. member would be only 50 per cent of the amount paid out in annual grants to the maple sugar producers of this country for the purchase of aluminum pails. I regret that the hon. member for Moose Jaw saw fit to suggest this great saving of \$250,000 at the cost of those men who go out with no other protection than their own two hands, and that he would apparently deny them the protection which they have enjoyed for a great many years under this act.

I could point to individual cases with which I have had to deal over the past year in which men were hospitalized when they did not have a dollar to their name, and without this protection I am doubtful as to whether their families would have been able to carry on. I am sorry that the matter was ever raised in the House of Commons. If the hon. member for Moose Jaw had just taken a few minutes to get some particulars, not only in this case but in other cases that he mentioned, I am sure that he would not have put on record some of these great savings that he was going to make for the Canadian taxpayers.

Mr. Herridge: I agree with you.

Mr. Stuart (Charlotte): I was greatly interested in one statement made by the Minister of Fisheries today. That was when he stated that 80 per cent of the fish and fish products of this country of ours must be exported. When my friend to my left, the hon. member for Greenwood, was speaking just a few minutes ago, I thought I might bring that matter to his mind. He and others

in the House of Commons—and I am not criticizing them for it because it is their belief—made a great plea for protection. There is a good example that I can bring to his attention tonight showing why I am bitterly opposed to protection. That example is that 20 per cent of what we produce in the fishing industry in this country is consumed in Canada.

Mr. Macdonnell: Would the hon member permit a question?

Mr. Stuart (Charlotte): Gladly.

Mr. Macdonnell: I just want to ask him if he is aware of the fact that the party to which I belong supported GATT and the trade which it sought to bring, throughout the years ever since it was brought in?

Mr. Stuart (Charlotte): I am not disputing the hon. member's word, Mr. Chairman. But I have seen him get to his feet in the House of Commons since last November on two or three occasions and plead for these poor manufacturers of electrical appliances in Canada who are being so terribly pushed around.

Mr. Macdonnell: Will the hon. member permit another question? Did he ever hear me ask for an increase in tariffs?

Mr. Stuart (Charlotte): I certainly did.

Mr. Macdonnell: May I ask the hon. member when?

The Deputy Chairman: I think I should point out to the committee that two hon. members cannot have the floor at once. The hon. member for Charlotte has the floor.

Mr. Macdonnell: I am asking the hon. gentleman if he will be good enough to look in *Hansard*. I am quite satisfied that he will find no reference to an increase in tariffs made by me.

Mr. Stuart (Charlotte): I cannot tell the hon. member the page of *Hansard* but when the legislation in connection with dumping in Canada was being discussed in this house the hon. gentleman to my left, standing where he stood just a minute ago, stated to the Minister of National Revenue that he was most hopeful that when this matter was under consideration those who manufacture electrical appliances in this country would not be forgotten. Is that asking for protection or is it not? I can find that in *Hansard*, and I shall be glad to do so tomorrow.

What I wanted to say was this. The figures put on record today by the Minister of Fisheries give a clear indication why the people down in the maritime provinces are bitterly opposed to protection. The matter was raised today by the Leader of the