

Government is at the moment paying all the transportation costs on feed wheat, so that does not enter into the matter.

**Hon. Mr. Horner:** The miller gets milling wheat for less than that. Why did you not buy from him?

**Hon. Mr. Reid:** I would have been prevented from doing so, and I will tell you why when we get into a discussion of the bill related to freight rates, which is to come before us. We are in a peculiar position in British Columbia. Wheat can be bought outside this country cheaper than it can be bought in that province, but we cannot get it at the export rate. At one time I appeared before the Board of Transport Commissioners and proved that at one time in the thirties we could buy Alberta wheat in China, and transport it back to British Columbia cheaper than we could bring it directly to that province. That information is on the records of the commission, and can be seen today. It is all very well to ask a high price for milling wheat. God knows, the farmers should get all that is coming to him; but why we in British Columbia should have to pay an exorbitant price for poor wheat is more than I can understand. Certainly, if we get the grain at a fair price our province will offer a ready and a growing market for those wheat-producing areas which today have storage problems.

The senator from Bonavista (Hon. Mr. Petten) had something to say about the danger to fisheries from hydro-electric power dams. Prior to his remarks I had thought that the only place where this danger existed was British Columbia. In our province there is a huge cartel, or combine, known as the Aluminum Company of Canada, sometimes called Alcan. It has been given by the provincial government a vast heritage in the finest water-power site in the entire world. I make that statement without fear of successful contradiction. I am told that when the dam is filled it will contain so much water that there will be plenty for power development during the entire twelve months of the year. Engineers have informed me that although application was made for a million and a half horse-power, the dam, when filled will easily develop two million horse-power. I do not propose to enter into a discussion of the agreement between the provinces—that is a subject for another time—but I wish to support the position taken by the senator from Bonavista (Hon. Mr. Petten).

The International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission, through the government has for some months been negotiating for a certain quantity of water to maintain a species of

salmon called sockeye, which this year brought \$1,500,000 to the fishermen of the Fraser River and the United States. It has been pointed out to the Aluminum Company, and to the government, that unless the water is maintained at a certain level the streams through which the salmon go to spawn will be so low that the adult fish will not be able to get up to their spawning grounds.

I warn honourable senators of the dangers of these great cartels. They have no thought whatsoever of fish. As a matter of fact the vice-president of this particular company remarked in the course of a conversation that for the past thirty years he had been fighting fishing interests. "Our main concern", he said, "is to produce power for aluminum; we are not concerned with a few fish or a few fishermen." One sees the consequences of that attitude across the line, where the damming of the Columbia to provide hydro-electric power has destroyed sockeye salmon fishing in that river. We hope that the Aluminum Company will pay more attention to the representations which have been made to them. We believe that there is a place for power development and for fish as well. All that is necessary is that power interests shall be reasonable, not ruthless and greedy, as they have been whenever and wherever they wanted to obtain hydro-electric power.

I wish now to speak for a few minutes on the Japanese peace treaty and the mission which has just gone to Japan. The honourable the Minister of Fisheries and the other Canadian delegates are splendid men, but I am rather perturbed that the United States mission numbers ten, against our five. I have every confidence in the Minister of Fisheries; I recognize his wisdom and ability; but the influence and power of the American mission are not to be underrated. May I point out to honourable senators, all of whom may not have had an opportunity of studying the terms of the treaty, that it should have contained a provision to prevent the Japanese from operating off the Pacific Coast shores and depleting our fisheries; but American interests, and notably Mr. Dulles, brushed aside these considerations. I have had some experience with Americans on commissions, and, though I have found them to be splendid and able men, I am not unmindful of the fact that they are Americans, and naturally they keep their eye on United States interests. While nothing definite can be stated until the outcome of the deliberations of the committee now in Japan has been made known, I am rather concerned, as I have said, about the size of the United States delegation, and I believe Canada's representation should have been numerically equal to theirs. There are theorists who call themselves economists, who