

EVIDENCE

FEBRUARY 9, 1953.

The CHAIRMAN: Order. I see a quorum present. I would like to announce the names of the members of the sub-committee on agenda and procedure acting with me. They are Messrs. Applewhaite, MacInnis, MacNaught, Parkes, Stuart and Thomas.

I have the honour to present the first report of the sub-committee. (*See Minutes of Proceedings*).

This report is now before you for adoption.

Mr. APPLEWHAITE: I move the adoption of the report.

Mr. GIBSON: I second the motion.

The CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Applewhaite and seconded by Mr. Gibson that this report be now concurred in. Are you ready for the question? Shall the motion carry?

Carried.

I am glad this morning to see that we have from the Department of Fisheries the Minister, the Honourable James Sinclair, and also Mr. Stewart Bates, the Deputy Minister, and Mr. S. V. Ozere, Director of Legal Service, and, from the Department of External Affairs, the Legal Division, Mr. J. P. Erichsen-Brown. We are very glad to have these gentlemen with us this morning and we shall be glad to have statements from them.

Clause 1.

1. This Act may be cited as the *Coastal Fisheries Protection Act*.

Mr. McLURE: Mr. Chairman, before going on with this, I have just passed a note to Mr. MacNaught and I was wondering if I could get a little advice on it. I think that Mr. MacNaught gave some advice on the matter before, but I did not happen to be here at the time.

Mr. MacNAUGHT: Mr. Chairman, I presume that this has some reference to the question which was asked by Mr. Robichaud in the House. At that time the Minister said our officials were keeping a close watch on it, and that when we have anything specific to report, a statement would be made in the House. We have nothing further to report on it. Perhaps, Mr. Bates could let us know if we have any recent information on the efforts of a private member to introduce an Act in relation to Fisheries in the State House of Massachusetts.

Mr. Stewart BATES (Deputy Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Chairman, we understand that the hearing in the United States has been postponed until the 11th of March. We have nothing further to report.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, gentlemen, we would be pleased if the Hon. Mr. Sinclair would come forward and make his statement to the committee.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I followed the debate in the House, but I was not there for the very end of it because I had to go to Newfoundland. Mr. MacNaught was conducting the bill through but in the debate there was one question on which I think a statement of government policy should be made. It was this matter of territorial waters to which most of the debate related.