

Extension of Sittings

Mr. Fulton: The five Maritime provinces think they are protected. The Minister for International Trade sent off these cozy little letters.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): Try a novelty, Mr. Fulton. Try the truth.

Mr. Fulton: The Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark) is a little tender about this.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): I am tender about the truth.

Mr. Fulton: They are trying to sell out our fishing industry, our herring and salmon industry which is worth \$750 million a year. They will try and sell it out on Monday and Tuesday of next week in Washington. Peter Murphy is the negotiator for the United States. We are sending down Howie Wilson. What is he going down with?

Cabinet yesterday decided for British Columbia that landing requirements are all that are required for British Columbia for our herring and salmon—no grading requirements, and no evisceration requirements. If we do not have a right to gut fish in British Columbia, what type of a government have we got over there? They are giving the whole thing away. They are gutless, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, and the whole works. What are they doing over the weekend? They are bringing Mr. McRae back from France and getting everyone together over in Hull to have a summit meeting.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): Tell the truth, Jim. Try the truth.

Mr. Fulton: They are going to decide that we are going to have A sockeye and B sockeye. We are going to have dark chums, and we are going to have this, and we are going to have that. They think that they are going to have it ready by Monday to take down to Washington. I know what Peter Murphy is going to say. The Minister for International Trade has said to Howie to go down there. "Don't worry, there is no herring fishery until March, but offer Peter Murphy the opportunity to negotiate with Canada with a December 19 deadline." Why is there this short deadline?

The Minister for International Trade (Mr. Crosbie) receives a call from Brian Peckford. He receives calls from the East Coast. They say that they are worried about the fishing industry and do not want any retaliatory action against the east coast fisheries. "Give away the West Coast." We know that the Government gave away the West Coast fishing industry during the negotiations on the Free Trade Agreement. Why were the B.C.

regulations not protected? We know that Mr. Vander Zalm did not do anything. He finally sent a letter today to the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney). He said: "We want full regulations. We want landing requirements. We want grading requirements. We want evisceration." A deathbed repentance by Mr. Vander Zalm.

An Hon. Member: He supported free trade.

Mr. Fulton: That is right. He is a big supporter of the Free Trade Agreement, like Mr. Bourassa. Five Liberal Premiers favour it and four are opposed. We are starting to get the swing of things here. Mr. Vander Zalm comes in right at the tail end.

Let me come back to what they are doing over the weekend. They are working on the grading regulations. They are saying that Cabinet is going to claim just landing requirements for British Columbia. We will designate certain places where chum, sockeye and spring—things that the Secretary of State would not even know about—are going to have to be landed in certain places, but no grading requirements, no evisceration requirements. This week in the House I stated to the Minister of Fisheries that GATT countries like Great Britain and many other countries have import controls—

Mr. McDermid: Import.

Mr. Fulton:—GATT consistent on graded fish and eviscerated fish from British Columbia. They have to be graded and eviscerated to get into Great Britain.

• (0030)

And what does the Minister for International Trade say? "Oh, the U.S. doesn't want B.C. to have grading, or evisceration requirements. We will get rid of those."

An Hon. Member: It is the same as with the GATT.

Mr. Fulton: It is just another trade-off to the United States, Madam Speaker.

Well, let us take a look at what the implications are. It means that offshore buyers will be able to come into Canada and buy our fish, and they will be able to gut them and can them, and short freeze and ship them to markets all over the world.

One has to ask oneself why it is that B.C.'s fishing industry is known around the world as number one; why it is that B.C. fish products are number one around the world. Well, it is because we have in place comprehensive quality of product controls. It is because we in British Columbia, unlike the U.S., understand stock management and stock conservation.