

Supply—Fisheries

program for larger boats. I think we must have larger boats and more modern equipment for our inshore fishermen.

In Newfoundland we must also concentrate to a greater degree on our offshore fisheries. I was disappointed several years ago when a number of local fish producers in Newfoundland decided to go out of the offshore fishery business. I have not been able to understand the reason for that action. However, I believe that one particularly energetic and imaginative company is contemplating returning to the offshore fishery.

It seems to me, to be logical, that this would be a more efficient way for them to operate their business, rather than to depend solely on the inshore fishery.

One Newfoundland fishing company will be bringing to Newfoundland waters this November the first of four new factory ships. These ships will be floating fish plants. I was happy to learn from the president of Fisheries Products Limited that one of these trawlers will, it is hoped, be located in St. Mary's bay, St. John's West, next summer. I think this is a step in the right direction toward achieving greater mobility in one aspect of our fisheries at any rate, because these floating fish plants will be able to move into areas where the inshore fishery is better than in other areas.

My greatest concern in rising to speak was to stress the importance of these conservation areas, notwithstanding whatever other arrangements may be made concerning Canada's territorial waters. I think this is a most important step for the part of St. John's West about which I have been talking and I am quite sure it will be applicable to other parts of Newfoundland as well.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Regan: Mr. Chairman, I wish to congratulate the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Robichaud) on the intelligent way in which he has administered his department.

[*Text*]

I wish to say only a very few words on this subject. As one who comes from an area which is greatly affected by the fishery I would point out that the fishing industry has meant \$70 million a year to the province of Nova Scotia. It has provided a great deal of employment, and it is of keen concern to Nova Scotians that the fisheries on the east coast of Canada continue prosperous. In this direction we all know that more and more modern equipment and better facilities have resulted in those who go down to the sea in

ships being able to pursue and catch fish more efficiently.

As has been emphasized by a number of speakers, much has been done but much more needs to be done with regard to obtaining a greater knowledge of the conditions under which fish will multiply and prosper and with regard to the amount of protection that will be necessary by way of international agreements in the years ahead, to assure that our fisheries are never completely exploited and used up with the result that the industry would disappear.

In this connection I should like to mention the fact that at Dalhousie University Dr. W. R. Trost, dean of graduate studies, has been appointed chairman of Dalhousie's aquaculture committee. This committee has proposed a \$1 million aquatron. The name "aquatron" has been coined for this facility because it is a significant departure from any existing aquarium or aquatic experimental facility now existing. It is proposed to use the aquatron for the study of conditions under which fish and all sea life prosper, and the experiments are to be carried out in co-operation with the Bedford institute of oceanography. I submit that this type of development needs every encouragement from the national research council and the Department of Fisheries because it is only by acquiring greater knowledge of conditions in the sea at different depths and pressures that we can eventually turn the fishing industry from a hunting to a farming industry.

Mr. Robichaud: Mr. Chairman, it is not my intention to delay my estimates. I feel I have already spoken long enough in introducing them but I am sure hon. members expect me to answer some of the questions they have directed to me and I want to try to do so as briefly as possible.

The hon. member for Queens (Mr. MacLean) referred to the order in council passed on the 17th of July exempting certain countries from the application of the 12 mile fishing zone. I am sure hon. members will understand why this was done. It was done for those countries with whom we are negotiating, inasmuch as we could not expect to enforce the 12 mile fishing zone on those countries before the negotiations were completed.

The hon. member also referred to the protection of seals, particularly in the gulf of St. Lawrence. The only foreign country involved is Norway and we are at present negotiating with Norway in order to assure full protection in that particular area. The