

Mr. ROBICHAUD: Then clause 3 makes it an offence for a Canadian vessel to do that?

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: The second point you made, taking men into Canadian ports from a fishing vessel, bringing supplies in from the foreign vessel, that party would be up against the customs or immigration regulations, but, taking Canadian supplies out, that is export, and unless there is some ban against export, there is no offence, unless it may be a ban against the export of strategic materials.

Mr. ROBICHAUD: My question was prefaced by the words "under this present Bill". Clause 3 make it an offence under this Bill to bring in supplies from outside Canadian territorial waters, and the bringing out of bait is not covered by this Bill at all?

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: Bringing bait in would be provided—

Mr. ROBICHAUD: Where is it provided for? To bring bait from a port to a fishing vessel by a Canadian vessel?

Mr. STICK: Bait would be fish.

Mr. ROBICHAUD: What about supplies?

Mr. OZERE: Supplies are not. Supplies are covered by the customs regulations.

Mr. STICK: This is a very important clause so far as Newfoundland is concerned. We have had numerous foreign vessels, such as those from Portugal, France and Spain, fishing off the Grand Banks, which I think are outside territorial waters, and they have been coming into our ports for supplies—bait and general supplies—and that trade has got to be a matter of importance. This question is, as I say, of some concern to us, to the people in Newfoundland, as to what the regulations are going to be in this regard. Could you give us any assurance that the relationship which has existed between the Portugese and ourselves for very many years, and which we enjoy—they are friendly in the sense that we sell them supplies and they purchase large supplies of our salt codfish will not be interfered with. I think it is fair to say that there is uneasiness over this clause of the Bill, that it might interfere with the large amount of trade carried on in Newfoundland supplying those large trawlers. Could you give us any assurance that the matter will be seriously considered and that this happy relationship will not be upset unduly? Can we have that assurance that the matter will be very carefully considered before you bring in regulations that will upset that relationship?

Mr. BALCOM: Is it a suggestion that those purchases be confined to Newfoundland?

The CHAIRMAN: I do not take it that way, Mr. Balcom, but I think possibly that might be a matter for governmental policy. The Minister or the deputy minister might be able to answer Mr. Stick's question?

Mr. BATES: This will be a matter of government policy—the kind of regulations that are deemed right and proper in the future. I think it is fair to say that at the present there will be no change in these regulations, they will be carried out under this Act as they have been under the other. The point is that the government is asking authority here to change the policy and procedures in the future if it so wishes.

Mr. STICK: Will you consult the provinces before you make any move in the matter I have just spoken of?

Mr. BATES: As I say, this will be a matter of government policy, and that policy will include the consideration of fishing rights as well as merchandising rights and all the other interests that go into the question of bilateral trade between the various countries. It is quite a complex set of factors.

Mr. STICK: I thought so, and that is why I am worried.