

*Supply—Trade and Commerce*

It will be noted from this statement that the total catch for 1955 increased by 480,700 pounds over that of 1954. In the New Brunswick area the decrease was 540,400 pounds, but it increased in Prince Edward Island by 689,400 pounds and in Nova Scotia by 341,700 pounds.

From studies of the life history of lobsters it is evident that they grow little during the winter season. A fall season in area 7B, therefore, would result in catching almost all the legal-sized lobsters there, so there would be practically none left for next year. Consequently there would be a total failure in the catch next year. For these reasons it is considered that a fall season in area 7B cannot be granted.

**AGRICULTURE****ONTARIO—MEASURES TO COMBAT INFESTATION BY ARMY WORMS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. A. E. Robinson (Bruce):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a question of the Minister of Agriculture. Owing to the devastation by army worms in Ontario at the present time, is the minister prepared to assist the provincial government in every way possible, if he is requested to do so, to combat the army worm?

**Right Hon. J. G. Gardiner (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member was good enough to phone me this morning with regard to this matter. I stated to him at the time that infestations of this kind are battled by the provincial authorities in all the provinces. However, I did obtain information which indicates that light scattered infestations have been reported from Kent, Oxford, Bruce, Lanark and Waterloo counties. Infestation is much lighter than last year, according to the report. Up to 75 per cent of the worms are reported to be infested with parasites which, of course, is the method followed to combat the army worm. The report is that no serious damage is expected. The further report is that the provincial authorities are organizing and advising on control measures. In other words, our information is that the whole matter is being properly handled by the provincial authorities.

**SUPPLY**

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Robinson (Simcoe East) in the chair.

**DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE**

Dominion bureau of statistics—  
443. Census, \$953,002.

**Mr. Trainor:** Mr. Chairman, on a question of privilege, I wish to call your attention to

[Mr. MacNaught.]

yesterday's *Hansard*. The Minister of Trade and Commerce is reported in *Hansard* at page 6164 as having said the following:

No government statement has ever been made that warrants anything the hon. member has said. This is the kind of mischievous speech that is specialized in by the hon. member for Calgary South.

And again at page 6165:

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): The only negotiations along that line that I know of were conducted by the hon. member for Calgary South, who went to Washington in company with the United States vice-consul at Calgary, represented himself as a man of importance in this transaction, and had conversations with the state department and with the federal power commission. If my hon. friend would like information about that matter perhaps he can ask the hon. member for Calgary South.

The allegation of the minister that the hon. member for Calgary South represented himself as a man of importance, or rather misrepresented himself, I think, is unfair and unjustified. The hon. member for Calgary South is said to have represented himself as a man of importance, but if he is regarded as a man of importance it is other people who so regard him and I think justifiably so. I am at a loss to understand why the Minister of Trade and Commerce should make this gratuitous attack on the hon. member for Calgary South who did not happen to be here to reply.

**Some hon. Members:** Order.

**Mr. Trainor:** The only reason I can think of—

**Some hon. Members:** Order.

**Mr. Trainor:** —is that the minister is not able—

**The Chairman:** Order. Although I have listened to the hon. member for some time, I do not yet understand just how his question of privilege arises. I was in the chair in committee last evening when the utterances to which he has referred took place. I assure the hon. member that if I had felt that there were any references to the hon. member for Calgary South in his absence which were not countenanced by our rules it would have been my duty to have risen immediately and made reference to the matter, and I most certainly would have done so. May I point out also to the hon. member for Winnipeg South that the hon. member for Vancouver-Quadra had the floor at the time and his comments followed immediately those of the minister. The hon. member for Vancouver-Quadra made no objection at the time to the utterances. Therefore I must consider that at this late date the incident is closed.