

being interfered with; I am claiming that you are destroying the purpose of the Board.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: In what manner will they be hampered in carrying on their investigations? They have a majority, and can continue their own work on their own lines. If some new matter is brought to their attention wherein science will help the industry is it not to the advantage of Canada?

Hon. Mr. BRADBURY: We have a highly paid staff of officials in the Fisheries Department, with ramifications extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific. If that Department is not big enough to handle that end of the business through its Deputy Minister and Fishery Commissioners and inspectors and other officials who are drawing down big salaries, I think it is time a reorganization took place in that Department instead of in this Board. I am not going to detain the House: I am just protesting against what is being done. I think it is not in the best interest of Canada.

Hon. Mr. GIRROIR: I think that we will better understand this question if we approach it in a quite way and without getting unduly excited over the question, which, after all, is a very simple and easily-understood one, I would not rise to oppose the passage of this Bill did I not honestly believe that there were very strong reasons why it should not be passed. Those who are opposing the passage of the Bill are not perhaps so much opposed to the adding of practical men to the Board as they are to the bringing of this Board practically under the Department of Fisheries.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: No, nothing is changed.

Hon. Mr. GIRROIR: This Board is appointed for a special purpose. That has been said often, but, in order to explain my view, I have to say it again. It is appointed to do scientific work of a special kind. These men are working without pay of any kind in the interests of science. They are all very able men and men of wide experience along this line. That is why they have been selected to serve on this Board. Their work has been carried on intelligently, and, I understand, with great benefit to the fisheries. Their work has been carried on independently of the Department of Fisheries; that is to say, there have been no officials of the Department serving on the Board—

Hon. Mr. BRADBURY: Yes, two: Professor Knight and Professor Prince.

Hon. Mr. GIRROIR:—except scientific men.

Apparently the object of the Bill is to put upon this Board one member from the Department of Fisheries who has no scientific knowledge of the questions with which this Board is called upon to deal.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: He may have. He is not prohibited from having the knowledge.

Hon. Mr. GIRROIR: Nevertheless, we leave it open to the Departmental officials to name a man who has no scientific knowledge of the questions with which he is called upon to deal. Remember, these scientific men are working without pay; they are doing the work voluntarily and in the interest of science, and will naturally resent the introduction on the Board of some member of the Department who may, by his meddling and interference, and endeavouring to overrule and override, cause these men to resign from the Board. I do not say they will, but no doubt there will be a certain amount of resentment.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: But they remain in the majority.

Hon. Mr. GIRROIR: Quite true, but that may not satisfy them. They may not control the situation as well as they desire it to be controlled from a scientific standpoint.

This Board has functioned to a certain extent separate and apart from the Department. I understand, if I have not been misinformed, that the Department has no control over their expenditure—that is to say, a certain amount of money is granted each year for this work, and is expended by these scientific men, who make a report. Their report of expenditures, with vouchers and receipts and everything necessary to prove a proper expenditure, goes to the Auditor General's Department and is passed upon. That, I believe, is a correct statement of the facts. Naturally, the officials of the Fisheries Department, who are not scientists, but who may occupy very important positions in that Department, are jealous of the separate control which these scientists have over this particular work, and are anxious to get their fingers in the pie. They would like to know just what is going on, and would like to keep tab on those men who, because of their scientific training and knowledge, have been raised to the prominent position of being members of the Board. If you want to get at the bottom of this matter you will do so by inquiring whether there is not just a little bit of jealousy between the officers of the Fisheries Department and the members of this Board.

Now, there is a very real objection to the appointment of laymen on this Board. I