

*Fisheries*

but I am sure they were a good advertisement for Winnipeg. It was a unique-looking fish which I had not seen before. In this way we were doing something to increase the sale of this type of fish.

We do not have live lobster on the menu of the parliamentary restaurant. I think the salt-water fishermen would be very much in favour of increasing the sale of lobster. I find the Department of Fisheries is becoming very cheap, from the point of view of members of parliament, because I remember that a few years ago about one-third of the members of this house were invited to visit the excellent kitchen of the Department of Fisheries. We started with the first course, which was of course fish. We then proceeded through the soup course and several other unknown courses. Then we had a choice of several kinds of fish and finished with a dessert made out of fish in their own laboratory. The Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Davis) has perhaps not been long enough in his portfolio to realize the value of advertising the developments that have been made in this industry. I am not sure how you can make custard out of fish. I am sure that most housewives, even those in the fishing areas, would not know how this is done, but I was informed that we were eating custard made out of fish. The minister should consider having his department provide assistance in advertising the value of processing in the kitchen many of the fish products that are available to us.

I am sure the minister will find that many agents who have been selling freshwater fish up to this time will not look upon this new board favourably. They have developed a great deal of competition and have had a very lucrative business. This measure will of course put some of them out of business. There will be an established quality and quantity of fish available and therefore stabilization of the price is almost inevitable. As happened with former cattle buyers, if there is a stabilization of price there will not be so many people in the business and the market will be developed on much more orderly lines.

The problem in the Northwest Territories has been handled by the former minister of northern affairs, now the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Laing). He did a great deal of work in the development of the char fishery program. This market was developed for the benefit of Indians and Eskimos and a very coarse and, I presume, almost mullet-type

[Mr. Peters.]

fish was produced. The sale of this fish resulted in a very high return.

In my area we have a form of sturgeon in Lake Timiskaming. It is fished commercially and sent to the New York market where it fetches a very good price. Occasionally the local fishermen steal a sturgeon from the commercial nets so they may try it out. They cannot get it any other way. They find it to be a terrible fish so far as eating is concerned, but it is very much sought after and fetches a high price in the gourmet markets.

Char was developed in this way. The minister will have to concern himself with this fish because I am sure we have only scratched the surface of the potential trade. We should be able to develop a market far larger than at present. I am sure the market is there to be found. As a more orderly price is obtained for fish I am sure we could consider many other areas that are not now considered to be commercial and will be able to make these products a commercial proposition.

I have for many years had a running battle with the department of lands and forests in Ontario with regard to the type of fish produced. The Americans I have observed fishing come to northern Ontario for wall-eye or pickerel, but the department of lands and forests has been spending millions of dollars on stocking lakes with trout. An American can go to a trout farm in the United States and for about \$1 can buy a trout. If he pays \$10 he is entitled to so many trout. Somebody puts them in the pond and he takes them out. We will have to decide whether it is worth while stocking our inland waters with fish. The minister will under this legislation have to consider restocking our inland waters. If a fish is worth \$3 or \$4 on the market and it costs us 50 cents to develop this industry, that is good business. It is an easy type of fish farming and one in which we should be involved.

#### PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE  
DEBATED

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard):** It is my duty, pursuant to standing order 40, to inform the house that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles)—Public Service—superannuated federal employees—request