

Supply—Fisheries

Mr. Noseworthy: The Minister of Finance can answer that question.

Mr. Mayhew: The reduction here is in the boat construction program in the acquisition of equipment.

Mr. Higgins: It was for boat construction?

Mr. Mayhew: Yes. We are not slackening the service because we have been able to charter boats and in the past ten years have built up the fleet.

Mr. Sinclair: Can the minister make a few comments with regard to the Capilano dam?

Mr. Mayhew: I intended to say something about that matter when I was on my feet last time, but I was thrown in the Sakinaw creek. The position has been known to the department for quite a considerable time. The greater Vancouver water board wanted to put a dam across the Capilano stream in order to provide the city of greater Vancouver with a supply of water. We have had engineers and biologists in there to make a study of the situation. They recommended that, for the amount of fish of all kinds that was going up there, the cost of building a fishway over a three hundred and twenty-foot dam was away out of proportion to what the fish would be worth. They therefore recommended that a fish hatchery be placed at the foot of the dam or in that area. That would be used for the propagation of the steelhead which is the sport fish and the fish that the Vancouver people are mostly interested in because many tourists come there merely to engage in sport fishing of the steelhead. It has been responsible for a good many dollars being left with the city of Vancouver or with the merchants of the city of Vancouver.

We are therefore recommending that the hatchery be built. It is at a cost of \$75,000, I think, for the building itself, with an annual maintenance cost of \$15,000. The lawyer for the water board was in Ottawa recently. We told him our position and he seemed to be quite satisfied with it. But he has not yet returned home to Vancouver. I will be in Vancouver, I hope, this coming Saturday and will be discussing the matter further with the board and with the game department of the provincial government.

Mr. Adamson: Where is the dam going to be built on the Capilano? Is it going to be built above the canyon or below it?

Mr. Sinclair: In the canyon.

Mr. Mayhew: In the canyon, about three and a half miles from the mouth of the river.

Mr. Adamson: Below the suspension bridge?
[Mr. Abbott.]

Mr. Sinclair: Just above the suspension bridge.

Mr. Mayhew: Just above it.

Mr. Riley: I wonder if the minister will give us some information as to whether or not he has given any consideration to the re-establishment of a salmon pond in the vicinity of Saint John harbour. As the minister is no doubt aware, the Saint John harbour salmon is probably the most palatable—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Riley: —and the most appealing example—

The Deputy Chairman: Order. I will ask the hon. member not to discuss the quality or the value of the fish in the various sections of the country. I remember that in a debate in a previous session, this sort of discussion was allowed and it was carried on for quite some time on the merits and the value of the various fish in existence here and there all across Canada. If the hon. member wishes to speak to the item under consideration, namely "Protection branch—Construction or acquisition of buildings, works, land and new equipment", he will have to disregard the quality of the salmon taken at Saint John.

Mr. McLure: It is always well to do a little bit of advertising.

Mr. Riley: It is extremely difficult to be silent on this subject, Mr. Chairman, but I bow to your ruling. The harbour fishermen of Saint John, who take these fish from the waters as they come in from the bay of Fundy on the way up the Saint John river, have in recent years become somewhat concerned over the problem of preservation and conservation. On various occasions, I believe, I have made their representations known to the minister, but to date we have not had anything concrete in the way of evidence that the department intends to do something about the re-establishment of this pond. We had such a pond a few years ago, but unfortunately it was destroyed. Unless some measures are adopted in the near future to rebuild this pond or to find another pond in the vicinity of the harbour, we feel that we shall probably be faced with a considerable loss of revenue on the part of our fishermen; and above and beyond our fishermen, the world at large will be a great loser.

Mr. Black (Cumberland): May I ask the minister why his department puts four estimates of the same heading in different places, estimates such as: "construction or acquisition of buildings, works, land and new equipment", which are items 148 and 150 and