

of the world are prepared to recognize them. If these countries do not recognize them you have no means of enforcing them unless you are prepared to do so by force, which I do not think would be a very good idea.

Mr. BROWNE (*Vancouver-Kingsway*): It is my understanding that Russia has declared a 12-mile limit in regard to territorial waters. Is that declaration being recognized and obeyed by other countries?

Mr. PICKERSGILL: What is your guess?

Mr. MACLEAN: This declaration is not actually recognized by other countries, but in practice it may be obeyed for reasons that are perhaps obvious.

Mr. CARTER: Is Mr. Clark going to tell us something in regard to ICNAF?

Mr. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, with regard to the international commission for the northwest Atlantic fisheries, as the minister has pointed out, this is an international commission having regard to the northwest Atlantic area. There are 12 countries which belong to this commission. If you would like, Mr. Chairman, I could mention the names.

The countries which are members of this commission are: Canada; the United Kingdom; the United States; Norway; Denmark; Iceland; Portugal; Spain; Italy; France; the Republic of West Germany and the U.S.S.R.

The commission is engaged in a joint co-ordinating program in the Northwest Atlantic area to determine what scientific requirements are needed for the management of the fishery in that area in order to maintain the resource on a maximum sustained yield basis.

People from many of the countries, as I think most of the members of this committee will know, come over from Europe to fish on this side of the Atlantic. There is very heavily concentrated fishing effort in this area, and all of the countries who are members of this commission feel that something ought to be found out about the situation on a scientific basis in order to properly manage the fishery.

A great deal of work of a scientific nature has been done since the inception of the commission. Progress is being made so as to make recommendations to the governments concerned for certain conservation measures, particularly having to do with the size of the mesh used in the trawl in order to allow the escapement of the small and immature fish so that they can grow up and therefore be available in later years in marketable and desirable sizes.

The co-ordinated program of scientific research of this commission is, as I have said, Mr. Chairman, making excellent progress. The commission held its 1958 annual meeting in Halifax which is, incidentally, the headquarters of the commission. They have a permanent secretariat—a small staff—located in accommodation provided by Dalhousie University.

As I have indicated, Mr. Chairman, a great deal of progress has been made in a very few years. I think we are well on the way to having the necessary information available so that we can make recommendations to the governments concerned in regard to conservation and management measures.

Mr. CARTER: Has the commission held any discussions or given consideration to the possibility that before too long, sometime in the future, the point will be reached beyond which it will not be wise to extend the dragging operations on the Grand Banks and other international fishing grounds.

Mr. CLARK: No, Mr. Chairman, the commission has not reached that stage in its work.

Mr. CARTER: Has any consideration been given—I mean, there is a deadline, a point somewhere which will be reached sometime, and would have to be anticipated a good many years before the point was reached, in order that a progressive restriction could be carried out, a program of restrictive dragging could be carried out, a substitution by other forms, other methods.