

something of that kind is done. We consider we will never have an opportunity of improving our conditions materially unless we get out of the conditions which exist at the present time, and we say that the trawler in Nova Scotia is the cause of it all.

We have the western shore fishermen, who are not in favour of the trawlers, neither are the western dealers. Mr. Bill, who signs his name to the majority report, is a fish expert, and we have the Lunenburg people, who have a trawler now. The owner of that trawler told me himself, "I am getting a trawler, not because I like trawlers but because I have to meet the competition of the other companies that have them." We have all the small operators trying to meet the competition of these big corporations who have trawlers and who get an immense quantity of fish through their trawlers. Then, in order to secure a sale they must at times quote very low prices on the market. Therefore we have very keen competition at the selling end, due to the fact that the small operators are kind of squeezed out of the markets, while the big corporations have immense quantities of fish to put on the market. The small fisherman gets a poor price, and when the price of fish is low, you can easily understand what that means to him. All that is materially affected by this question.

I do not think I have anything else to say about this matter. I am ready to answer any questions which may be asked, if I can answer them, either in French or in English. I am obliged to you gentlemen for having allowed me to put my views before the Committee to-day.

*By Mr. Ernst:*

Q. I would like to ask just one question. You used the words, "further restrictions." Have you any definite project in mind with regard to further restrictions? You used the words "further restrictions on the trawlers" and I was wondering if you had anything definite in mind.—A. It would be up to you people to work that out. We would be very much pleased with total abolition. We will not be pleased if we have nothing. If the majority report is kicked out altogether, it is going to be the cause of discontent and disappointment down our way.

Q. You have nothing definite to suggest?—A. I have not worked out any definite plan. You might substitute for the word "restriction" the word "abolition" if you like.

*By Mr. Garland (Bow River):*

Q. Father Boudreau, you quoted some figures at which fish were purchased from the shore fishermen by the corporations, I think around one cent to three cents per pound for haddock during the summer months; during the summer months, I think you said, haddock are sold by the piece?—A. In former years.

Q. In June last they were selling for 2½ cents per piece?—A. Not this last June. They were selling for one cent per pound at Antigonish. They have been sold by the piece at Antigonish for two cents apiece.

Q. I think I remember that, when I was there. Can you give the Committee any idea of the retail price of fish at that time?—A. I am told that in Halifax it was around fifteen cents; fish on the round with heads off were retailing at fifteen cents a pound, and with heads for twenty cents a pound.

Q. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask Father Boudreau to clear up the questions asked by these gentlemen, whether he was quoting the summer prices. The summer prices were from one to one and a half cents per pound.—A. One cent to one and a quarter for steak cod, and in September and October it went up a little, until it finally ended at the last fishing days at two and a quarter cents for steak cod, one and a quarter for market cod.

Q. That is, in the round?—A. Yes.

[Rev. Father Alfred Boudreau.]