

Mr. KELLY: Mr. Found no doubt is aware of this fact, that to bring the Indians down to the tidal waters to fish for food would be a new departure in this way, that the Indian would be under the necessity of getting a net, which is a very expensive affair; it runs into hundreds of dollars to get a net.

*By Hon. Mr. Murphy:*

Q. Could the department supply that?—A. The Department of Indian Affairs in several instances is supplying nets, such as would enable them to catch enough fish for their own food purposes, down on the coast.

Mr. KELLY: What part of the coast?

WITNESS: All around, anywhere where we allow commercial fishing. We would be most happy, and have suggested it many times.

Mr. KELLY: A net 150 fathoms long, at the present time, is quite an expensive net. Would you supply the material?

Mr. FOUND: Yes, but there is no need for such a net. An Indian has no need to use more than a few fathoms.

Mr. KELLY: I would like to draw Mr. Found's attention to this fact. Immediately you go out there, you are brought into competition with commercial men who are using not only drag seines, but large purse seines, and a gill net is simply out of the question, under such conditions. That is the difficulty, and Mr. Found is no doubt aware of this fact too, that the fish caught for food by the Indians at the present day, do not begin to compare with what he used to catch in days gone by.

WITNESS: True.

Mr. KELLY: It is only the older, and the more indigent, Indians who are doing that. Those who are working have not the time to go to the trouble of catching fish, and curing them as they used to do. A very small fraction of Indians who used to do that are now doing that sort of thing. The others are engaged in something else. Therefore, we contend that even if they were permitted to catch fish for food, without licenses, that privilege would not be abused, and it would be provided that anyone who abuses the privilege would be dispossessed of it at once for that season. I think it would be fair to do that.

Hon. Mr. MURPHY: How would you dispossess them when they are without a license?

Mr. KELLY: We have Dominion constables in the employment of the Indian Department, who are pretty much on the scene most of the time.

Hon. Mr. MURPHY: But, the Indian would not have any license you have said; then how would you dispossess them of the right to fish. If they had a license I understand you could cancel it.

Mr. KELLY: If he was caught selling fish for commercial purposes, when he was supposed to be catching them for food purposes, he could be brought into court like any one else.

Hon. Mr. MURPHY: Then that is what you have reference to?

Mr. KELLY: Yes.

*By Hon. Mr. Stevens:*

Q. Coming back to what I said a moment ago, here is the Act. I presume this is the consolidated Act?—A. The Act is attached to the regulations there.

Q. It provides that the minister may, wherever the exclusive right of fishing does not already exist by law, issue, or order to be issued, fishery leases or licenses for fishing, wheresoever situated or carried on, but leases or licenses for any term exceeding nine years shall be issued only under the authority of the Governor in Council. That would indicate that you have the right to issue leases

[Mr. W. A. Found.]