

6-7 GEORGE V, A. 1916

Q. Does the Boston fish get a better price?—A. Not a better price, but we get a very fresh fish.

Q. Then the Boston fish is received in a better condition?—A. In a better condition.

*By Mr. Loggie:*

Q. Then what the Canadian fisherman is up against is to get his fish into the Canadian markets in good condition.—A. I do not know whether transportation is the difficulty, or not, but the fish we get from Eastern Canada in the summer-time is not as nice as the Boston fish.

*By Mr. Kyte:*

Q. As a matter of fact fish begins to deteriorate the moment it is taken out of the water?—A. Yes, if it is not properly taken care of.

*By Mr. Stewart (Lunenburg):*

Q. Do you buy all your fish from the Montreal wholesalers?—A. Very little.

Q. Do you make your purchases directly from the traders at the coast?—A. We do as much as possible.

Q. Is there any necessity then for the wholesaler of fish at Montreal?—A. Yes. There is the supplying of the small dealers. You see the small dealers only handle the fish on Friday.

*By Mr. McCurdy:*

Q. Instead of there being a number of small dealers, is it more in the interest of the consumer to have a large emporium such as you yourself conduct?—A. No, I think it is an advantage to the fish business to have distributors in different towns, otherwise the smaller dealers would not be able to get their supply, or a varied supply.

Q. Are these small shops equipped for keeping fish in a good state?—A. No, they are not.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Do you think it would be beneficial to have a model fish market so that the small dealers might see how to preserve the fish?—A. I think that would certainly be all right.

Q. If you display fish attractively and at the same time protect it against heat and flies and other drawbacks, it benefits the trade, does it not?—A. Yes, that has been our experience.

Q. What is the nature of your plant?—A. We formerly had a large tank containing about 4 inches of ice. We laid our fish on top of that tank during the warm weather and kept cracked ice on it all the time.

Q. What system have you got now?—A. Now we have coils in our tank, to keep the ice from melting and at the same time to give a certain amount of cold air to preserve the fish.

Q. Do you think one of these glass cases fitted up with refrigeration would be useful?—A. I don't think they are practicable.

Q. Have you ever tried them?—A. All ours are open; we do not think the closed cases are practicable.

Q. They use the glass case in the United States, do they not?—A. I have not seen it.

Q. My information is that they do and that it is very satisfactory.—A. Probably in small stores.

Q. I am referring to small stores.—A. I guess it would be.

*By Mr. Stewart (Lunenburg):*

Q. Is there any demand at all in Montreal for lake fish?—A. Yes, we sell quite a lot of lake fish in the summer-time.

MR. J. S. STANFORD.