

APPENDIX No. 3

MEMORANDUM TO THE MINISTER.

In the year 1892, Professor E. E. Prince, was appointed Commissioner and General Inspector of Fisheries for Canada. The object of his appointment seems to have been to provide an officer of scientific attainments, possessing skill in marine biology, who could act for the Fisheries Branch in the same manner as nautical advisers do for the Marine Branch of the same department.

According to this, Professor Prince was to act as a scientific adviser to the Fisheries Branch. The original intention seems to have been lost sight of and Professor Prince, as Commissioner of Fisheries, has had to undertake a certain quantity of administrative work and of correspondence, which has taken up a certain portion of his time which might have been devoted to scientific matters.

Last fall Professor Prince was appointed International Commissioner of Fisheries, to act with a Commissioner appointed by the United States Government, under the Fisheries Treaty, which was signed on the 11th April, 1907. Professor Prince is also Chairman of several Investigation Commissions, which are studying the conditions of the fisheries at various points of this country; he is Chairman of the Biological Board and a great deal of his time is devoted to other scientific matters relating to the fisheries.

Under the circumstances it would seem advisable that Professor Prince be relieved of all the work of administration and of correspondence, which he has had to undertake within the last few years.

The undersigned begs to recommend that Professor Prince's duties consist of his work in connection with the International and other Commissions, of which he forms part, or to which he may be appointed later on by the Minister or the Governor in Council, and of his work in connection with the Biological Board, and that he should be the General Scientific Adviser of the department on matters relating to Fisheries.

The administrative work of the branch should be undertaken by Mr. R. N. Venning, the Superintendent of Fisheries, who should also have charge of the correspondence of that branch.

This was signed by the acting deputy, and was concurred in by myself on the 23rd of February last, so that the department is now properly organized. Professor Prince is now looking after the International Commission and then will devote his time to the Commissions upon which he has been or may be appointed for the purpose of making investigation and researches into the very best way of improving our fisheries and of developing the commercial side of it, and he also has charge of the scientific work in connection with the fisheries. All the administrative work of the department and the correspondence is now under the control of Mr. Venning.

Mr. BRADBURY.—Can you tell me the names of those Commissioners who have been appointed?

Hon. Mr. BRODEUR.—Yes, they are Professor Prince, Mr. Reid and Mr. Metcalfe.

Mr. BRADBURY.—That is a good commission.

Hon. Mr. BRODEUR.—Yes, it is a good commission and they are going to start as soon as possible. Of course Professor Prince will have to meet Dr. Jordan to draft the regulations concerning the International Fisheries Treaty, but in the meantime they will go on with the investigation.

Mr. MACLEAN.—I was going to say when Mr. Bradbury suggested the appointment of this fishery commission for Lake Winnipeg that this Committee has been appointed with the idea, and I hope it will be carried out, that it will be a permanent committee. I would like to see it have plenty of work to do. But with regard to this Commission it is possible that they can conduct experimental or research work much better than a parliamentary committee could, but I would just as soon have the opinion of Professor Prince or Mr. Venning given to this Committee after investigation made on the ground as I would that of any commission, I do not care who they are. I think it is