

Mr. STEWART: I think I gave you a pretty good outline at our last meeting of the matter I have in mind. There is some information I would like to have. It was in connection with a patent which exists at the present time in Norway for the refining of fish oil and it is used in the canning of sardines and that sort of thing. I cannot say whether the information I have is correct and I was hoping to get some confirmation here. I remember that a short time ago, a year ago, the Honourable Henry Wallace made a statement and he said that scientists from England, Russia, and the United States had carried on an investigation in Germany and were bringing back to their respective countries hundreds of new inventions covering processes practically unknown heretofore outside of Germany, and that these new processes and inventions would be the basis for starting new business enterprises in our countries. This oil today is being offered for sale in Canada even with the great shortage of oil that is worldwide to-day. Now as I stated the other day there is only ten per cent of the fish oil of the world produced in Norway. Ninety per cent of the fish oil in the world is being used for other purposes not nearly as essential as food. I believe in this country fish oil is used in the manufacture of cheap paints and so on. Now, if we had that patent for the refining of fish oil it would be a very great help to the canning industry in Canada. I do not know how many other industries it would affect but it would be of great benefit to the fish industry in Canada. The question I would like to ask is this. Is there any reason why these patents should not go to the allied nations? Why should one country monopolize a German patent?

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: I think Dr. Coleman can give you an answer.

The WITNESS: This question was raised in February. We have had communication with the Department of Finance and a search was made, first in our own records and there is no patent in Canada covering this Norwegian fish oil and its process. I have a note from the commissioner.

A search of our records fails to disclose any patents to a resident of Norway or Germany since 1930. I have also searched the issues of the Bibliography of Scientific and Industrial Reports issued by the office of technical services, United States Department of Commerce without finding anything. The reports referred to, contain technical information received from civil and military agencies of the United States government and co-operating foreign governments. Many of the reports cover information captured in enemy countries.

I am writing the officer in charge of patents in the United States Alien Property Custodian's office for his assistance in locating the process and on receipt of his reply will notify you.

And then the commissioner writes to us further on the 10th of March.

Further to my letter of February 18, 1947, respecting Senator A. N. McLean's enquiry *re* fish oil treatment I am now in receipt of a letter from the United States Office of Alien Property in which they suggest that United States Vested Patent No. 2,021,562 may be of interest. This patent was granted on November 19, 1935, to Dietrich Hildisch, Oslo, Norway, for Process of Improving the Taste of Hydrogenated Oils. The United States Official Gazette shows that a patent was applied for in Germany on January 5, 1932. Fish oils are specifically mentioned in this patent.

A search of our indexes under the name of Hildisch does not disclose a corresponding Canadian patent.

From the point of view of the custodian's office, there being no patent in Canada, and from the point of view of the Patent Office, there being no patent in Canada, it is not a matter with which we have to deal. Now, if it were a German patent, an enemy patent in Norway, as Norway is a party to the Patent