

ing those buildings. When the summer season arrives that is all discontinued until after the season is over, and in the fall of the year there is a large amount of building going on, and painting and repairing. After the tourist season some of our men were working there and they had been in the habit of going there under an arrangement. This year they were only there about a week when they came back and reported that they had been driven back. That the Customs officer at Alexandria Bay, Mr. Thompson, had come and notified them that they must leave. They were notified that complaints were entered against them and they would have to leave, and they left and have remained at Rockport ever since without getting any further employment. To my own personal knowledge, there has been no Canadians during the last fall, after the tourist season was over—there have been no Canadians who have been working in that section of the country around Rockport, who have been in the habit of working there for years, who have got a day's labor since, only those who are living on the other side before.

151. On the river opposite Rockport, I presume the same state of affairs exists as at Gananoque. There are many boats from morning until night carrying American tourists fishing there in Canadian water, rowed by American oarsmen?—Oh, yes. I am of the opinion that there are more even at Rockport than at Gananoque, because a large number go east. They are seldom going west to the fishing ground.

152. You think there are more boats in the vicinity of Rockport than west of Gananoque?—Well, as Mr. Ormiston has just stated in his evidence, we take simply a report of courtesy from these fishing yachts. Now after I was summoned to appear here before this Committee, I had a conversation with a fishery officer, Sydney Patterson, at Rockport. He was born in that locality and has remained there all his life, and for the last twenty-two or twenty-three years continued to be employed at rowing tourists. I had a conversation with him as to the number that might come in during the season and from an actual count from Clayton, which is about eleven and a half miles or twelve miles west of Gananoque, to Sport Island, about two and a half miles east of Alexandria Bay, there are twenty-seven yachts in that territory that are engaged in the summer season in fishing, and they are in our own waters. They are there perhaps almost daily. His estimate as far as my own personal knowledge is concerned, I think, would probably be within the mark. There are over 300 small boats in that territory which are daily upon our waters.

153. To your knowledge were there threats made by the Canadians in your locality who had been driven home, that if they were not permitted to return and perform their usual avocations over there, rowing these people, that they would take the law in their own hands and drive them from the waters?—Yes, that threat was made by several. They declared positively that they would do so. The excitement was great. I tried to reason the case with them and told them this matter would be amicably arranged, perhaps it was a misunderstanding and perhaps it would be better to be quiet and not do any overt act, and it was upon those grounds that I would go to Gananoque. I interviewed Mr. Ormiston and yourself (the Chairman) the same day, and I think I made those statements to you.

154. Then matters did quiet down after that notice was sent to the American hotel keepers there?—Yes.

155. And our people were allowed to resume their avocations?—Yes, after the first of July, things quieted down. After the first of July, the feeling was quieted down a little. I had a conversation that evening with the Deputy Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and he told me that he thought the matter would be quietly toned down during the winter. On the strength of his statement I informed my friends who were there that I thought some amicable arrangement would be made and that they might go back. Yet, I was informed by them, that they could not get the work. The employers would not employ them, whereas before they had given them the preference.

156. Is there a general feeling in your locality, irrespective of politics, that something should be done, some law passed, to either compel the Americans to remain on their own side and do their fishing there or that our people should par-