

Mr. NEILL: From the same man, and cover as great an area, and in some instances a greater, of time and material.

The CHAIRMAN: I suppose that covers it pretty well.

Mr. NEILL: That only touches the fringe of the information.

The CHAIRMAN: If there are no other comments by members of the Committee we will ask Mr. Found to make a statement.

W. A. FOUND, sworn.

WITNESS: After the rather severe indictments to which you have listened, were it not for a feeling of confidence that if the Committee would feel it worth while to go into these various matters in detail they can all be answered to its satisfaction, I would hesitate to appear before you at all. Needless to say, if I should start with the last first, in the letters that were read by Mr. Ward there were not very many lines read before I knew the writer. I would only like to say in the first place, if the correspondent has in mind that United States concerns who are doing the commercial end of the business are not being taxed heavily enough, I have nothing to say. That is a matter that may be very well worth following. When, however, it comes to the matter of the condition of the fisheries of Lake Winnipeg and Lake Winnipegosis, I can speak with some authority, and I shall be very glad to call upon the fishermen of these lakes to bear evidence to the correctness of what I say. There is no question that a number of years ago Lake Winnipeg was in a very serious condition, as well as Lake Winnipegosis. Regulations that were regarded as of an adequate character were adopted and enforced as well as might be, and a vigorous hatchery policy was entered into. The result has been that to-day the fisheries of Lake Winnipeg are, I think I can state without any fear of contradiction, in as good a condition as they ever were, that the fishermen are making as good catches individually as they were in the palmy days of the fishery. Last year, after the regulations having been enforced for quite a number of years, there were several requests for their amendment. Before dealing finally with them, it was considered well to call meetings of all interested. To that end I went to the district last June. After well advertising the meetings, a meeting in Winnipeg, which was representative of the fishermen of Lake Winnipeg, went over the situation. It was a well-attended meeting. The evidence of the fishermen, I think, without any division of opinion, was that they had no criticisms to make of the condition of the fisheries, but that the regulations had to be made from the standpoint of enabling the fishermen to sell their catches to the best advantage. I went on then to Winnipegosis, because the Winnipegosis men could not very well come to Winnipeg. Mr. Dempsey was not at either of those meetings, although he was well advised of them; that is, he had the same advice that everyone else had, which was several weeks' notice given broadcast, and I took pains to have them sent out in every fishing district. I do not know whether Mr. Ward knows the whole situation at Winnipegosis, but it was fairly full of fishermen who came from the north end of the lake to especially attend that meeting. The recommendations that were made were the recommendations of that meeting, which consisted mainly of the fishermen of that district, and I venture to say that these regulations will receive the endorsement of the great majority of fishermen of Lake Winnipegosis to-day.

*By Mr. Ward:*

Q. You are dealing with the summer fishing now?—A. Yes, I am dealing with the summer fishing now, unless in the light of the experience they have changed their view. That may be, but I do make the statement that the conclusions reached were not my sum-up, because I was careful to get the resolution before the meeting

[Mr. W. A. Found]