

Establish a train-ferry route and just as the American fishermen prefer to sell their fish in bond at Prince Rupert in order to save the long run of 1000 miles to and from the fishing grounds and Seattle, so they will prefer to ship direct from Green Bay to save the long run down to Boston or Gloucester.

The market is a greater one and the fisheries are just as prolific and as capable of extension.

I have shown how immense the Newfoundland fisheries are. The Canadian fisheries are quite as great. The following statement is taken from the Canadian Fisheries Report for 1916-1917.

"It is not an exaggeration to say that Canada possesses the most extensive fisheries in the world; moreover, it is safe to add that the waters in and around Canada contain the principal commercial food fishes in greater abundance than the waters of any other part of the world. The extraordinary fertility of what may be called our own waters is abundantly proved by the fact that, apart from salmon, all the lobsters, herring, mackerel, and sardines, nearly all the haddock, and many of the cod, hake, and pollock landed in Canada are taken from within ten or twelve miles from shore.

The coast line of the Atlantic provinces, from the Bay of Fundy to the Strait of Belle Isle, without taking into account the lesser bays and indentations, measures over 5,000 miles; and along this great stretch are to be found innumerable natural harbors and coves, in many of which valuable fish are taken in considerable quantities with little effort."

These fisheries, more particularly, those of the Gulf of St. Lawrence ought to be utilized a great deal more than they are, for the fact cannot be too often re-iterated that in the years immediately before us food is going to be more important than any thing else. Nothing conduces so much to industrial unrest as the high price and the scarcity of food. Hunger is a great unsettlement.

And in considering this question we must remember that the hour of need is near at hand. The high

cost of living, so far, has not caused any widespread distress—not certainly amongst the working class—for those of them not actually serving in the ranks have nearly all been employed on high wages in munition factories, or on other war work. The real pinch will come in a year or so from now, when all this work is at an end; when the exhaustion of the war and the tightness of money will make it difficult to start new industries, when thousands of people will be out of employment, while food will be just as dear because of the heavy taxation and the depletion of supplies.

Then if Canada and Newfoundland have put themselves in a position to supply fish in sufficient quantities to bring down prices, here or on the other side to before war figures, or even, lower, they will be rendering an inestimable national service. But that fish cannot be supplied unless the necessary preparations are made beforehand. It will be too late when the crisis is on us, the proper time for making them is now. There is work for every one who can lend a hand.

It has been found that to keep fish in cold storage for long periods is by no means a satisfactory solution of the problem. It does not cheapen the prices of fish. Instead it has worked in favor of the trusts.

Mr. Walter Long, the Colonial Secretary has stated that he thought great openings can be found in connection with the fishing industries on the two coasts of Canada; that there is an immense industry to be created and developed in connection with the sea fisheries. Moreover, if fish can be made more plentiful and cheaper, its consumption will increase proportionately.

Professor Prince, the Dominion Commissioner of Fisheries, who has done so much to bring about a more general use of fish, has told us that the amount consumed in Canada is about half that consumed in England—only 30 lbs. per capita as compared with 56 lbs.

It is not that people will not eat fish, it is the high price, and the difficulty of obtaining it that stands in the way. What is needed is a