

Q. You have organized the fishermen and understand what is going on in Nova Scotia, and realize that our fishermen are alive and will demand their rights, and fight for them. As regards the appointment of a minister, we are expecting that the recommendation of the Royal Commission will be carried out. What is the opinion of the people of Nova Scotia? Is it that he should be a practical man, one who understands the fishing industry?—A. Well, of course, the head of a department must have good executive ability. Then, on top of that, if he has a good knowledge of the fishing industry, it will come in very useful, but first of all we recognize that he must be a man of good executive ability. The industry has to be entirely organized. It has never been organized; it is a big job and we need a big man, with practical experience.

Q. Just another question; in regard to vocational training for the fishermen, there was a fishermen's school established in 1928. How did it work out?—A. We were very much disappointed owing to the fact that the promises which were made that the government would provide scholarships for fifty students were not carried out. In fact, I do not know whether there was any provision made at all, but about twenty-five went anyhow. The clergy of Nova Scotia went around begging and collecting money to help pay for these courses, and only nineteen or twenty took them. We had been promised that provision would be made for fifty scholarships. All the students who took the course think it was very good. I had some of my boys there; there were four from Canso, and all to whom I spoke about the course claimed it was a very good thing and that they received a lot of information, and are hoping it will be continued.

Q. What is the opinion of the fishermen regarding the fish inspectors, as to what class of men they should be?—A. Well, these are difficult questions to answer. Some of the fish inspectors are well liked, while others are not. When we were discussing the question in 1926 or 1927 the fishermen claimed they should be given preference in the appointment of fish inspectors. They claim they know the game, and they do not like to see a business man or a farmer come along and tell them what to do. Some of our fish inspectors do not know trout from a sucker and the people feel very sore about it, and do not want to accept the leadership of such men, who, they feel, are not able to teach them anything. These officials seem to be unwilling to learn anything, and a man who is able to teach them anything must know a good deal about it himself.

Q. The fishermen realize that they are not only to be governed but led by these inspectors in an advancement of the fishing industry. What is their feeling in regard to that?—A. I understand that the Department of Marine and Fisheries is giving courses to the inspectors also. I suppose they will learn something from those courses.

Q. Are not some of the farmers a little too old to learn the fishing industry? Should not a man be born into his occupation?—A. (No audible reply.)

*By Mr. MacLean (Prince):*

Q. Are the inspectors appointed by the Civil Service Committee?—A. Yes.

The witness retired.

The committee adjourned.