

APPENDIX No. 3

By Mr. Crosby:

Q. Another thing I would like to ask you—whether you can answer it to-day or not I do not know, and I do not want to prevent you giving the answer the chairman wants and which I very much desire with regard to the canning industry—but with regard to the close season, there are different close seasons in Nova Scotia, I understand, and I would like to know why that is the case. I have some views myself, in regard to it, but I want to find out from the department why there was a difference in the seasons. I would like to know your opinion on that, Professor, and also with regard to the Scotch Fishery Board, which is a question upon which we have a great deal of discussion in Nova Scotia.

Hon. Mr. BRODEUR.—I am afraid that we are perhaps going outside the scope of our inquiry on that point. The question you speak of is a very important question and might be made the subject of a special inquiry on the part of this committee. Professor Prince has come here to discuss the question of lobsters and I think it will be in the interests of the committee that these officers, when they come before us, should discuss one question at a time, and that they should not be asked to discuss such an important question as that of a Fisheries Board, which in itself is a very large question, in the midst of an inquiry into the lobster fisheries.

Mr. CROSBY.—I quite agree with the hon. minister, because it is a big question, and the reason I asked the question was that Mr. Maclean had also asked a question in reference to it.

Hon. Mr. BRODEUR.—I do not want to interfere, I was only making a suggestion on behalf of the officers. If an officer called here on the lobster question, is asked to answer offhand questions with reference to the appointment of a fishery board, there may be some confusion. He may not be prepared to answer immediately, especially if it is a question regarding the establishment in Canada of a Scotch Fisheries Board, which is a question of policy that might be determined better by the members of the committee than by the officers of the department.

Mr. MACLEAN.—I asked that Professor Prince should come before the Committee and it was my idea that it would be better for him to answer a few comprehensive questions respecting the administration of the Marine and Fisheries Department and in regard to the duties of the officials generally just to lay a foundation for the work of the Committee. Having asked those questions it was my intention to get back to the lobsters and specialize on that subject. I think it would have been better if those questions had been asked before Professor Prince made his statement.

Mr. CROSBY.—I would like, with regard to these hatcheries, to get from the witness the full particulars, what they are producing and what his opinion is in regard to them, also what his opinion is in regard to adopting Dr. Mead's system in this country, whether he thinks it would be better to do so. Then with regard to the canning licenses, I think we are interested very much in Nova Scotia, and particularly in the Chairman's county; there is a general idea with a great many people, rightly or wrongly, that the government is to blame to a great extent for discrimination in that connection, and the Committee can readily understand how that idea is fostered by the American concerns locking up some of their factories. I would also like the Professor to give us his opinion with regard to the pounds.

Mr. MACLEAN.—Then I suppose that in addition to the questions already put to Professor Prince, which he is to answer at a subsequent meeting, there is the question, should canning licenses be granted to aliens?

Mr. CROSBY.—I do not know whether you can call them aliens or not, some of them have been holding licenses for a long time and I do not know whether they are aliens.

Hon. Mr. BRODEUR.—I may say that as a matter of fact we have been doing something to relieve the situation in any place where we have found there is monopoly. Our idea has been to amend the situation along the lines of the co-operative plan.

Mr. BRADBURY.—I do not know whether I am in order or not, but a suggestion