

CHARLES F. GOODRICH, called and sworn.

Examined by Mr. Moyer.

Q. Mr. Goodrich, you are the president of the Sooke Harbour Fishing and Packing Company, I believe?—A. I am.

Q. Whom do you represent at this meeting?—A. My own company and that of J. H. Todd and Sons, also of Victoria.

Q. Will you explain to the committee how you and the Todd Company operate?—A. We have a system of co-operation at the present time. Each company, however, is a separate and distinct company and there is no share of stock in one company held by any shareholder of the other company, no interlocking to any extent like that.

Q. You and the Todd Company operate all the fish traps on the south coast of Vancouver Island?—A. Yes.

Q. How many were in operation last year?—A. There were four in operation last year.

Q. How many do you propose to operate in 1937?—A. Five.

Q. Can you tell the committee something about the investments in the industry?—A. The investments in the industry would be probably between two and three hundred thousand dollars, if you were to include the investment in the Empire Cannery and its equipment as well and the plant there, which is dependent upon the operation of the traps for its continuance.

Q. How many employees have you—when I say “you” I mean the two companies.—A. The two companies combined? I have no record of the exact number of employees of the Empire Cannery at Esquimalt, but at our plant at Sooke we have from 40 to 45 employees, possibly a few more, but ordinarily between 40 and 45 employees.

Q. In connection with the operation of the trap nets?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the nationality of your employees?—A. They are all whites and Indians and about 25 per cent of them are returned soldiers.

Q. What is the average age of your employees?—A. From the petition that the 41 employees signed, which is the only record that I have of the age of all of them, which was, I think, accurately computed, the average age was 42½ years.

Q. How long have they been in your service?—A. There is almost no labour turnover. The average length of service of these 41 men was, I believe, 13½ years.

Q. Can you tell the committee in a general way what you and your associated company have been paying to the provincial and dominion governments in the way of taxes?—A. I have no records of the payments of taxes by the firm of J. H. Todd and Sons, their records do not pass through my hands, but my own company—

Q. Mr. Neill has asked me to ask you to allocate the investment according to your company and Mr. Todd's company.—A. Yes, I will try to do that.

Mr. KINLEY: Has he not a balance sheet?

The WITNESS: No, I have not. Taxes and licences, may I answer that question first?

By Mr. Moyer:

Q. Yes?—A. During the eighteen years that my own company has been in existence we have paid to the dominion government for fishing licences and income tax \$75,814.20.

Mr. NEILL: Can you divide it up between licences and income tax?

[Mr. Chas. F. Goodrich.]