

The activities of the Station were considerably curtailed this year because of limitation of funds. Major Programs have been restricted to what appeared to be a minimum, no new projects have been undertaken, publication has been reduced, instructional work to hatchery officers eliminated, and there has been a considerable reduction in staff, largely non-scientific.

Mr. FOUND: The total appropriations for the Board, in common with other appropriations, have suffered in recent years.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: The point I am trying to make is that, in the absence of practical direction the Board is probably not employing itself in the most practical thing. These are difficult times and I think the Board should largely confine its work to practical matters.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: There was an investigation carried on, as a result of which it was discovered how to overcome the darkening of canned lobster. Was that done by the Biological Board?

Mr. FOUND: Partly by the Biological Board and partly by the Research Council.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: The result of that was very beneficial?

Mr. FOUND: The cause of the blackening was ascertained and how it could be overcome.

The CHAIRMAN: When you say the Research Council, do you mean the international Research Council?

Mr. FOUND: No sir, our own Research Council.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: And that darkening is being overcome?

Mr. FOUND: Almost completely.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: With great benefit to the industry?

Mr. FOUND: Great benefit, yes.

The CHAIRMAN: What action was taken with regard to lobsters?

Mr. FOUND: The action recommended by the investigators as was necessary to prevent the blackening. It was very largely hygienic, though certain elements could be added to the pickle which would be helpful. The result of the investigation has been to place the lobster canning business on the Atlantic coast hygienically on a basis that it was not on heretofore.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: And that has been the means of preventing great losses that were occurring previously to the canners?

Mr. FOUND: Quite so, sir.

Hon. Mr. McRAE: Mr. Chairman, we are particularly anxious to hear what can be done to develop not only our sport fishing but commercial fishing, in the interior rivers and lakes of Canada.

Mr. FOUND: The main difficulty from a Federal standpoint is that the fisheries in all the internal waters are being handled by the respective provinces, so that the Federal Government has not been following the situation there. When it comes to what can be done by development in the way of fish culture, one has to keep in mind the protection as afforded to the fishery as a whole, for one may offset the other and nullify its usefulness.

On the other hand, there is sometimes far too much expected of what can be accomplished in that respect, for instance, if in a certain lake you put in a million young fish, you feel you should be able to have a fishery to that extent. But you have also got to know what that lake will sustain, because after all the food conditions in a lake control its capabilities. We really have done nothing that I can speak of with very much benefit to the Committee, I am afraid, with respect to these inland waters. Since 1898 they have been under the administration of the provinces.