

Q. Is the water fresh? A. The water appeared to be brackish, and the half-breeds who used to camp around the lake never suspected that there were fish there. It was quite accidental that the discovery was made—some fish were found dead on the shore.

Q. What kind of fish are caught there? A. I believe pike, suckers and jackfish.

Q. This was in a brackish lake you say? A. Yes. I believe it was.

Q. Finding the fish in that brackish lake, where nobody suspected that there was any to be found, might it not be hoped that these same fish could be introduced into other brackish lakes in that district? A. Yes, I believe they could be. I believe that brackish water, if it is only slightly brackish, would not interfere with fish living in it. Take the fishing lakes at Qu'Appelle. At certain seasons of the year the water is not of the best quality to drink. It is certainly quite brackish towards the end of August and commencement of September. The water in the Qu'Appelle Lakes has a strong taste of alkali. The jackfish are superior to the pike caught in the east; the flesh is firmer.

*By the Honorable Mr. Girard :*

Q. Are they very large? Q. Yes, some of them are very large.

Q. What do they weigh? A. The ordinary size of pike is about eighteen inches to two feet. Now you can get some much larger than that in the North-West, and sometimes you can get a few smaller. At Long Lake where we were fishing last year I do not remember to have caught one less than fifteen inches in length and they were generally larger than that.

*By the Chairman :*

Q. If an effort were made to stock those lakes with fish what kind of fish would you recommend? A. Our own kinds of fish could be propagated from one lake to another.

*By the Honorable Mr. Turner :*

Q. Are there any salmon trout in the North-West? A. To my personal knowledge we have them in Cold Lake and they might be found elsewhere.

Q. Are they the same as our salmon trout down here? A. Yes; I believe they are superior in size. Some of you may think that I am telling a fish story, but I can assure you the only ones that I have seen at Battleford were about two and a half feet long—they were like salmon. Whether small ones are caught there or not I do not know.

Q. Are there any caught in the southern part of the territory? A. I do not know.

Q. Still they could be taken from one lake to another? A. I believe they could.

Q. Are they caught with the fly or with the worm? A. With the net. They must have been fishing for whitefish with nets and caught those trout.

*By the Chairman :*

Q. Do you know of any other lakes similar to Cold Lake, where it might be hoped that fish could be propagated? A. I daresay most of our lakes would give sufficient nourishment to these salmon trout. Of course the water of Cold Lake is very cold. That is what gives the name to the lake itself and it is possible on that account they may be found there and not elsewhere. They are also to be found in a lake near Banff. They have been caught there I am told, but I never saw one caught myself.

*By the Honorable Mr. Turner :*

Q. The fish is red I suppose? A. It is a pinkish color, not red. Those fish are very good.

*By the Honorable Mr. Allan :*

Q. There is a fish called the maskinongé in our lakes; is that found in the North-West country at all? A. I do not think so; we have not got that fish there that I know of.

*By the Chairman :*

Q. This very large fish, the maskinongé, is generally found where the pike is caught. Have you any reason to doubt that they could be propagated in the lakes of the North-West? A. I have no reason whatever to doubt it.

Q. Are the Indians fond of fish if they can procure any quantity? A. Oh, yes, they are fond of fish. They are fond of all eatables, in fact, and like most of us they like changes in food—sometimes fish, sometimes meat.