

remember that the Three Card Monte is described as the game which is known as Three Card Monte—which is not particularly informative, except in a circular way.

Senator Flynn: You seem to be adding the word “unwholesome” and deleting the words “not fit for human food”. There may be some advantage in including the word “unwholesome” but I do not see that you gain by deleting the words “not fit for human food”. I wonder whether it would not achieve your purpose in some way by saying that it is “tainted, decomposed, unwholesome, or unfit for human food”. If all of these terms were used, they would tend to define each other and you probably would have, let us say, a frame that would be a better definition than the one you have now?

Mr. Carton: Sir, from our experience with this phrase “fit for human food” I would suggest it is just worthless.

A senator: Worthless in a discussion about something being “fit for human food”?

Mr. Carton: That is right. It is almost impossible to come up with anything which will stand up and which can be substantiated as being “unfit for human food”.

Senator Paterson: “Unwholesome” in the broad term. Every stout woman finds fish unwholesome.

Mr. Carton: I hope that does not get into the news.

Senator Argue: Getting back to your refusal of certificates for this, and in regard to the provision for an appeal, what percentage of cases are there in which appeals have been involved? Is this a case where they are frequent or infrequent?

Mr. Dempsey: I would think it very uncommon.

Senator Flynn: In two-thirds of the cases, once a seizure has taken place, no one wants to lose more money in appealing. It would be losing time in many cases.

Senator Argue: I would think that has to have some bearing. If there are a great many appeals, it would look very important to me. If they were seldom appealed, it would look obvious that the department is doing a reasonably good job.

Mr. Carton: There are not many appeals, and this bill has no juridical procedure that

involves hiring a lot of people. It is a request to have the fish re-examined by another inspector.

Senator Flynn: The chance of another inspector saying that a colleague is wrong, is rather seldom?

Mr. Carton: I am afraid I could not agree with that.

Senator Cook: Is it not a fact that if fish have gone bad, they have gone bad, that there is nothing in between, that there is no margin. Fish is either good or bad and if the fish is bad, it is bad and there is not much appeal or argument you can make, in my experience.

Senator Cameron: I can see the point. You can come into the market in New Delhi and see them marketing fish, chickens and other things for humans, which most people here would not consider fit.

If you go to the fish market in Hong Kong, you would hold your nose at what they are buying and eating. We would reject it, but they would accept it. I can understand the difficulty in this.

Senator Flynn: The phrase “unfit for human consumption” is defined in accordance with the local practices. If no amendment is suggested, Mr. Chairman, I think it would appear to be the general view of the committee that the definition in the regulations cannot be improved.

Senator Smith (Queens-Shelburne): I would like to ask Mr. Dempsey or perhaps Mr. Carton whether they have any direct representations from the Nova Scotia Fish Packers Association. They represent the medium-sized packers and all the big ones?

Mr. Dempsey: Not recently, Mr. Chairman. As I explained, we did distribute these regulations in the industry for comment in 1964. I have a note here of a letter from the Nova Scotia Fish Packers Association dated December 29, 1964 in which they ask for further clarification of the definition of “wholesome”. This was again discussed with them at a meeting on February 4, 1965 when we explained to them that the wholesomeness of the product would continue to be interpreted in the light of the requirements of the public health regulations.

This was apparently acceptable. I have no further notes of comments or objections from the Nova Scotia Fish Packers Association.