

APPENDIX No. 3

By Mr. Sinclair:

Q. What do you mean by "compulsory"?—A. To make it compulsory for everyone who cures and brands fish, either mackerel, herring or alewives, to submit them for inspection and the brand.

By Mr. Kyte:

Q. Before they can be marketed?—A. Yes, before they can be marketed. As it is at present the system is voluntary.

By Mr. Sinclair:

Q. If rejected by the Inspector what becomes of them?—A. They would have to take their chance of selling, or otherwise disposing of them, as inferior goods.

Q. What was the cost of the Inspection Bureau last year, the first year of operation?—A. I could not tell you that, Mr. Sinclair.

Q. What salary is paid these officers?—A. They are paid \$1,200 a year.

Q. And travelling expenses?—A. Yes.

Q. There are six of them, are there?—A. No, five. I may say that since the 1st February, another officer has been appointed to attend chiefly to the Scotch curing.

Q. What is his name?—A. Mr. Gray.

Q. Of Goldboro?—A. Yes. That is the man I was telling Mr. Kyte about.

By Mr. Kyte:

Q. Did these five officers receive their pay last year?—A. Yes, they are paid monthly I understand.

Q. I thought you said there were only two officers in Nova Scotia?—A. In Nova Scotia, but we have men in other provinces.

By Mr. Maclean (Queens, P.E.I.):

Q. That is, giving instructions?—A. Yes, for instance, we have an officer in Prince Edward Island who did instructional work in the Magdalen Islands in connection with the curing of mackerel.

By Mr. Kyte:

Q. Have you any report from these men of the amount of instruction they give?—A. Yes. There is a form which the officers have to fill out each week telling the Department where they have been and what they have done.

Q. Are they obliged to devote all their time to their duties as inspectors?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. They are obliged to go to any point within their jurisdiction at any time they are asked to inspect fish?—A. Yes, they have all been instructed to keep on the move and keep this thing continually before the fish merchants and fishermen.

Q. As a matter of fact, have they been doing that?—A. Yes.

Q. Have they been all the time on the move instructing the fishermen?—A. Yes, since the month of May last year.

By Mr. Sinclair:

Q. They must have had very poor success in Nova Scotia only to inspect 10 barrels in the year.—A. That is so. Of course it is the old story, a child could lead a horse to the water but twenty men would not be able to make him drink. Another thing is this: the Act was passed in June, 1914. It took some time after that to get the regulations framed, printed and distributed. Then the Act calls for a different type of barrel, a more expensive barrel with a thicker stave, and so forth. As a rule coopers try to get their wood out in the fall of the year for making these barrels, and

Mr. J. J. COWIE.