

through opening up the lake. Now Armstrong has been doing business with these men for years. He understands them thoroughly and knew what their hopes were. It looks very much as if Armstrong, probably with Meighen's help, worked on these men here, through the Assistant Deputy Minister of Fisheries, W. A. Found, to get his way in the opening up of this lake Winnipegosis for summer fishing. It looks like a hoodwinking job on Armstrong's part from beginning to end.

Result, lake Winnipegosis is open for summer fishing and the fish cannot be sold.

It is to be hoped that you will bring this matter to the attention of the proper parties, and that the matter will be properly amended, that the lake be again closed for this open water fishing and fished in winter only.

The CHAIRMAN: I understood you to say, Mr. Ward, that you had no objection to giving the names of the men who wrote those letters.

Mr. WARD: W. B. Dempsey is the man's name.

Mr. BANCROFT: I would like, Mr. Chairman, to ask Mr. Ward a question. Does this man represent the fishermen, or whom is he supposed to represent?

Mr. WARD: He is a fisherman himself. He is a man who has fished in several waters in Canada, and has apparently made an exhaustive study of the marketing of fish. He was at one time head of a small company who organized themselves into a sort of selling agency in the village of Winnipegosis, and attempted to sell their own fish, but this is what they met: they would load a carload of fish, and the Armstrong Trading Company and the Booth Fisheries—practically the only two companies doing business in our inland waters of Canada, and having a monopoly of the business—would not make them a bid on their fish in Winnipegosis loaded on board the car. They would ship their fish to Chicago, and then of course the same company was there at Chicago, and as a result, because of these two companies, they got very little benefit after they paid the freight on their fish, and they were forced out of existence.

The CHAIRMAN: I did not notice that in either one of those letters the gentleman suggested a remedy for this condition.

Mr. WARD: He does suggest that summer fishing on lake Winnipegosis be closed. You understand, Mr. Chairman, that at lake Winnipegosis, at the village of Winnipegosis, they have a very good train service. It is merely a spur which runs up there, and very often, even if they had the facilities, it would be of very little good to them, because there is not even a public dock at Winnipegosis. The facilities for loading fish are not good. Everything is adverse to summer fishing. I think it is not necessary for me to go into those. If Mr. Found was at Winnipegosis he would appreciate my remarks. There is no public dock there. I have applied to the Public Works to have a small dock built there, but there are no facilities there for shipping out the fish or loading them.

The CHAIRMAN: Since we are tabling correspondence, perhaps I had better read a letter which I received a few days ago, dated at Vancouver, April 19:—

"I have been much interested in your doings at Ottawa. I came to this coast from Campobello, N.S., where, for many years with Mr. Crother, I carried on a big fish business, general store, etc., until the American tariff on fish, lumber, potatoes, etc., shoved us to the wall. As the American tariff allowed fresh fish to go in American bottoms free, we could not run our fish stands, our market was in the States. Since October 1, 1913, a free market for Canadian fish has been, through President Wilson's administration, and now again the new Government of the States has a new tariff about ready, which is the highest tariff ever. And it allows fresh fish free entry when taken in by carriers or traders, fresh fish to benefit the wholesale fish dealers