

*By the Chairman:*

Q. How about halibut?—A. We pay 9 cents for halibut and retail it at 16.

Q. That is for Pacific Coast halibut?—A. Yes, the eastern halibut we cannot use, they are too large, we do not care for those immense fish.

Q. Do you mean to say that these are the prices all the year round?—A. For that kind of fish, yes.

Q. Notwithstanding the fact that the cost to you varies very much?—A. It varies a lot.

Q. At what season of the year do you make your profit?—A. Whenever we can get it cheap enough. Our retail price is pretty nearly the same all the time. We are paying sometimes more for our fish than we sell it at, but we keep the retail price about the same.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Does the fish department pay?—A. I think so; that is something I cannot say exactly; but we are getting at that now.

*By Mr. Kyte:*

Q. Do you handle meats as well?—A. Meats, vegetables, cooked meats and provisions.

Q. Has the retail price of meats gone up in the last five years?—A. Yes, it has very much.

Q. What do you say as to the retail prices of fish, has it gone up?—A. The retail price of fish has not gone up in the last five years.

*By Mr. Loggie:*

Q. The average retail price?—A. The average retail price.

Q. Some species of fish have advanced, of course?—A. I am speaking of the fresh fish, for instance.

*By Mr. Kyte:*

Q. Notwithstanding the price of meats advancing, the price of fish has not, and you have been increasing your sales of fish?—A. We have increased sales, but not price.

Q. Is the increased sale of your fish due to some extent to the fact that your prices are also relative?—A. Particularly with people who are educated to eat fish. For instance, people coming from the Old Country, all the Old Country people use more fish than they ever did.

Q. It is the native Canadian who does not?—A. He does not, no.

*By Mr. Sinclair:*

Q. I think you said that you did not handle frozen fish?—A. Only what we cannot help.

Q. Why?—A. Because the customers do not like it so well.

Q. Does fish depreciate much when you freeze it?—A. It does very much. We cannot recommend frozen fish as well as fresh, the flavour will not be the same. We will sell frozen halibut at, say, 15 cents or 14 cents a pound, and we will sell fresh halibut, that we will bring on from Boston, at 25 cents, and we will sell more of that.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Has the price which you are paying for fish advanced in the last five years?—A. Very little.

Q. It costs more now?—A. A little bit more, but we get better fish. Six months ago—

Q. Three months ago?—A. It costs much more now than three months ago.

MR. J. S. STANFORD.