

idea was to work up the Canadian trade from the Atlantic and Pacific seaboard to the interior markets of Canada.

Mr. LOGGIE: It has certainly done so, too.

By Mr. McCurdy:

Q. Mr. Found, would it be possible to get a report from your inspectors showing the progress made in the operations of this Act for the inspection of pickled fish?—
A. The point will be appreciated by all those gentlemen from the Maritime Provinces. It will be appreciated there that the progress, while it might not seem to be much this summer, is all what you might call cumulative, and it will show itself next season. What will be done next season is more a mark of what is being done this year. When the Act came into force very few of the packers were equipped, or had the necessary barrels or packages to put up pickled fish.

Q. It was open for them to have them?—A. Scarcely for a year.

Q. The Act was passed in the session of 1914?—A. Yes, and it was to come into force on the 1st of May last.

Q. If we could have a report of that kind embodied in the record it would be valuable?—A. It will be pretty hard to make a report, because, as I say, it will be very much easier to show you what is done next year in the way of progress. The point is this: we have many reasons to believe that there will be quite a large business done next season, but we have only reasons to believe; we cannot say assuredly. These fish have to be caught first.

Q. We have heard for many years about the Scotch cured herring business. Private dealers have gone into this business with disastrous results. The Government is expending considerable sums of money now to encourage that method of packing, and it promises, if successful, to be the most important departure that the trade has made?—A. The war has opened the whole door to us.

Q. Apart from the war, I cannot understand why it should not have been a profitable business even before the war. The imported herring was sold at high prices?—A. But we had the difficulty of facing a market already established with a new commodity. Now, we are in a condition, so far as that is concerned, of facing a market that cannot be supplied with that commodity, and if we can get on to that market within the next two years it should be permanent.

By Mr. Sinclair:

Q. And the American market?—A. Yes, and the Canadian market to an important extent, too.

Q. What are you doing about it? What has the Department done to promote the Scotch herring industry?—A. Well, I have tried to explain that, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN.—How would it do to have Mr. Cowie come before the Committee and give what information is available?

Mr. McCURDY.—Perhaps Mr. Cowie could bring with him some report covering the operations of the pickled fish inspection.

By Mr. Sinclair:

Q. What is Mr. Cowie's branch?—A. He is General Inspector of pickled fish under the new Act, and is in direct charge of that particular work.

Mr. LOGGIE.—I have heard some people make the remark that when they followed Mr. Cowie's instructions they got into trouble, but after some experience they got a formula of their own and now they are successful.

Mr. SINCLAIR.—I have not the slightest doubt but that Mr. Cowie put the Scotch herring business back ten years by his operations on the coast.

Mr. McCURDY.—We will have a chance to examine him here.

Mr. W. A. FOUND.