

problems were to be further dealt with in the laboratories of the Conjoint Board of the Royal College of Physicians, London, and the Royal College of Surgeons, England, the Director of which, Dr. Sims Woodhead, afforded every opportunity for work. This portion of the work is considered in another section.

Accordingly, he directed me to proceed to London on the 15th December, where communication was had with the High Commissioner for Canada. It is worth pausing to refer to the admirable arrangements which were effected by Sir Donald Smith and the Secretary of the Commissioner, Mr. J. G. Colmer, C.M.G. These gentlemen wrote to as many importers as could be waited upon and without exception they expressed a willingness to aid us with advice and criticism. They redeemed their promise to the fullest extent. Lack of time alone prevented me from availing myself of the co-operation of the Liverpool dealers.

Interviews were had; test cans were opened and examined. The needs of the English market were considered. An opinion and criticism of the product were obtained. This opinion and criticism, judiciously intermingled, is contained in the following letters to the High Commissioner, whose Secretary, Mr. Colmer, so capably conducted the correspondence. This is also a fitting place to make mention of the willing aid given by Mr. L. Wurzburg and Mr. Weston, of Messrs. Powell Bros. & Co., and Mr. Fowke, whose knowledge made the way easy.

In the following letters only some personal matters are omitted to bring them into harmony with a formal report, and it is thought best not to interfere with the text of the letters. They are submitted in the sense in which they were written, as an expression of opinion by competent judges upon what they had seen. Their judgment, however, need bind no one; any packer may satisfy himself by repeating the experiments in canning according to the method here set down.

POWELL BROS. & CO.,

No. 27 MINING LANE, LONDON, January 14, 1897

SIR DONALD A. SMITH, K.C.M.G.,
High Commissioner for Canada,
17 Victoria St., S.W.

SIR,—Dr. Macphail has submitted to my inspection several samples of 1 lb. Flat Lobsters, which he informs us were packed by him in June last.

The fish was perfectly clean and bright, while there was absolutely not a trace of "smut" or black, nor was the can in any way discoloured by the action of acid on the tin plate, and we might add that the flavour and texture of the meat left nothing to be desired. We are the more surprised at this, as Dr. Macphail informs us that these samples were packed in a district noted for the great percentage of cans which develop black and "smut."

Should Dr. Macphail have found a means of canning lobsters simple to every packer, which absolutely does away with smut in the can, or the lobsters turning black, it will be of inestimable benefit to the whole industry.

We have the honour to remain, sir,

Your most obedient servants,

CROSSE & BLACKWELL, LIMITED,

POWELL BROS. & CO.,

SIR DONALD SMITH,
Victoria Street, S.W.

LONDON, January 12, 1897.

DEAR SIR,—We had the pleasure of a visit from Dr. Macphail yesterday, when he showed us a tin of lobsters preserved by an improved process. The appearance and quality were excellent and showed a marked improvement upon the qualities shipped here for some years past.