

6-7 GEORGE V, A. 1916

them up by fast freight?—A. In Montreal, that might be done, but here there is not enough demand. Ottawa is a small place in the fish business compared with Montreal.

*By Mr. Chisholm (Inverness):*

Q. Have you any idea of the quantity of fish consumed in the city of Ottawa, from your knowledge or your own business and the business of those similarly engaged?—A. I think we use possibly about 60,000 to 75,000 pounds on an average per month of fish of all kinds, that is the fish we buy by the pound, not such things as kippers bought by the box.

Q. Are you the largest fish men here?—A. I think so, sir.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Who else are engaged in the trade here?—A. M. Lapointe has a store similar to ours on the market, and there are certain men who are in the business just in the winter, just jobbers.

Q. How much of the quantity of fish which you told Dr. Chisholm you sold per month, comes from the seacoast, or is what you might call salt water fish?—A. Our main item just now is halibut, and possibly salmon from the Pacific coast. We use a certain amount of lake fish. But that depends on the season of the year. In the summer-time we use more lake fish than sea fish.

*By Mr. Chisholm (Inverness):*

Q. Which is the more popular fish?—A. The most popular fish is halibut, because it is so convenient to handle.

Q. Is salt water fish more popular in your market than fresh fish?—A. I might say that down in Montreal my experience was that sea fish was the main item. In Toronto lake fish is the main item. In Ottawa at some seasons of the year we use more lake fish. At this season we use more sea fish.

Q. You said you could handle more fresh fish?—A. That is fresh haddock and cod.

Mr. W. A. FOUND: That is during the winter season. You can get all the fresh fish you want in the summer.

The WITNESS: At this time of the year there are very few engaged in sea fishing.

*By Mr. Stewart (Lunenburg):*

Q. Do you buy all your fish directly from the fisherman or from the fish dealers on the coast?—A. Not from the fishermen.

Q. You deal with the trader on the coast?—A. We deal with the man who buys from the fisherman at the coast. Very few of these fishermen ship direct, practically none.

Q. There are no wholesale fish houses in Ottawa?—A. Well, we claim to be wholesale.

Q. I gathered that you were in the retail trade?—A. Wholesale and retail. We try to buy as near direct as possible in all cases.

*By Mr. Clements:*

Q. Do you purchase your Pacific fish direct?—A. The frozen, yes; the fresh Pacific fish, no. We could not use it in sufficient quantity. It comes to Montreal in summer, and we get a supply from there, and sometimes from Toronto.

*By Mr. Stewart (Lunenburg):*

Q. Do you deliver all your goods to the homes of your customers?—A. Yes, sir, we deliver all over the city.

Q. You do not deliver at the counter at all?—What I mean is you do not have two prices?—A. No, sir. Our advertisement usually says: "Four deliveries daily."

MR. THOMAS BINNS.