

causing large losses to our fishermen and our country also in that we do not get proper values out of the frozen fish shipped to the United States during the winter season.

Now the Armstrong Independent Fisheries, Limited, and the Booth Fisheries Canadian Company, Limited, are both financed by capital from the United States. It can be said of the Booth Fisheries Canadian Company, Limited, that they are adverse to this summer fishing of lake Winnipegosis, but the head men of the Armstrong Independent Fisheries, Limited, in Chicago desire that lake Winnipegosis be open for summer fishing, so that they can fish the lake here in summer *if they want the fish*. The idea is that lake Winnipegosis be kept open for summer fishing so that it can be used as a club against lake Winnipeg to keep the price of lake Winnipeg Whitefish hammered down. If the fishermen on lake Winnipeg demand a fair price they are refused it, and the threat is made to them that if they do not accept what is offered them then lake Winnipegosis will be summer fished for Whitefish. In so far as Armstrong is concerned he is simply a salaried man, without a dollar of capital invested in the company bearing his name. He does not care a curse whether our fishermen are paid proper prices for the fish or not, nor does he care whether proper values for our fish come into Canada from the United States or not. Just so long as he can draw a large salary out of the fishing industry he is satisfied, and that is all he cares about.

The thing to be done with lake Winnipegosis is to close it for summer and fall fishing and fish it only during the winter season. If this is done the danger of an overproduction is removed, and a long step will be taken towards bringing into Canada from the United States proper values of our fish shipped to the latter country, and thus a step will be taken towards bringing our country back again to a prosperous condition.

Now, I wish to point out to you the method pursued by Armstrong, no doubt with Meighen's help, by which lake Winnipegosis became opened for this summer fishing. I was instrumental, after the Armstrong Independent Fisheries, Limited, had begun the construction of an icehouse at Whiskey Jack on the lake here, and they constructed this building and stocked it with ice previous to the opening of the lake for summer fishing, in drawing up a petition and getting it signed by over 150 fishermen against the opening of the lake for this summer fishing. This petition we sent to Bob Cruise, who placed it before the Department of Marine and Fisheries at Ottawa, and Mr. Cruise, who understands the matter in all its details, is strongly against the summer fishing of lake Winnipegosis, did his level best to prevent the lake from being opened for this summer fishing. Notwithstanding the petition, and notwithstanding Mr. Cruise's efforts, lake Winnipegosis was opened for summer fishing, and the results last summer proved disastrous. The method of opening it was as follows:—

Last spring, W. A. Found, the Assistant Deputy Minister of Fisheries, came here from Ottawa and called a fishermen's meeting about the opening of the lake. Only about a dozen fishermen attended the meeting; the ones who had signed the petition against the opening of the lake were so disgusted that they would not attend the meeting. These dozen or so fishermen are good producers of fish, but what they do not know about the marketing of fish would fill a large book. Several of these men are former residents of the Georgian Bay district. For years they dreamed here of the large quantities of fish they could catch in open water fishing, and they had the idea in their heads that thereby they could make a lot of money. They knew nothing about the selling of the product and did not understand that the fish could not be sold. These dozen or so men were unanimous in desiring that the lake be opened for summer fishing, and so an Order in Council was put