

Q. Would it be because the weight applied to fish in the over-all index is so small that it does not matter too much?—A. I think the reason why they included all fish together was that the rises in them were probably fairly similar, but perhaps the best way would be for me to get some detail on that.

Q. I will have more to say on that later on but we will leave it now as far as I am concerned.

*By Mr. Maybank:*

Q. Is it true that the weight of fish in the over-all picture is small, as Mr. Winters suggests?—A. Yes, it is relatively small compared to some of the other items.

Q. We do not eat very much fish, in other words?—A. We do not eat as much as meat.

Mr. WINTERS: We do not eat as much as we should either.

*By Mr. Maybank:*

Q. Relatively we do not eat very much fish; is that right?—A. I can give you the exact weights we use for fish. That is the reason, of course. It is not nearly as important an item as some of the others that are in this animal products group.

The CHAIRMAN: I want to take advantage of this lull to point out that this committee is showing very great powers of endurance. There was a cabinet meeting scheduled for 11 o'clock but they have called the meeting off because there is no heat in the east block. Some of us had to wear coats and some of us even mitts, and I want to commend the members of the committee for meeting the frigidities of this room.

Mr. MAYBANK: You will except Mr. Irvine from that commendation.

The CHAIRMAN: He had mitts on but he took them off a moment ago. Mr. Arsenault tells me for your comfort that the heat is about to flow through the pipes or whatever there is here that supplies heat.

The WITNESS: Perhaps I could help out a little further on that fish item in the animal products group.

The CHAIRMAN: Page 26.

The WITNESS: On page 26. The total rise from December, 1945 to December, 1947, was 39.6. In fact, the fishery products only showed a rise of .6 points, whereas the whole of the animal products group had a rise of 6.4.

If you wish further information on that fish item—

Mr. PINARD: That does not appear on page 26?

Mr. LESAGE: It is the first item.

The WITNESS: Section 5, on page 33, deals with—

Mr. BEAUDRY: I am sorry, but if I may interrupt you, I hardly see how that is the answer for which we are looking since, although fish only increased .6, fresh meats have only increased .5, according to that table.

The WITNESS: Yes, that is on the basis of 1926; that is from December, 1945.

Mr. WINTERS: It does not agree with table 6.

The WITNESS: In the wholesale prices index number you have to take into consideration the fact that we have here—you have to make allowance for meat which goes into canned goods, for example. Oh, that is canned vegetables.

Mr. CLEAVER: I would suggest the witness should have an opportunity of producing a special memorandum on fish, breaking down that item into its component parts.