

Jones puts up 100 cases of lobsters and sends them to St. John's. When these are inspected ten cases are thrown out, and when this man gets his returns he is disappointed. The merchant is not to blame. When they are culled out in St. John's they feel that something has gone wrong. Last year we bought 500-800 cases of salmon and lobsters, and these were culled on our premises, and we sent the man his report back and his cheque. Five cases were spoiled and he got disappointed and hurt over it, but if these lobsters could be inspected right there on the premises and that man given a clean receipt there would be no need of any other inspection.

Mr. Job You mean in the tins?

Mr. Northcott Yes, sir. In nine cases out of ten they come in to St. John's before any inspection is made, and they come from Green Bay or Lumsden, and when that man gets his final receipt perhaps ten cases were thrown out, and it creates a bad feeling between the buyer and the man. If we had a few extra inspectors he could grade the lobsters before they came in to St. John's.

Mr. Vardy That is what is being done in our district. I have personally inspected some of the factories. One man made three visits last year in my presence. He just picked a tin and opened it.¹ The existing fisheries inspectors have not complained about being overworked. The regular inspectors make inspections, and I have not seen any fish plants as clean as the lobster factories.

Mr. Harrington Mr. Northcott raised an interesting point, and this is the matter of the dogfish. I have here *The Life History of the Spiny Dogfish, and the Vitamin A Value of Dogfish Liver Oil* by Dr. Wilfred Templeman.² He says an abundance of dogfish affect unfavourably every other fishery, particularly net fisheries, such as salmon, and codfishing, particularly handlining and trawls. Dogfish lie near the surface or in intermediate layers of water and take all of the bait before the hook can reach the bottom where the cod reside. In view of the importance of this matter I wonder if the Committee had considered what could be done about the dogfish.

Mr. Job I am afraid the dogfish don't have much

commercial value, and the fishermen must wait until the dogfish end. Its only a problem for a few weeks of the season.

Mr. Hillier What Mr. Harrington has said is quite true. There are times when they are unable to bait their lines because dogfish are so plentiful, but there seems to have been no remedy discovered, there must still continue to be dogfish.³

Mr. Chairman Is the committee ready for the question?

Mr. Penney I wonder could Mr. Job tell us the meaning of the export value on Appendix F of the salmon fishery. Salmon chilled, exported to Bermuda 30 lbs. — \$16, and frozen, to Bermuda, 60 lbs. — \$16. Now then again, to Australia 48 lbs — \$50. These are the correct values, are they?

Mr. Job They were probably presents sent by people I should imagine, but they had to go through the Customs, you see.

Mr. Ashbourne Mr. Chairman, according to the figures given here it is very evident that these fisheries, particularly the lobster fishery and the salmon fishery, are very important fisheries to Newfoundland, and it is very interesting to note that the lobsters exported to Canada and United States amounted to over \$650,000. We see also that the markets, Canada and the States together with the United Kingdom, for our salmon fishery exports is good, and in view of the high value of these fisheries to Newfoundland I think that some scientific investigation should be undertaken and continually pursued to see that we are not over-fishing these important fisheries. To my mind, there are no statistics in this report to back it up, but I rather think that the salmon fishery is a declining one, and I have often wondered what will be the future of the salmon fishery, and what are the causes of the serious decline in the catches of salmon particularly. Some people think that the increase in the number of seals the past few years has been probably brought about by the fact that these seals may be preying upon the salmon. I don't know. I believe the recommendation that some assistance be provided for Dr. Templeman in the biological department would be money well spent in investigating the decline of these fisheries, because they are very important

¹The following section, is taken from the recording of the proceeding.

²Wilfred Templeman, *The Life History of the Spiny Dogfish (Squalus acanthias) and the Vitamin A Values of Dogfish Liver Oil*. (St. John's: Newfoundland Department of Natural Resources, 1944).

³End of the section taken from the recordings.