3rd November 1919.

Dear Bob;-

I have to confirm night letter of the 31st ulto., as follows;- "Please arrange with Minister Naval Service to withhold action re appointing Fish Marketing Specialist pending further advice. Peck authorizes this wire and strongly advises nothing be done for the present."

You are probably aware the Department decided to appoint a Fish Marketing Specialist; a man possessing an intimate personal knowledge of the entire fishing industry of the Dominion; one who had journalistic experience as well; and who possessed oratorial ability sufficient to hold the interest of, and entertain, the general public in lectures to be given to encourage the increased consumption of fish. For such a progidy they offered the very munificient salary of $1800. per annum.

Persons possessing all the desired qualifications did not hold themselves as cheap as the valuation put upon them by the Department, and no applications for the position were received. The Department thereupon revised their estimate of such a person's worth, and raised their bid to $2200. per annum. So far as I know there was but one response at this latter figure: I have seen the individual, and I think his personal appearances are more likely to scare an audience away than to interest them. It might be however that if this party was the only applicant, the appointment might be given him, and I therefore thought it time to get busy.

R. F. G. #2.

Last spring a Fisheries Convention met in Ottawa and passed certain resolutions for presentation to the Government. Amongst these was the very important one of appointing a Deputy Minister of Fisheries; entirely separate and distinct from the Deputy Minister of Naval Service. The need of this has been apparent for a long time and the appointment has now been promised us. For some reason however the actual carrying out of the promise still remains unfilled.

Idle rumours floating about point to the possible selection of Mr W. A. Found for the Deputy Ministership. Now personally I like Mr Found, who is a man of integrity, a hard and conscientious worker, and one who possesses a very large grasp of the duties of his position. But his appointment would be most unpopular with those interested in the fisheries because it would get us nowhere; the policy of the Department would continue as at present; and the stagnation we have suffered under during the past would continue indefinitely. Mr Found apparently has been a Departmental servant too long to possess initiative of his own; he moves along the lines of least resistance; and he lacks the vision necessary to expand the fisheries of Canada to the proportions they are ~~able~~ capable of achieving. What is needed in a Deputy Minister of Fisheries is, (a) a practical knowledge of the fisheries of Canada from coast to coast, including the great lakes, (b) a practical knowledge of artificial propagation, (c) executive ability, (d) initiative and detirmination enough to decide matters promptly and to personally accept the responsibility for doing so, and (e) who possesses the confidence of those engaged in the industry

R. F. G. #3

The one man who, in my opinion, is best qualified for this Deputy Ministership is Col. F. H. Cunningham, Inspector of Fisheries for B. C. He started 30 odd years ago as junior clerk in the Ottawa office of the Fishery Department, and has risen step by step to his present position. He was for years Superintendant of Hatcheries, and therefore knows artificial propagation in all its branches. He knows the fisheries of Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific better than anyone else in the Government service. And he has been for about 10 years in charge of the B. C. fisheries, which not only constitute 41% of our entire Canadian industry, but as regards momentous questions to be decided is of far more importance than all the other sections combined. And lastly, I believe, his selection would give entire satisfaction to fishermen, packers, and all others interested from Halifax to Victoria.

I have explained all this to our mutual friend Peck, and I think he fully concurs in this opinion. However I will leave it to him to advise you on that point.

Should this step be decided on the question comes up as to what disposition could be made of Mr Found. In my opinion a position could be created for him in ~~it~~ which his services and ability would have better scope than where he is at present. Instead of getting this $2200. Fish Marketing Specialist they are now advertising for, I would suggest that Mr Found be put in charge of this work; that he should also have the permanent handling of the International matters, which he has been handling during the past few years, and which are bound to assume still greater proportions in

the future; and that he be given complete charge of the statistical work, which is much inferior to that of other governments at present. By combining these duties under one position the salary could be made ample enough that in appointing Mr Found to the post, it would be distinctly a promotion, and there is no question at all but what the work would be better done, and of more value to both the industry and the public, than if Mr Found was to stick to his present duties, and some person of mediocre ability was appointed to be Fish Marketing Specialist.

It was with all this in view that I wired you, and I trust you can see your way clear to assist in having matters arranged as outlined. Dr Tolmie is going east in a day or so, and I understand Peck will talk the proposition over with him beforehand. It is advisable that action be taken in the near future as next season's problemns will be up for decision shortly and it would be better for the new Deputy Minister to have charge of them from the commencement. If you want any further information before acting please let me know and I will do what I can. Should Col. Cunningham be appointed there will of course be a vacancy in the office he holds at present, but Major Motherwell, his assistant is a good man, familiar with all the work going on in this department and he would be the logical successor. Being a returned soldier should also help to make his selection satisfactory to the general public, as it unquestionably be to both fishermen and canners alike.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely

HD/P.

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