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Clare Journal

March 1, 1917

**Fisheries (Seafield and Quilty).**

In Parliament Colonel Lynch asked the amount of the yearly take of fish by fishermen of Seafield and Quilty; and whether any estimation has ever been made of the extent to which this amount [?] might be increased if the facilities and the necessary safeguards were developed so as to secure the utmost possible efficiency?

Mr. Duke – During the year 1916 the Seafield and Quilty fishermen landed herrings valued at £902. 10s [?]; mackerel at £387 and other kinds of fish and shellfish at £311. In the opinion of the Congested districts Board the improvements suggested for Seafield Pier are not practicable.

Colonel Lynch – as this question not only affects fishermen but also affects a policy of public utility in view of the possible shortages of food, would the right hon. gentleman have the question looked at again by a competent person?

Mr Duke – I cannot accept the suggestion that the engineer who reported on this scheme was not a competent person, but when I am in Ireland I will take the opportunity of discussing this matter with various authorities who have to deal with the question, and if anything reasonable can be done it shall be done.

Mr. Lynch – Without reflecting on the engineer, is it not quite the usual thing to have a second opinion?

Mr. Duke – That depends on the circumstances of the case. I will consider the suggestion.

Clare Journal March 12, 1917

Seafield Pier

In reply to reported communications and Parliamentary questions as to the necessity for improved facilities for fishermen at Seafield, West Clare, Mr. Duke, Chief Secretary, has informed Col. Lynch that the Board of Trade has decided to send down an Engineer to make a thorough survey of the locality, as soon as the arrangements can be made to release from other work a highly qualified man.