

on the buyers in our foreign markets and which is accounted for by the compulsory inspection of all grades including even the inferior and West Indian qualities. The marketing system has gradually become one of the finest, and has now brought the control and selling under one organisation, which works in conjunction with our Newfoundland Fisheries Board. The result has put us away ahead of our Canadian competitors both in our more diversified marketing and our selling.

I mention these few facts to show the advancement made in this branch of the industry, and so that our people can realise that we have today a more solid and closely-knit operation of this part of our primary industry. The development of the cold storage division of the fisheries, covering our fresh processing and filletting methods, is only now in its infancy, but has rapidly developed in the short period in which it has been operating. The investment of local capital monies in this branch of the fisheries has been tremendous, and with the recent acquisition of two new trawlers from the USA, is still further providing proof of improvement in our fishing methods, as well as increasing our production of not only codfish, but of many other kinds which are in demand in our fresh frozen fish markets. New developments of recent years are the fish reduction plants, such as the herring oil and meal plant at Curling, and the one in course of construction at Belleoram. Here again we have a new source of national production which bids fair to become a big factor in the economic future. Increased and improved methods of whaling have added to our volume and value of exports. There is canning of fresh codfish at Fogo and the new proposed plant at Bay Bulls, and the new herring and mackerel canning plant at Petries in Bay of Islands. These adventures are all of but a few years of age, and are extra developments and additional sources of income to our producers that we did not have prior to 1939. We live by what we produce and export, and these additional industries make our economy more solid than ever before.

Our paper industry, likewise, has not stood still. The addition of a sulphite plant in Corner Brook, together with a large, estimated \$12 million extension to the paper mill at the same place, will provide labour and income for a great many more of our people than for any time in our

history. There is talk of another paper mill on our southwest coast.

Mr. Chairman, add all these factors together, and you get a brighter, sounder and more solid basis for an economic future for this Newfoundland of ours. As you will realise, not only will those directly employed in these industries derive benefits, but the country generally and the people in it will share in any prosperity derived from our basic producing industries. There must be the ups and downs which every country and every nation must experience, but we were never better equipped to face the future than we are in Newfoundland today.

Financially, this country has enjoyed prosperity to an extent that has never been known before, to us or our forefathers. One has only to refer to the Report of the Finance Committee and particularly to their report on the economic position of Newfoundland. Last November, I expressed my opinion on this question of Newfoundland's finances and its future and gave my reasons, together with figures; and I feel strongly that we have a promising, hopeful and, above all, a sound future as far as one may care to see in this world; and that is as much or more as can be said for any other country. If time permitted I could considerably add to and enlarge on these brief points which I have just covered. How any man in this country which has been known for its love of independence and resourcefulness, could fear the future under the improved economy and advancement in our industries, is more than I can contemplate. We have an opportunity that never knocked at the doors of Newfoundland before. And if we do not avail of this opportunity now to speak for ourselves, govern ourselves, and be responsible only to ourselves, we will have failed in the greatest moment in that proud history.

In so speaking, and in making a recommendation to the people of this country that they should use the God-given right to restore to themselves the responsible government which is and should be ours by right, I would like to explain that once we can attain this natural status belonging to every country, we are then in a position to approach or negotiate with any country we may so desire, to further our interests with them through and by our own elected government, and through which there is no better method of arriving at