

Newfoundland

Mr. MacInnis: Part of the Department of Fisheries of Canada?

Mr. Mayhew: Yes.

Mr. Isnor: I think there is one point we should bear in mind with regard to this five-year period. As I understand, the Newfoundland fisheries board will operate as a federal agency under the control of the governor in council. If I am correct in that, it does away with some of the worries that the hon. member opposite has in regard to its operation. But I take a wider view of awards than did the hon. member for Cape Breton South, because that Halifax award applies largely to the inshore fishermen. He also raised the question as to the operation of the fishing industry. I think Canada and Newfoundland, or the maritime provinces including Quebec, will be in an exceptionally fortunate position having regard to the future fishing industry of the world. We certainly will be able to take care of a population of 160 million, or all the consumers on the north American continent. In this fisheries development, we should take a long-range view not only of the benefits to Newfoundland, the new province, but of the effect it will have on our Canadian fishing industry. I for one welcome the thought that we are going to be able to join our forces and export in still larger quantities than ever before. I do not expect any trouble between the maritime provinces and Newfoundland in regard to regulations, because they have already shown a willingness to co-operate in developing new and more extensive markets.

May I say a word about the trawler? A number of years ago I was drawn into the trawler question. In fact I was almost crucified by certain groups and papers in the maritimes, but I am just as firmly convinced today as I was when I took my stand, in 1938, if I remember rightly, that the fishing trawler is necessary if we are to develop a large export market. You cannot sell in small quantities in a profitable way. It is all right for the inshore fishermen. I am familiar with the inshore fishermen. In the summer months I live right next door to them. I am friendly with them and am anxious to see them prosper, but they can only prosper by developing and holding a market in central Canada and in foreign countries. Therefore the trawler is necessary. A continuity of supply must be maintained if we are to continue in any developed market. Because of that, I am sure that those who say the trawler must be done away with are unfamiliar with this important question.

I quite agree with the hon. member for Cape Breton South that there are differences of opinion in the matter. There are those who say that if you allow the unrestricted use

[Mr. Mayhew.]

of the trawler it will destroy our fishing grounds. I wish to point out that today the fishing banks of Canada and Newfoundland are quite close. We have an advantage over the United States fishermen. As I said a moment ago, we must continue to operate the fishing trawler if we are to bring in large quantities of fish, process them and ship them to export markets, and in that way bring additional money to this country, which we as a progressive people are seeking. We are seeking increased export markets.

The hon. member for Cape Breton South is anxious to rise in his place and take exception to my remarks. I would ask him to wait a minute. It was not my intention to take part in this debate, but I know that from the maritime point of view the fishing industry is an important one. At the present time we have a minister who is interested not in the one section of the country which he represents in this house, namely the extreme west coast, but in all sections of the country. He has shown his interest by coming to the extreme east, and he has made himself familiar with our needs. Because of these visits to the different parts of the country we shall have a better transportation system to help the extreme east and west to market their fish in a better condition in central Canada. We are anxious to ship larger quantities to central Canada than we are doing at the present time. We realize that industrial central Canada, with its large population, roughly speaking 64 per cent of the population of the country, is a real market for our fish and the few products that we have to sell. We must ship our fish in a better condition than we have in years gone by.

I am pleased that the minister has shown his interest in our problems. He has promised us that we shall have a more rapid transportation system to make available to the people of central Canada the fine type of fish that we catch along the Atlantic coast, particularly in Nova Scotia.

Mr. Archibald: Are there any qualifications or terms demanded by the Newfoundland association of fish exporters other than the \$10,000 fee?

Mr. Mayhew: Nothing that I know of.

Mr. Archibald: Do the members of the board have to belong to the association? Are they all members of the association?

Mr. Mayhew: Is the hon. member talking of NAFEL or the fisheries board?

Mr. Archibald: Are the members of the fisheries board also members of the fish exporters association?

Mr. Mayhew: No, it is entirely different.