

premises do not require any inspection, and I take it that it is that which is aimed at here: "The Newfoundland Fisheries Board inspection service should be extended as soon as possible to the inspection of fishing vessels and all premises where fish is handled."

Mr. Job Perhaps Mr. Crosbie, who is more familiar with Fishery Board regulations than I am, may be able to answer that.

Mr. Crosbie You don't have to belong to all groups. You can join a Brazil group, or a Portugal group, or a West Indies group, but you don't have to join all of them. You have to put up \$1,000.

Mr. Smallwood If you had codfish to export to three or four markets you would have to join the three or four groups, and pay \$1,000 to each of them, unless you are marketing it all to the one agent and then that agent would pay to all groups, is that it? Suppose Mr. Crosbie wanted to get a lot of co-operative societies operating, all fish producers. What is the obstacle, if any, to their being able to export their own fish? Has each society got to join each group, and pay \$1,000 to each group? Or is it \$1,000 to belong to the Salt Codfish Association? Can you explain that?

Mr. Crosbie You have to pay \$1,000 to belong to each group. That's a deposit. You don't have to put it up every season. The past several years the return to the country has been high, and that's the only way you can control it. You can't set up a service to inspect all the people. There has to be some control somewhere. I may belong to one group and pay \$1,000, and there is nothing against Mr. Bradley saying to me, "Well now Chesley, will you ship out this for me?" And I would do so; or someone else may belong to another group and ship so much for me. Anyone can get a license to pack for export, or he can become an exporter himself if he wants to.

Mr. Northcott Assuming fish is hard to sell and I have 1,000 quintals on hand, and I am barred from getting a license, but in the meantime I can sell that down in South America at a fair price, would the Fisheries Board give me a license or not?

Mr. Crosbie Definitely no.

Mr. Northcott Last year I sold to a firm in New York five cases of lobster, and this firm also wanted me to get fish for them. It was possible for me to send them a sample, and then they sent to me for 1,000 quintals. I contacted the Fisheries

Board and I could not sell the fish. This was to go to South America, and this firm was terribly upset over the whole thing. If you can produce good fish and have inspectors to cull it, you should not be debarred from exporting that fish.

Mr. Job At any price?

Mr. Northcott No, at a good price, but I was not allowed to export it.

Mr. Ashbourne It must not be forgotten that the past few years codfish has been scarce and has been on allocation. Therefore it is natural that the countries that have been in the habit in the past of buying our codfish should not have to go short, and the time is hardly ripe or opportune for getting new markets; but it is when there is a surplus of fish, more than our regular customers require, that's the time we want to get these new markets opened up, and there will be no trouble for a person to arrange that through some exporter who already has a license. My suggestion to Mr. Northcott would be to contact some exporter so that if there is a surplus of codfish Newfoundland might be able to benefit from that market.

Mr. Smallwood There is something that I would like Mr. Job to tell me. I have been hearing now for the last couple of years that one of the big reasons why the fishermen are so much in favour of the Commission system of government is that in the spring of the year, before they have launched their boats, before they have taken the cod out of the water at all, they know what the price of fish is going to be the rest of the year, that sometime in the winter or the spring it is announced that the price of fish to the fishermen for the rest of the year is going to be such and such. That's been going on for the last two or three years.

Mr. Job You are generally up to date, but you are a little behindhand there. That is not so in the last two years.

Mr. Smallwood I hope you will see what I am getting at. How true is it that the fishermen, up to last year, would know early in the season, before they began fishing at all, what the price of fish was going to be? Fishermen before that would get up to the fall, and Christmas, and perhaps the middle of the winter, before they found out the price they were going to get for the fish they caught last year. All of a sudden an announcement is made in the winter or early spring that the price of fish was to be such and such for