

present Canadian act that would necessarily interfere with the present organisation and methods of operation of the Newfoundland fish trade." I say that because, while I have had nothing to do with fish for many years now, I feel convinced that our system here in Newfoundland has been better than the Canadian system of marketing. To bear that out, there was a delegation this summer from Nova Scotia to endeavour to find out the basis of our set-up so that they could set one up in Canada. Since then we have gone further; we have now the Codfish Exporters Limited,¹ or some such name, and instead of various groups or committees, we have now one marketing organisation. I am glad to see there can be no interference with Newfoundland. We may derive benefits! We are away ahead of them so far. And as long as it cannot be interfered with, that is something in our favour.

Mr. Bailey I wonder if Mr. Smallwood would read page 115 — Quebec, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island; also page 114, British Columbia — coastal, not inland.²

Mr. Smallwood Page 115:

Quebec: The Canadian Fisheries Act and regulations made thereunder apply to all fisheries. There is also certain provincial legislation. By an arrangement made in 1922, the administration of all such legislation and regulations in respect of all fisheries, whether in navigable or non-navigable waters, together with the administration of any provincial Crown fisheries, is carried on by the government of the province.

May I say that is what is known as a gentlemen's agreement between Quebec and the federal government made in 1922 under which the Province of Quebec was permitted by the Government of Canada to administer its own fisheries at its own expense. It did not want any money from the federal government — they did not want anyone to administer their fisheries but themselves.

New Brunswick: The Canadian Fisheries Act and regulations made thereunder apply to all fisheries and are administered by the Government of Canada. The provincial government leases angling privileges in the non-tidal waters and administers these

leases.

Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island: The Canadian Fisheries Act and regulations thereunder apply to all fisheries and are administered by the Government of Canada in both tidal and non-tidal waters.

Mr. Bailey You all know we may go into confederation. I do not say I will have anything to do with it, I may be fishing at the time, but whoever has to do with the negotiating of it will have to be very careful with our fisheries. I refer here again to British Columbia. On the coast of Vancouver Island in 1935 certain capitalistic concerns got control from the Canadian government. I was not able to get the whole story; but I found out that these trapmen had gotten control of the waters within the three mile limit and all the handline fishermen were not allowed inside it. I was told that RCMP were patrolling the coast. We have full control over our fisheries, something I believe we always had. I know something of the rows between the trawlers and the handline men. I was told how the trawlers had to get outside the three mile limit and stay outside. Some of them had been trawling since 1905-06. Should the people vote for confederation, I want them to keep this in mind. There should be a clause whereby the federal government will not be able to lease any part of our waters to the detriment of the fishermen. I want our people, in negotiating for Newfoundland, whatever they do, not to turn our fisheries over to remote control. We want to see that the rights we have always fought for are kept for us.

Mr. Smallwood That is very good advice for the future government of Newfoundland or someone in the future. I may say, the practice in the Department of Fisheries of Canada is this: any regulations they make governing the fisheries ... all the practical details of fishery, that is left entirely completely and absolutely to the province. It is only in other fields that the federal department exercises its jurisdiction. For instance, you will find in Quebec and the three Maritime Provinces it is their practice to regulate the seasons of the year you may fish and the distance each fishing gear must be apart from the other; but that is upon the advice of the local authorities in the provinces, the local interests concerned. So that if ever

¹The Newfoundland Association of Fish Exporters Ltd. (NAFEL).

²Black Books.