

worth in the next eight or ten years.

Mr. Job You will have to show us how to do it.

Mr. Smallwood Well, I would too, but if we can't do it how can we say whether we will be self-supporting or not in the next eight or ten years? I hope that will bring Mr. Crosbie to his feet.

Mr. Crosbie I don't know, there is an awful lot of hot air around here. I don't agree with Mr. Job. It was not a blind guess. I don't know if he knows how this \$2.5 million was made up on oil. It was not until sometime in November or December that the large increase in oil came, so actually it would be nearer \$5 million instead of \$2.5 million — pretty near double, so actually that figure of \$2.5 million is somewhere near double since November, and in some cases triple.

Mr. Job We can only take the Customs' declared value.

Mr. Crosbie I am not criticising. I am trying to explain to Mr. Smallwood what the position is. I am not one of the critics, and I don't intend to be. Now with regards to the drop, where we estimate a drop in salt codfish around \$8 million. As I said before, this country has one fish only, the codfish, and as soon as we forget that attitude the sooner the country will get on its feet. For one thing alone, these figures for 1947 will be closer to \$4.5 million rather than \$2.5 million, that's for the same quantity, and you are going to get increased production over the next two or three years, and additional quantities of fishmeal that have not been exported before will take up a lot of the slack. You have those canning plants, last year it was somewhere in the vicinity of \$8 million, and there is no reason why we can't export \$2-3 million worth of canned goods. I don't think this estimate is too far wrong. If I were to make a little bet I might say that in the next few years it might be \$40 million.

Mr. Smallwood I am glad to hear Mr. Crosbie express such optimism, but we have got to keep our feet on the ground, you have to admit that. Just come back to that table: haddock was \$300,000 last year, lobsters \$1 million, and salmon close to \$1 million. Sealskins \$500,000 last year, squid \$136,000, and then you have a large number of other items, all at I imagine inflated, shortage prices. Now, say you are right, oil that was worth \$2.5 million in 1946 in 1947 comes to be worth \$4.5 or \$5 million, and even in 1948

let's say it is worth \$5 million, surely by the end of 1948 the world shortage of oil would be won. There will be no shortage of oil two years from now. It is true you can be producing more by that time than you are now, but is it possible, unless you get into herring in a big way, to increase your output of oil and take up the falling prices? Even if it is worth \$5 million now, will it be worth that two or three years from now? There must be a limit to the amount of salmon and lobster you can get. I am a tremendous believer in herring. Iceland, which we look upon as a codfish country, at the end of 1944 had 62 quick-freezing plants in operation costing \$10 million. In 1945 they produced 200,000 tons of fish — how much of that was codfish? 3,000 tons out of the 214,000 tons of all kinds of fish. We have not begun to think of herring. I agree with Mr. Crosbie. We must keep our feet on the ground.

Mr. Crosbie You are a great confederate, I believe? There is a magazine called the *Fishing Gazette* and in it is an article called "The Year To Come"; if you read that, you might be optimistic about this country. I am not a magician. Lots of people cannot tell what is going to happen within the next five years. If the price comes down in this country, it will come down in other countries. Within the next two years I expect to see \$3 million worth of herring oil. We agreed upon an annual expectancy of \$25 million from our fishing industry. The only country I have seen pessimistic is my own.

Mr. Smallwood There is an editorial in the *Canadian Fisherman* of January 1947, a review of the past and the future; it reads: "The past year has brought to an end an era of war-time prosperity and easy markets for the commercial fisheries. During the war there was a big demand for sea foods. After the cessation of hostilities, the demand continued to rehabilitate and feed the destitute people of Europe. From now on we will have to sell seafoods to countries now producing their own requirements: during 1947 through their lower standards of living. They are able to fish the same grounds as ourselves, transport their catch long distances for processing and then ship back again at a market price which we cannot meet."

Mr. Crosbie I do not care if this country never sees a codfish for the next ten years. There are halibut banks in the Gulf never touched. There