

Mr. Crosbie They built the *Eastern Explorer* in Clarendville. She is equipped for purse seining. So far the government has not been able to say what the cost will be; they think it is in the vicinity of \$85,000 for 110 tons. Originally, when Mr. Dunn was here, the government intended building boats which they would charter to private concerns, but when he left, everything was changed. I certainly would not pay \$85,000 for anything of 110 tons.

Mr. Northcott The herring fishery has been a godsend to this country; it means so much to the individual fisherman. They all can get a license to pack. Therefore if you get \$3 million for herring, it means a lot of money spread throughout Newfoundland. A fisherman can get an early start and it makes him independent. I hope if UNRRA does go out, the Fisheries Board will be able to get contracts from time to time. Our herring has gone throughout Europe and we should get some good markets there. The herring fishery will be a great thing for this country.

Mr. Hickman On page 4 of Appendix J: "when one considers the quantity of herring which I have found in the Bay of Islands area, coupled with the experiences gained by the herring fishery in British Columbia, there is no reason for any boundary lines and the present prohibiting of the use of purse seiners in this area should be abolished." I was wondering, in view of Mr. Gammon's report, could it be possible to use purse seiners unrestrictedly?

Mr. Crosbie I think the position is this. We had the right to use purse seiners inside Blow-Me-Down and Liverpool Brook. Last year the fishermen objected and we took the seines out of the water. Last July an agreement was made between the Fishermen's Union and the company that for the present year we would not operate inside Blow-Me-Down and Liverpool Brook. Actually, from the legal point of view, you could go ahead and use the seines if you wanted to. Until last fall, in the Bay of Islands, no one knew the quantity there. The fishermen thought the herring moved out and they had to wait for them to come inside. Actually, from researches we made, the fishermen were getting a great deal of fish in the Humber flats; there are large quantities also in McIvers. The figure we give is 150,000 tons. Mr. Gammon said it should be 450,000. I said that was too big a joke to give the public.

Mr. Smallwood Has he been estimating schools of herring for some time?

Mr. Crosbie He has been his own master for 30 years.

Mr. Smallwood Can they do that with a fathometer?

Mr. Crosbie They use a feeling wire also. We have checked the fathometer against his wire and satisfied ourselves that there is an unlimited quantity in that area. You can estimate within 15 tons.

Mr. Smallwood What would that 450,000 tons be? Green? How would you convert that?

Mr. Crosbie All depends on what you do with it.

Mr. Fudge Ten barrels to the ton of herring.

Mr. Smallwood Converting that into meal or oil?

Mr. Crosbie Five tons of fish is one ton of meal.

Mr. Smallwood Would you get some oil out of that besides?

Mr. Crosbie It would not be a very profitable business if you did not.

Mr. Hollett What is your authority for saying 70% of all herring originated in Bay of Islands?

Mr. Crosbie From the customs exports.

Mr. Hollett 70% of all the herring caught?

Mr. Crosbie Exported, over the last 14 years.

Mr. Hollett On page 5, it says: "In Bay of Islands, where 70% of all herring originates...."

Mr. Job Originates, as far as Newfoundland is concerned, for export.

Mr. Hollett 70% of all herring caught in this country were caught in Bay of Islands, is that it?

Mr. Job That is what I meant.

Mr. Hollett The Santa Cruz Oil Company was set up here in 1937, and I believe the government guaranteed bonds up to \$225,000. I believe when they clewed up, they owed the government \$141,000. Did you find out what happened?

Mr. Job I did not.

Mr. Crosbie I do not think that that concerns this report. If the government did not have sense enough to protect themselves, it does not affect this Convention.

Mr. Hollett At that time the Santa Cruz Oil Company were given a monopoly to catch herring in Placentia Bay and in Fortune Bay for a period of 12 years. They were also given sole monopoly to catch and cure herring on Labrador for a period of 15 years. When they clewed up, not