

Newfoundland

getting all the privileges that were originally given the company. We agreed to let them retain the export market for salt fish only, which will amount to about \$14 or \$15 million a year, depending of course on market conditions. NAFEL has nothing to do with the rest of the fishing industry.

From the various departments we are taking over the freezing facilities, the inspection service and the research department, incorporating these into the federal system of fish management.

I believe I have answered all the questions except the one concerning the bounty. Please do not ask me to give the dates in connection with this question, because I do not remember them. In substance, however, the Newfoundland people received a million dollars as their share of the bounty; that was considered as their reward. The matter of sharing the \$160,000 a year with the fishermen of Newfoundland was not discussed during the conference. It will be divided therefore, as it always has been divided, between the maritime fishermen.

Mr. Gillis: Am I to understand, then, that this \$160,000 which I understand is interest on the original \$4 million grant Canada received, will continue to be distributed between the Quebec and maritime fishermen? The Newfoundland fishermen will not share in that sum until such time as there are other arrangements.

Mr. Mayhew: That is my understanding, and it was not discussed at any other meeting.

Mr. Baker: As I am interested in seeing this union between Newfoundland and Canada go through, and I do not want to do anything that may impede it, I shall be very brief. Taking the long view, this union will be of strategic, economic and social advantage to both Newfoundland and Canada. Dealing specifically with fisheries, I know the union will prove to be mutually beneficial. True, the salt fish industry in Newfoundland is going to be, so to speak, on its own, to a certain extent for five years, but that is quite understandable. It takes a certain amount of time to adjust these things.

There has been an historical association between the fishermen of Newfoundland and the fishermen of our great province of Nova Scotia. Many of the Newfoundland fishermen have fished out of Nova Scotia's ports, and particularly out of the home port of the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply, Lunenburg. These men are well known to us all. There is one point I should like to mention and that is that, as a result of Canada and Newfoundland coming together, the hand of the Minister of Fisheries will be

[Mr. Mayhew.]

strengthened. We all realize the fine job he is doing. I think this union will help him because it is going to make the fishing industry a very large industry. Few people realize it is an industry that brings in a large volume of United States dollars. It is an industry that is growing.

The Louisburg project is one example of the co-operation between the federal government and Nova Scotia on behalf of the industry. With Newfoundland becoming a tenth province of Canada, we may some day be able to establish a continental shelf, which I think is of the utmost importance.

Now I bring up my perennial story. The stronger the claims of the fishermen become, and the claims of seafaring people in general, the greater the opportunity of having some sort of coastguard system, perhaps not exactly the same as the one the United States set up. I believe this union will help strengthen our request for such a system. There may be some difficulties during the period of transition but I am sure, taking the long-range view, this union will prove to be beneficial to Canada, Newfoundland and the maritime provinces in particular.

Mr. Archibald: I should like to ask the minister about this Newfoundland association which has control over the export of fish. If an individual desired to set up a business for the export of fish, would he have to pay a fee of \$10,000 in order to belong to that association?

Mr. Mayhew: My understanding is, and I think I am right, that the regular fee for joining NAFEL is \$10,000. Four or five men may get together and take out one membership. A person who has fish to export may ask a member of the association, and there are in all some 43 members in NAFEL, to sell his fish for him. It will be sold for a commission of from 3 to 5 per cent.

Mr. Knowles: I want to thank the minister for the trouble he has taken in replying at length to the question I asked last night. This is a subject in which the people concerned are keenly interested. Some hon. members may wonder why I should be interested in the subject, since I come from the centre of the continent. I suppose it is partly due to the fact that, as a child, I was brought up on stories of my Nova Scotian ancestors who had gone fishing on the grand banks. I dared to hope when I asked the question last night that the permission to Newfoundland to retain their present set-up, at least in part, for five years, was a concession to the fishermen themselves, the men who actually do the work. But after listening to the minister's description of the set-up today, particularly in view of his answer to