

have a bearing on the future prospects and national welfare and economy of the country as a whole. I can do no more than support very strongly the remarks of my friend Mr. Job when he presented this report.

Mr. Smallwood I have very genuine admiration for the work of the Fisheries Committee in the preparation of this interim report. I am always filled with admiration by evidence of work done, particularly work of research, and the report, insofar as it is factual, statistical, insofar as it reviews something of the history and present dimensions of the fresh fish industry, is a very fine piece of work. I know that Mr. Job for many years has been something of a pioneer in the fisheries of this country and we find him now one of the pioneers in the fresh fish developments. I have often wondered whether it was a good thing for Newfoundland to turn away from her centuries-old method of fishing. I do not refer merely to the technical methods of fishing, but to the social or sociological; we have had 30, 40 and 50,000 petty capitalists — whether it is a good thing to turn away from that and to industrialise the fishing and increase the units of production; to increase mechanical processing; turn the fishery from what it has so long been, an adventure, a highly individualistic adventure, developing certain sturdy independence and individualism in our fishermen; turning from that into what can only be called industrialism in the fishery, reaching perhaps ultimately some day to the fishery proletariat — men engaged for wages as they might be in a clothing factory, in a mine or paper mill or any other industrial enterprise.... My head tells me we must change; we must become industrialised; we must go ahead or go under; yet I will watch this trend to industrialism in the fisheries with a great deal of interest in the next ten, 20 or 30 years, if I live that long. I know it must come; it is inevitable and indeed it may be regrettable. Mr. Bradley has told me of the developments in Bonavista in the last four or five years. I lived in Bonavista at a time of desperate privation; he has lived there latterly in the

time of a partially industrialised fishery. He tells me that a social revolution has occurred there in living conditions and standards since the fresh fish freezing plant has been established. So, I have a great deal of sympathy for and a great deal of appreciation of the importance of this new development and also a great deal of concern. I am sure Mr. Crosbie will recall my expressions of concern and worry about future markets for fresh fish. I felt that in times of shortages of food, especially protein foods, we could ship fish into the United States and get our prices; leap over the duty and not feel it.... But what of the day when there will not be a world food shortage, when in the United States itself perhaps they will once again be ploughing under every third furrow of cotton, and the farmers will be paid by the government to destroy their pigs and their crops, or perhaps not to plant at all; when the coffee of Brazil will be used experimentally as fuel to run railways; when the trawlers dump their fish rather than block a market already glutted? What of the day when shortages will have disappeared, particularly the shortage of protein foods? What then about our fishery? What then of our fresh fish industry, whose markets have been in the United States of America?

I went this forenoon to the office of the American Consul General to ask him if he had statistics showing the quantities of fish imported into the United States. I brought back a statistical abstract of the published figures. The figures come up to as late as March past and in the short time I had I took up the figures from September last — 7 months. The figures are given in pounds and they sound astronomical. For the past seven months the figures are: *

Total of 250,000 pounds of fish, or 420 million pounds per year. I looked back over the period before the war when there was no shortage of protein food, and I find that in 1937-1940 the average imports of fish into the United States amounted to 328 million pounds or something like 100 million pounds less than what it is now

* Imported from Canada	:	177	million pounds of fish			
“ Newfoundland	:	33	million	“	“	“
“ Mexico	:	20	million	“	“	“
“ Portugal	:	11	million	“	“	“
“ Iceland	:	7.5	million	“	“	“
“ Norway	:	6.5	million	“	“	“
