

essential.

Mr. Vincent I agree with Mr. Hollett for the reason we should have had the road 30 years ago.

Mr. Starkes On the north side of Bonavista Bay, there is no chance to get out of it. You cannot take a boat.

Mr. Keough It was intended to stress "where possible and feasible". Unfortunately we mentioned the Burin road; perhaps we should have mentioned Bonavista, Bonne Bay or Cape Norman. You are making a mountain out of a molehill.

Mr. Hollett You say it is of vital importance.

Mr. Keough We have not said it was more vital than any other place.

Mr. Vincent I think the word "vital" should be deleted.

[Moved and seconded that the word "vital" be deleted. Motion carried]

Mr. Starkes Page 47: "The Committee is aware of the existing scheme that provides for a possible maximum of \$80 insurance on the death of trawl fishermen." Is that just trawlers?

Mr. Job Bank fishermen.

Mr. Smallwood The bank fisherman, if he is lost, his family gets \$80, from whom?

Mr. Job From the government through the Customs department.

Mr. Smallwood Is there a premium on it?

Mr. Job 50 cents a man.

Mr. Keough I think it is 20 cents a man.

Mr. Smallwood The fisherman pays it to the Customs when the vessel clears; and if he loses his life his family gets \$80. Is that all a man gets if he loses his life on the Banks?

Mr. Job The amount was recently increased from \$60 to \$80. That is what he gets and what he gets from the PMDF.¹

Mr. Hollett That is paid just once, not \$80 a year. Is this the fishermen's insurance scheme I asked about, or have you something else?

Mr. Hillier I think I was responsible in some way for social security having been introduced into the Fisheries Report. For years I have felt that fishermen should have some protection. Our fishermen begin fishing at the age of 18 and fish until they can no longer get into a boat and in many cases it has been brought to my notice, when they can no longer get into a boat they are very much in the same position as when they

began. When the first meeting was held I asked permission to mention that social security scheme. I had in mind something in the nature of retiring allowances; that is, a man on reaching the age of 60 would receive a retiring allowance so that for the remainder of his days he would be looked after, and in the case of sickness would not have to fall back on the government. There have been cases where men in the prime of health have been called across the bar. They have nothing to leave to their wives and families. The wife and family is completely dependent upon, I think, \$10 a quarter — the widow's mite. I felt that should not be. There should be something to provide for his family. Therefore I introduced the idea that there should be some quarterly contribution made by the fishermen so that their families could be looked after. The insurance scheme before us applies in the case of death; there is no provision in the case of sickness and both the man and his family must fall back absolutely upon the government and I do not think that is good enough. I have here a social security scheme drawn up by Mr. Bannikin which was presented to the Department of Natural Resources in 1943. I think it is a good one. My plan was to collect from the fishermen and that is not so easy. His is to collect so much yearly from the exporters of our products, place it in the hands of the government and from that to pay yearly to fishermen on pensions. If it is in order, I would ask the Secretary to read that scheme.

Mr. Chairman What is your scheme? If it is in the nature of general social security it would apply not only to fishermen but to others as well. If it is something for the protection of fishermen in the event of loss of life in the course of their advocacy, we could have it read.

Mr. Hillier That is what it is meant to be.

Mr. Chairman If it is to apply to all, it is irrelevant here because we are discussing fisheries. On the other hand if the Convention desires to read it, they may do so.

Mr. Job I would suggest that you might have that printed and circulated to the members. It is an interesting document. This question of social security is dealt with by the Board of Trade and they are on the point of making some recommendation in connection with it. I think it is a waste of time reading that now, but it might be

¹Permanent Marine Disaster Fund.