

Mr. Hickman Surely there is a limit to what they can receive. I don't know, I am not in the fish business. Is that so, Mr. Job?

Mr. Job I don't know really. I don't think they would continue allowing it to exist unless they were getting service for it. One of the concerns to which our friend was referring is a concern that has a very large organisation through Spain, Italy, Greece and Portugal, and I have no doubt they have very heavy expenditures to keep up. That is quite possible.

Mr. Hollett That is what I can't understand. We have the fishermen getting the fish and the small man in the outports collecting it, and sending it in to St. John's. Perhaps he is an exporter, perhaps not, but all the Codfish Board has to do is allocate it to the trade — I don't know whether the trade has anything to do with the Salt Codfish Board — and the trade has to sell it. Now we find they don't sell it at all, but some commission agent here in St. John's who gets \$150,000, is that right? I am not trying to decry the work which the Fisheries Board has done, but we have to remember that they did an excellent job from 1939 up to the present time when they were selling the goods and dealing with a rising market, the same as the Commission of Government during that period. I think everybody did an excellent job during that period, because we were winning hands down. Don't let anybody live in a fool's paradise. What we must not do is praise up the Fisheries Board too much or they might think they are little gods, and sit tight. If they were good during the war years I feel sure they will be good during the years to come.

One thing I would like to refer to is the statistics which the Committee has given us with regard to inshore, Labrador stationers, Labrador floaters, and deep sea fishing. The average number of quintals caught by inshore fishermen was 32 last year, stationers 30 quintals, floaters 61 (these are the men who went down to Labrador in their own vessels); then we have the deep sea fishing (referring to bankers on the southwest coast), 122 quintals. If we are going to improve the fisheries, you have to get each man producing more fish. If you look at these figures you will find that you have to make it possible for the fishermen to get further away from their own stageheads. They must have ships to enable them to get further away and get back safely. The

government of the day, whatever it is, has to see that each fisherman gets as much fish as it is humanly possible for him to catch. It is absolutely useless for us to depend to any large extent on the inshore fishery. These figures have proved it, that your banking fleet always got more fish per man, and thereby made a much better living. I say they did not make as good a living as they should for the amount of fish they caught. I don't know who is to blame, Spain, Portugal, or the St. John's merchants or whoever, but we must get ready for that future which is bound to come. You are not going to be selling fish on a rising market all the time. We will have at least a short period like we had after the last war. There is no reason why we can't, and it is our duty to try to plan to offset that depression as much as it is humanly possible for us to do....

There are certain recommendations by the post-war planning committee of the Fisheries Board. But what are they doing to implement them? They have a very nice plan laid down for our committee going to London, about paying tariffs, but what are they doing about it?

Mr. Newell In the middle of page 10 there is a little statement which I think expresses a whole lot: "We suggest that consideration be given to the idea that the codfishery be placed on a cash basis." The implications of that statement are very wide indeed. They have their roots right in the very question that we have here — whether or not the people of this country can be self-supporting. I notice they don't suggest to the National Convention how this desirable situation can be brought about. I don't blame them for not attempting to answer that, because it is going to be something of a headache. You can't just snap your fingers and have it done. I have certain ideas on the subject myself, which I do not propose to go into now because they have nothing to do with the Fisheries Report, but it seems to me that we have sometime or other to try to make a picture in our minds of a Newfoundland which will provide a decent standard of living for its people, and as far as fishermen are concerned this question of putting our codfishery on a cash basis is very important from a great many angles. From the angle of economy, which is enough at the present time, let us consider what happens when the fisherman gets credit. I take it most of our salt codfishery is carried on on a credit basis. As a