

Fish Exporters In Nfld. Reply To Jamaican Blast

by IAN MACDONALD
Canadian Press Staff Writer
ST. JOHN'S (CP)—Criticism of the Newfoundland Association of Fish Exporters Limited by Jamaican Trade Minister Isaacs has brought a storm of retaliatory comment from NAFEL officials and provincial exporters.

Mr. Isaacs said in Kingston, Jamaica last Thursday NAFEL was a "dictatorial cartel" which should be "smashed by the government." Jamaica, he said, would buy its July-to-December supply of codfish from Iceland.

H. V. R. Earle, chairman of the association which holds exclusive marketing rights for Newfoundland codfish, said Mr. Isaacs dislikes NAFEL "because it compels him to pay reasonable prices for fish."

Mr. Earle, also president of the fish exporting firm of Earle Sons and Company, said "Mr. Isaacs, who in his position as minister of trade and commerce of Jamaica, is in a completely dictatorial position."

"He is obviously anxious to buy at the lowest possible prices so that he can convince his people that he is doing a good job in lowering the cost of living in Ja-

maica.

"If he had his way the returns to the Newfoundland exporter, and through him to the Newfoundland fishermen, would be drastically reduced.

"His fear of NAFEL is that it is doing too good a job for the Newfoundland exporter and fisherman."

Mr. Isaacs said NAFEL was doing Newfoundland fishermen a great disservice and urged that they be permitted to compete individually on West Indian markets "which would result in the export of high quality Newfoundland codfish at cheaper prices." They should have a co-operative scheme, he said.

NAFEL President F. A. J. Laws said the effect of this proposal would be lower prices for the fishermen's product.

"The more people he has to play off one against the other, the easier it will be for him to buy fish from Newfoundland more cheaply."

SAYS ICELAND SAME

"There is a reference here," he said, "to a dictatorial cartel. It should be pointed out that Mr. Isaacs has purchased his two to three thousand tons of fish from

Iceland — and from a dictatorial cartel like us, since in Iceland there is an export licence for marketing of salt codfish."

Mr. Laws said Jamaica has a price control board whose object is to keep down the price of fish as much as possible and to purchase it as cheaply as possible.

NAFEL's failure to win the contract for the supply of fish to Jamaica for the last half of 1958 means a loss of from five to eight per cent of the province's export business.

H. A. Dawe, NAFEL director and president of the Fishermen's Union Trading Company, Port Antonio, said Mr. Isaacs' statements were "the best advertisement NAFEL has had for some time."

AGREES WITH MINISTER

"NAFEL is certainly trying to obtain the best possible prices for all fishermen. No wonder Isaacs is opposed to NAFEL. . . ."

"Isaacs is out to buy fish at the lowest price possible and is therefore opposed to NAFEL, whose job is to try and get the best prices."

The same argument was presented by E. A. Harvey, secretary-manager of the Newfound-

and Fish Trades Association which represents all fish exporting firms.

"As far as I'm concerned this is the biggest boost NAFEL has got for many a day," Mr. Harvey said no one but the Jamaicans would benefit if NAFEL was "smashed."

"There is no question that Jamaica is a good customer of Newfoundland, but at the same time Newfoundland fishermen produce a product that Jamaicans like and prefer."

There has been no comment from the provincial fisheries department and the Newfoundland Federation of Fishermen.

NO JINX FOR HIM

WASHINGTON, VI. (AP)—Nate Flint was alive, kicking and 62 years old Tuesday. He held his birthday party two days in advance to be sure he wouldn't miss the festivities. He said his mother, father, sister and two brothers all died during their 63rd year, and he feared the 62nd birthday jinx might affect him, too.

Eisenhower Calls For Early Upturn In U. S. Business

NEW YORK (AP)—President Eisenhower said Tuesday night there are strong indications the business recession is slowing down in the United States. He called on the nation to muster all its forces to promote an early upturn.

Eisenhower added that "certain decisions will shortly be taken in the field of taxation" after consultation with congressional leaders, with respect to the economic slump.

But James C. Hagerty, White House press secretary, emphasized in response to a question that the decisions of which Eisenhower spoke could be either for or against tax reduction.

In an address prepared for delivery at the economic mobilization conference of the American Management Association, the president again called on private business to assume a major share of the job of restoring full prosperity in the United States.

Eisenhower spoke to about 2,000 business leaders attending the mobilization conference at the Astor hotel. His speech also was broadcast coast-to-coast on television and radio (10:30 p.m. EDT) and was carried by Canadian Broadcasting Corporation radio and TV.

CONFIDENCE OF FUTURE

Expressing great confidence in the future and in prospects for an early end of the recession, Eisenhower said:

"The question, then, is going to be — not one of surmounting our problems—but one of rising to our opportunities."

Speaking after a scheduled introduction by Vice-President Richard Nixon, Eisenhower said at the outset of his 30-minute talk:

"America is not going to stand still. America is going to grow—and grow and grow."

Turning then to the question as to how quickly the economy will

resume full and healthy advance, he asserted:

"My answer tonight is this: Reports from the country strongly indicate that the economic decline of recent months is slowing down. Not all our economic troubles are over by any means. But there is a change in the making. That it will prove to be a change for the better, I have no doubt."

N.S. Officers Rescue Pair

OTTAWA (CP)—The army Tuesday identified two Nova Scotia officers as the rescuers of two men from drowning in Radiant Lake during the weekend.

The officers were Lt.-Col. Walter E. Garber, 44, of Bridgewater, N.S., commander of the 1st Battalion, Canadian Guards, and Maj. J. Milton Gregg, 37, of Halifax, commander of the Guards Depot. Both are stationed at Camp Petawawa, Ont.

Rescued from the lake 65 miles southwest of Pembroke were

EXPERT NOSES

BRUSSELS (Reuters)—A court directed three horticultural experts Tuesday to smell and study 12 rose plants produced by a Belgian plant firm being sued by a French company on the ground the plants are protected by the latter's patents. The experts will compare the roses and report to the court, the judge directed in ruling a new type of rose is patentable as a "new industrial product."

Eric Nesterenko, right winger for Chicago Black Hawks of the National Hockey League, and Ken Harrison of Toronto, a third member of the fishing party, Glen Lee of Toronto, was drowned.

Col. Garber and Maj. Gregg were on a fishing trip in Algonquin Park when they heard cries for help. They managed to get a rope to two of the men thrown into the lake when their canoe overturned.

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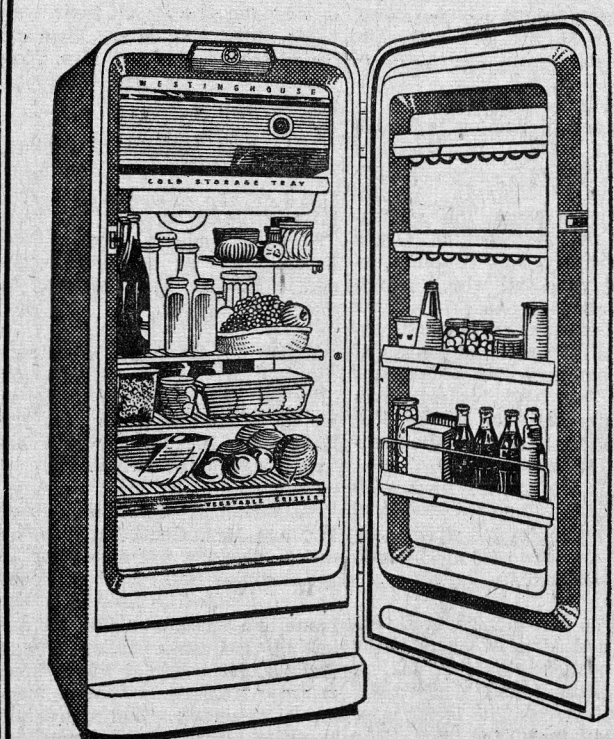
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