

fillets and what proportion is sold without being processed and frozen—sold, as we call it, as fresh unfrozen fish.

Mr. MACLEAN (*Queens*): I do not think, Mr. Chairman, that we have those figures here but they could be made available, I think.

Mr. CLARK: I think the figures could be obtained. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics does keep figures along these lines showing the frozen and unfrozen fish, which in our language is referred to as "fresh and frozen". The only thing I would point out, Mr. Chairman, is that even with the fresh fish, or the unfrozen fish, most of it is filleted anyway; so there are some processing costs. It is very rarely that a whole fish nowadays is sent to market. So that there are processing costs even when the fish is not frozen.

Mr. ROBICHAUD: Mr. Chairman, I agree with Mr. Clark in a lot of cases, but not all cases. When a fresh cod is landed and is being shipped fresh, it is filleted and packed in large containers. You do not have individual packages. There is quite a difference in cost, when it is being shipped in ice directly to Montreal, Toronto, or the American market, which makes quite a difference. Far be it from my mind to come to the defence of the New Brunswick and Newfoundland dealers, because, at the time Mr. Crouse mentioned that they get three-and-a-quarter cents a pound for cod in Lunenburg, our New Brunswick fishermen were getting only two-and-three-quarter cents for the same quality of fish. The difference there is too great. There is something wrong somewhere because there should not be a cent per pound difference between what is being paid in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland. There is definitely a difference, but there should not be that much difference.

Mr. BROWNE (*Vancouver-Kingsway*): I might suggest that this might be a good place where a couple of union organizers and collective bargaining might be of some value in overcoming this variation in price, instead of the individual dealing for himself. It seems to me that the principles of trade unionism could be very well utilized in this particular case.

Mr. CARTER: In my personal opinion I do not think the reason for the disparity in price to the fishermen is all to be found on that end of the industry. I think that when it comes to marketing you find that there are monopolies operating in the fresh fish market just as there are in other industry. I would like to know what is being done, if anything, to investigate that.

Mr. MACLEAN (*Queens*): Well, the royal commission on price spreads is investigating that very problem. Its purpose is to determine why more of the consumer's dollar is not getting through to the primary producer.

Mr. CARTER: How soon do we expect to hear from this commission?

Mr. MACLEAN (*Queens*): I cannot say at the moment.

Mr. ROBICHAUD: On the other hand we should also admit that the difference between the price paid to the fishermen and the price the consumer has to pay for fish is not excessively high. When you go to any store in Ottawa and buy frozen cod fillets in a nice, one-pound package, you pay 28 or 29 cents a pound; flounder is in the vicinity of 41 or 42 cents a pound, and haddock fillets, for instance, you may have to pay from 36 to 38 cents a pound. And, when that is packaged it only represents about 35 per cent of the fish landed—the fresh fish landed. The margin may not be as high. But, what I cannot understand is, is it the fault of our fish dealers or of someone else that we only get 29 cents a pound for fillet of cod. Now if we had to pay say 31 cents instead of 29 cents, the difference could go to the fishermen, which would solve the problem of the fish industry.

Mr. LEGERE: Further to this spread of price between Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, you have been speaking mostly about fresh fish. But I cannot