

# ***The cycle is not eternal like the tides of Fundy***

## ***but something we can end***

The lifeboats on the Acadia Neptune are rusted solid to the davits. Last year the Acadia Gull was taken to Pictou for her annual inspection. One of her lifeboats had a hole in the bottom larger than a man's head. The lifeboat passed inspection.

Acadia Fisheries, in the name of profits, had economized on repairing and overhauling its trawlers, by paying off the Department of Transport officials, who inspect the company's trawlers. As a result, Acadia Fisheries has been directly responsible for the deaths of at least 30 of its trawler crewmen.

In the past eight years, at least four of Acadia's trawlers have gone down, two with all hands.

In 1967, The Sea Hawk sunk. The ship's engineer, Clayton Welsh, told the company executives that the ship was totally unseaworthy, and that he would not sail

until the necessary repairs had been made. Acadia Fisheries' reply was that if Welsh did not sail, he would be blacklisted. Acadia has blacklisted crewmen for periods ranging from ten days to 99 years. Clayton Welsh had a wife and a two week old baby to feed. So he sailed. And drowned. Along with the other fifteen crew members on the Sea Hawk.

Acadia Fisheries literally robs the trawler crews of one third to one half of their catch. No fishermen are allowed to be present when the catch is weighed and graded. So, the fishermen are not only shortweighted, but their fish are assessed as Grade B or C by the company, bought at dirt-cheap prices, and then sold on the market as Grade A fish.

Everett Richardson is a fisherman from Canso. He is a trawler crewman for Acadia Fisheries. He has been on strike for six months. During this time he and the other trawler fishermen from Canso, Mulgrave and Petit de Grat have been denied the status of human beings. They have been harassed by the R.C.M.P. They have been the subject of the most vicious smear campaign that the Chronicle Herald has ever dared to conduct. They have been served with ex parte injunctions by the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, which forbade them from picketing. And they have been jailed for defying those injunctions.

Everett Richardson was sentenced to nine months in jail for an attempt of court by a judge who called him "a pawn in an international conspiracy."

The Gazette staff urges that instead of voting either for the Liberals, Progressive Conservatives, or NDP, that every student in this riding (Halifax-Cornwallis) should cast a write-in ballot for Everett Richardson for MLA.

Instead of voting for Richard A. Donahue, the 'man' responsible for prosecuting the fisherman in his capacity as Attorney-General, we urge that you write in Everett Richardson's name on the ballot.

It will count as a spoiled ballot. But it is one of the few ways that we, as students and as Nova Scotians, can register our outrage against a system as brutal as this one.

Everett Richardson is one of the millions of Canadians who are being sacrificed every day for purposes of profit and political expediency.

**WE are all Everett Richardson.**

By writing Richardson's name on the ballot, we can demonstrate our unwillingness to accept the 'reasonable' alternatives offered by Regan, Smith, Donahue, Mitchell or Halderman. We can affirm the right of Nova Scotia fishermen and all Nova Scotians to control their own lives.

