

appeared in the local press. The nature of the reply to be sent thereto was discussed.

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*Extraits du procès-verbal d'une réunion de la délégation de
Terre-Neuve aux négociations des Conditions de l'union*

*Extracts from Minutes of a Meeting of the Delegation of
Newfoundland to the Negotiations of the Terms of Union*

MINUTES OF THIRD MEETING HELD ON
THE 26TH AUGUST AT 3 P.M.

All members of the delegation were present. Messrs. W. F. Hutchinson and J. Lawes, representing the Newfoundland Associated Fish Exporters Ltd. were also in attendance.

DISCUSSION WITH NAFEL REPRESENTATIVES

23. The Chairman informed Messrs. Hutchinson and Lawes that the delegation had before it their letter of the 2nd August 1948 wherein they referred to (1) the matter of contracts concluded to date by NAFEL in connection with the 1948 marketing of salt codfish and the status of these contracts after the date of Newfoundland's entry into Confederation and (2) the possibility of Newfoundland's controlling its fish markets under Confederation. The delegation was extremely interested in both questions and had thought it advisable to call them in for an informal discussion thereon.

24. With regard to the 1948 contracts the delegation was informed that justifiably or otherwise, the decision of Newfoundland to join Canada as the tenth Province had occasioned a certain amount of uncertainty amongst foreign buyers of Newfoundland salt codfish. It was appreciated by NAFEL that up to the 31st March 1949, the position of the organization was safeguarded but if, after that date, it should cease to operate, then presumably it would be unable to complete these contracts and the possibility of their failing to do so was presently causing difficulties in foreign markets which could reasonably be expected to increase, with the passage of time, unless buyers are given an assurance that the contracts will be carried out. The situation might result in a lowering of prices for 1948 which, in turn might affect prices in 1949.

25. Members of the delegation assured Messrs. Hutchinson and Lawes that they fully appreciated the position of NAFEL in this respect and were prepared to do everything in their power to assist. Unfortunately the matter was one which would have to be taken up with the Canadian Government and as this might not be possible for some time, the delegation enquired whether a delay of a month or so would result in any serious repercussions. Both representatives were of the opinion that it would not, but stated that they would deeply appreciate it if the delegation could arrange to have the matter receive priority upon its arrival in Ottawa.