

FISH: DAWSON V. THE REST.

No doubt Billingsgate has thought up some ripe, rare phrases to describe the fish war. But Grimsby, the great fishing port, is the first field of battle. The Icelandic trawler Ingoldfur Arnarson turns into the harbour - and the war is on. Its cockney millionaire George Dawson versus the rest. By bringing this ship in, Dawson is defying the ban by Grimsby fishermen on Icelandic fish, imposed when Iceland extended her fishing grounds to include areas traditionally used by British trawlers. Dawson is first to board the boat. In the holds are 32,000 stone of fish, mostly cold.

Right through the night, workers get the fish ready to hurry it to many parts of the country before dawn. Dawson says this about his rivals:

The fish is crated and made ready for the auction. Despite threats by the Grimsby Fish Merchants Association of non-co-operation in the future, dealers are quick to answer the auctioneer's call. But, even if they don't buy, Dawson has his own processing factory ready to deal with the catch.

Ten thousand stone of fish is made ready for Billingsgate. Grimsby has its last glimpse of their new boy as he too leaves for London to see for himself how they fare. Trawlermen turn photographers as the Dawson Hollis leaves the quayside.

Down at Billingsgate, Dawson's fish sell readily, and as he forecasts, gives his rivals keen competition - he orders them to hurry, so hurry they do - even Dawson fish won't stay fresh that long.