

Injunction Imposed to Stop Fish Buyer Klein

NOME—A preliminary injunction has been granted to prevent independent fish buyer Lloyd Klein and Peninsula Fisheries Inc. from purchasing fish from members of the Kotzebue Fishery Coop.

Richard Rogers of Alaska Legal Services, Fairbanks, obtained the order Friday in Nome Superior Court. Peninsula Fisheries Inc. was not represented.

The suit was brought when coop members feared Klein might compete with them on a grand scale. To date, according to reports, he has bought only during peak season at prices under what were offered by the coop.

“I told coop members last

time I met with them if it looked like he (Klein) was going to compete with them there was a way to stop it. They called me on Tuesday.” Rogers recalled.

The coop has a contract to sell all its salmon and salmon eggs to Mitsubishi International Corp. Members have signed an agreement to commit their total catch for this sale.

Rogers said the coop is protected by state statute but Klein, according to an earlier restraining order, is quoted as saying he did not care what the statutes said and that he would continue to operate in Kotzebue until the court shut him down.

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Fish Buyer . . .

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He can continue to buy from independent fishermen despite the court order, Rogers said.

Membership in the coop numbers about 60. Those who sell to Klein are also guilty under state statute but Rogers said no action was planned against them.