

at. Now considering the conditions that our people live under, and the way they work, especially our wives, and the number of children they bring into the world, I think the time has come in Newfoundland when the mothers of the future won't be bringing children into the world every year and every second year of their lives. Mothers of the future will be prepared, because I don't believe it is possible, especially where a woman has got to work in the stage and the field, and work like a dog, to nurse and care for a brood of 15 or 20 children. I believe the time has come when not only the medical service can be broadened, but that education should be started for the mothers-to-be, to give them a break, and then we will have a healthy population. It is impossible not to have a high rate going out when we have so many coming in. That's what's wrong with the country today.

**Mr. Smallwood** ....I don't think the Committee would mind if I say that these statistics were compiled by me. All the members of the Public Health Committee were given their work to do.... This particular table, which Mr. Hollett's eagle eye detected so quickly, was this: this is the original script.<sup>1</sup> I would like to put myself right with him. I don't want you to think I was a Hitler or a Judas. It was discovered that some of the figures were wrong and they were corrected by me with a pen, here they are up here, but they were not corrected all the way down to the bottom of the column. I would be willing to stake my life, it is the only error in this mimeographed copy, because the error was not corrected in the original copy. You will find all the other tables correct I am reasonably sure. I have lived in this country long enough to expect that my word would be taken on something or other, but over further there is another table here where Canada shows up very badly in comparison with Newfoundland, and that is in the matter of maternity. Look at page 6 in the report, Newfoundland maternity death rate 3.7, Canada 4. That is quite a bit worse, quite a difference. Now I did not change it there, or try to twist it there. The same comparison runs all through the report.... I am not such a fool as to make a thing like that deliberately.

**Mr. Hollett** I am sorry I raised that point. I had no knowledge that Mr. Smallwood had anything

to do with this. I happened to look at this table and it struck me as being so very small that I thought I would bring it up. There is nobody thinks that he would do that with figures. I have perfect faith and trust in his manipulation of figures. If somebody suggests that, I would like to take him outside. I had no knowledge that you had anything to do with it, if there is any objection let's waive the matter.

**Mr. Ashbourne** I have no objection whatever to it and want to thank you for it.

**Mr. Burry** I express my thanks too to Mr. Hollett for bringing this to our attention. As far as I am concerned there is no attempt whatever on the part of any member of the Committee to fix up these figures to make Newfoundland appear in a dimmer light than Canada or anyone else. I do not like the remarks of some members insinuating that if this was wrong then we could not take any of the other figures. We shall be glad to make any other corrections and do it in the interest of the work at hand.

**Mr. Banfield** Referring to the remarks made by Mr. Hollett, he was out of the room when another member rose to his feet and made the accusation that threw a slur on every other member of the Public Health and Welfare Committee.

**Mr. Bailey** I intended to draw the attention of the Committee to it because it was a matter of fixing it for Canada. I looked through it before I went out, because I knew that New Zealand has the lowest infant mortality rate in the world.

**Mr. Reddy** I believe I made that remark. I am glad the words are stricken out.

*[The Secretary continued reading the report]<sup>2</sup>*

**Mr. Hickman** On page 5 it states, "At this writing over 100 patients have been moved into the new Sanatorium." It would appear from the report that that would be new patients not hospitalised before. That is not an additional 100 patients?

**Mr. Ashbourne** I do not think it is. I am not quite sure of the number out there. They are suffering from lack of staff. They have the beds but they have not the nurses to care for them.

**Mr. Hickman** It reads as if 100 new patients had moved in.

**Mr. Smallwood** They moved some from the old Sanatorium....

<sup>1</sup>Mr. Smallwood held up the original paper.

<sup>2</sup>Volume II:263.