

Convention and the government in obtaining any information which may be requested from the government by members of the Convention. But to say that it is the duty of the Information Committee to decide whether or not a question shall go to a particular department, I think that you are grossly misinformed on that point. It is not for us at all. If the question is addressed to the Governor in Commission, it goes to the Secretary of the Commission of Government, and it is his duty, not ours, to have it brought before the department or departments which might be primarily concerned with furnishing the information in question.

Mr. Miller I might say, Mr. Chairman, that originally these questions were put in this manner: "That I do ask the department of government concerned...", and not even any department was named when the question was put, and that, as I understood it, was one of the duties of the Information Committee. Now with regards to the formation of that Committee...

Mr. Chairman It may be your understanding, Mr. Miller, but it is not mine, and that is not how it is going to happen while I am here. We are not

going to decide whose province it is to answer these questions. Let it go forward to the Governor in Commission, and let them decide whose province it is to answer it.

Mr. Miller Well, it is all a matter of record, and I do ask, so that I may not in any way conflict, that the secretariat of the Convention be asked to lay that particular motion, or that particular minute that dealt with that somewhat over a year ago, before the members now, so that we can be in a refreshed position on it. I don't want to do anything contrary to your rules, but if that's a motion of this Convention then it is a standing rule of the Convention, and no one can go beyond the authority of that Information Committee.

Mr. Chairman Are you questioning the integrity of the Chair, or the integrity of the Information Committee?

Mr. Miller I am referring entirely to the Information Committee, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman If you want this thing re-opened you will have to have notice of question.

Mr. Miller I will do that.

Mr. Chairman I will require at least 24 hours notice to deal with it.

Report of the Ottawa Delegation Proposed Arrangements for the Entry of Newfoundland into Confederation Committee of the Whole

Mr. Smallwood Mr. Chairman, when we rose on Tuesday night we had been discussing Annex IV of the Grey Book, which set forth the Canadian government's estimate of what we would collect from the people in taxes in Newfoundland if we became a province, and also what they estimate they would spend in Newfoundland if we became a province. In the course of the debate, Major Cashin particularly, and Mr. Job also, expressed the feeling that the estimates provided by the Canadian government on those two matters were not sufficiently accurate and comprehensive, or in sufficient detail in some respects. So the feeling seemed to develop amongst some delegates that the matter should be looked into, and for that reason no public or private session of the Convention was held yesterday. Instead a meeting of the Steering Committee was held, and I think I may say that the result of yesterday's Steering Committee meetings was shown this afternoon, when Major Cashin gave notice of these questions bearing on

the Canadian government's estimates of what it would collect in the way of revenue from Newfoundland, and in the next place by Mr. Hollett's notice of question directed to the Canadian government, asking them for more details of that amount of \$9.4 million which the Canadian government estimates it would spend here. There was a feeling in the Steering Committee meeting that it might take some time for the governments to furnish the information which Major Cashin and Mr. Hollett request ... and that therefore it would be impossible, or at least not very practical, to proceed with the debate on the financial aspects of these terms, or of this Grey Book, until that information is forthcoming, and that we would in the meantime postpone our debate on these financial aspects.

There was a further thought that although it was not practical to go ahead with the debate from a federal standpoint, it might be practical to go ahead with the debate from the purely provincial standpoint, that is what would likely be the