

we retain as a people the right to request responsible government, we have gone further, our right to request anything has been specifically recognised. In other words today this Convention can recommend through the British government to the Newfoundland people anything it likes.... Now where is there anything undemocratic? I am rather intimately familiar with government in Newfoundland from the year 1919 to the last day we had it, by reading and by studying, familiar with every government and every type of government since the first in its history.... I resent this as a Newfoundlander, I resent the suggestion that this Convention is rigged, that it is a bluff and a camouflage, which involves all of us in the possibility of being a pack of fools. It is an insult to the intelligence of every Newfoundland man and woman who cast a vote on June 21, an insult to every man who stood as a candidate....

Mr. Hillier Mr. Chairman, I have not spoken since the opening of the Convention, but I would not be satisfied were I to leave this room this evening without endorsing the remarks of my friends from White Bay and St. George's. They voice completely my sentiments and the sentiments of the district from which I come, and I feel they are voicing the feelings of the Newfoundland people. The great thing that worries many of our people is not so much the form of government we set up, it is the fact of being able to maintain their families and give them decent meals and clothing. We are very largely fishermen. I know all about the life and business and profits of fishermen. I have lived in many places in this country and have seen the hardships they undergo. I lived through the dole period, and I hope we shall never again return to that state. I don't think there is anybody who knows better than I do the fight they have from day to day to maintain their families.... They said to me before going out, "Play your part to the best of your ability and in the best interests of the whole of Newfoundland." I am not partial, my interest extends very far beyond my own district, to Newfoundland as a whole. As my friends remarked, the economic standard of the individual is very important; how can the country be economically sound if the individual is the other way about?

Mr. Burry Mr. Chairman, I stand this afternoon very shaky, being one of the junior members of this Convention, but I wish to express myself in

a few words. I come from the most northerly district of this Convention, one that has gone through years of great strain and stress. Labradorians as a people are hard-working in the great majority of cases, and they deserve a good living, a living they have not had. They have sent me in to see that they get a government that gives them a decent living. They are not concerned with constitutional government, but with a government that will give them a decent living for the labour they put into their work. I want to put myself on record that I am very heartily in favour of the last three or four men who spoke so forcibly. I must congratulate them on their very fine orations, and hope that out of this Convention will come some kind of government that will give our people in Newfoundland and Labrador a decent living.

Mr. Brown Mr. Chairman, I have listened to so much oratory here this afternoon that I don't know if it is wise to speak at this time or not.... I have no prepared speech, Mr. Chairman, but I have listened quite attentively to all that has been said. I have for many years in this house listened to oratory, as you have yourself, sir, both as member and Speaker. Some of that oratory was wise words, some was darn foolishness. I have heard more about government and Commission of Government in the city of St. John's than I have heard in the north of the country for two years. I wish it distinctly understood that as one who voted out responsible government (and I am the only one in this house, and I am not ashamed of it) I have yet to find the man who could tell me what better thing could have been done at that time when the country was on its uppers. What happened in 1930? One afternoon I had in my possession \$35,000 to the credit of my district. The next morning there was not a cent. No member of any district handled his own money in cash. What he did was make out a requisition and send it to the government departments and had them send out enough money to build a wharf, or a road or something. There was a reason for that. In 1932 when we came back as a legislative body we found the country could not get along. Our income could not meet our expenditures, and it boiled down to the question of giving up responsible government and letting Commission of Government come in, or letting 70,000 people, men, women and children in this country starve