

tax, liquor tax, customs tax and tobacco tax. They will collect \$20 million a year from us and they would spend on an average about \$36 million a year in Newfoundland, about \$16 million more than they would take from us. In addition to the \$20 million a year that the Government of Canada would take, the provincial government of Newfoundland would take another \$5-6 million from us in taxes. The two governments between them would take perhaps as much as \$26-27 million a year from us, which is \$12-13 million less than our own government is taking this present year.

These terms, Mr. Chairman, would make a new country of Newfoundland. They would make a new country for the people of Newfoundland — a new country where the poor man would have a chance. A country where the poor man would have a chance to live and breathe, a chance to bring up his family decently. These terms would give our people a chance, and that is something they have never had yet. And when I say our people, I mean the toiling masses of our people, our fishermen and loggers, our miners and millworkers, our railroaders and teachers, our clerks and labourers, all our people who toil by hand or brain to make a living in this country. I do not mean our great masters of trade and industry. I do not mean our millionaires, our half-millionaires, our quarter-millionaires — I do not mean the people with two or three motor cars. I do not mean the people with \$1,300 rugs on their floors. I do not mean the people who can take their holidays in Canada and send their children to Canada to school. I do not mean the people who have done very well out of Newfoundland, I mean the great masses of our hardworking

people, those tens of thousands of our workers and fishermen who never got a break, the vast bulk of our population who have been kept down all through the ages, the people of Newfoundland. These terms would be a new charter of happiness for our children. Never as children would they know hunger or nakedness, never would they know the pinch of extreme poverty under confederation. Newfoundland would be a happier and a healthier land for our junior citizens. For our senior citizens, those men and women of 70 and more who have passed their toil, those worn-out toilers, whose earning days are over, for them these terms would bring a little sunshine in the evening of their years, a little holiday from the grinding poverty they have known most of their days — a last gentle stand of comparative ease and comfort. For the people of Newfoundland these confederation terms would mean a happier land, a land of hope and progress. The people would come at last into their own. For the country in general, these terms would mean hitching Newfoundland's wagon to the rising, shining star that we call the great British nation of Canada. It would mean linking our own dear Newfoundland to the third largest land in the world — a land where the common people get a break, where they get a decent chance to live and rear their families. For Newfoundland these terms mean security and political freedom. I support them with all my heart. I commend them to my fellow Newfoundlanders for their serious and solemn consideration. God guard thee Newfoundland.

[The committee rose, reported progress, and the Convention adjourned]