

Falls and taken to Buchans, I said the AND Co. had made them up and put them on. I meant of course the Newfoundland Railway. I would like to get that straight now.

[There followed a brief discussion of the section on the La Manche mine. The Secretary then read the section on Bell Island, and Mr. Higgins answered questions on points of detail]

Mr. Jackman I am beginning to get at home now, and I welcome this opportunity to explain the economic relationship which exists on Bell Island today. You will note on page 4 that there was a closedown of the mine in 1943 due to labour trouble. The workers at Bell Island ... decided that things were not as we would like them to be. We could not live.... We decided we wanted more money for our work. Well, the thought was to throw us out of work, but we came back and got things adjusted between us, but not as we wanted them. All around that time, 1943-44-45, the relationship between labour and management on Bell Island was a dog-eat-dog relationship, but early in the year we negotiated a new contract. I believe that if the same relationship between capital and labour which exists on Bell Island today could be brought into effect throughout Newfoundland, we would not have any worry about how we are going to live. We would be self-supporting. Here is the exact position. In order for our people to live we must have an outside market for our output. The only permanent market we had before was the Sydney market, and that would only give us about two days a week. I must give the Commission of Government credit for helping in this matter, especially Commissioner Neill. We were very anxious to obtain an English market to absorb our extra output. In order to do so we had to get around the table, not with chips on our shoulders, but get down to work it out between ourselves and find out how we could get at it. Anyway, the management told us that they could break in on an English market for 750,000 tons of ore, but the question was the matter of price. We decided that this market would be a benefit the whole community and the whole country, so we decided we would get out and get this market. The management were very fair and very frank and put their cards on the table.

Now I know there are certain men over on Bell Island listening to me now, and it is quite possible

that they would knock my head off if they could get it. They are reactionaries and don't want to do anything for the common good. Anyway, the company put their cards on the table and so did we. We wanted to live and so did they. This market meant 750,000 tons of ore, so we forgot our differences in 1943 and got down and shook hands and decided that we were going out to get this market. Now the reason I bring this up is because I feel regardless of what our people decide on later with regard to forms of government, that it is not the forms of government that count but the effect they have....

Now as I said a moment ago, there are a few who would knock my head off because I am standing with the company. I am not standing with the company or anyone, but we got together and in order to get that market it took co-operation on both sides. Labour and management are working hand in hand, and if you will notice here anything over 5,000 tons of ore we all share in the profit. We have a general bonus for everyone, but when we get above 5,000 tons everyone gets his share. For example, our basic rate of pay is 58 cents an hour, but after we got this working, the very first week every man on this job got 3 cents an hour extra because of production....

Mr. Higgins Mr. Jackman is assistant chairman of the subcommittee on Bell Island, as well as chairman of the Mineworkers on Bell Island. That's why he is talking at such length.

Mr. Northcott I would like to know if in order to get 65 cents per hour the men overwork themselves?

Mr. Jackman ...What happened over our way, we were trying to get the worth of our labour. We had to fight to get it, but the equipment is there and this schedule can be easily taken care of by the equipment. We have a certain type of labour which I would call "enforced labour", but the company did promise us that as soon as it is possible to get equipment to take the place of hand labour they would institute it....

Mr. Smallwood This table shows that in 1934 we exported to Great Britain an amount of 22,000 tons, and the next year 24,000 tons. I am curious to know why that much ore was exported over there.... Why would there be any ore going to Britain if there was not a quantity of a quarter of a million tons or around there? Can you explain that?