

own folkmusic. I remember on one occasion in London going to talk to Miss Maud Karpeles, perhaps one of the world's greatest authorities on world folksongs, and her telling me that in Newfoundland there had been discovered some of the oldest and most interesting folksongs anywhere on this side of the Atlantic. We have got a distinctive culture all our own, and yet we have nothing ... with the exception of the O'Leary poetry award which is given annually, we have nothing, nor have we had anything to foster and encourage the development and growth and recognition of a distinctly Newfoundland culture. And one of the most attractive possibilities of the Memorial University, if it became a university, would be that of having the university become a dynamo, a power-house, in the inculcation and dissemination and encouragement of a distinctly Newfoundland culture, because mark this, whatever form of government we may have in the future ... remember this, that we Newfoundlanders must never for a moment forget or neglect or turn our backs on our own distinctive Newfoundland outlook on life, our distinctive Newfoundland culture. I go a step further; in the case of our deciding some day this fall, perhaps, in the national referendum, to link this country with another country, in such a case it will be more important than ever to see to it that our Newfoundland culture is preserved and encouraged and fostered and developed, and in no way can that be done better than through the creation of a Newfoundland university. I wanted to make that point. It is not a new point, I have been making it for many, many years, and I want to associate myself very heartily indeed with the motion....

Mr. Jones Mr. Chairman, I have been connected with education all my life, having taught in some of the principal high schools of this country, and I rise to support the resolution.

I consider that Memorial College should be a degree-conferring institution. There have been many boys and girls thwarted in their education by the lack of such an institution in this country. During the last ten or 15 years I know of many young men and women who, having completed their second year at the Memorial College, were handicapped by the lack of funds from continuing their studies abroad. Had we such an institution in this country, some of these boys and girls would have been able to continue their studies

and obtained their BA degree. The same of course applies to any other course of studies taken at the Memorial College. As time goes on, the need of such an institution will be more urgent because many of our young people are beginning to realise the necessity of such an education. Why should we not do our utmost to make it possible for these young people to reach their goal? I hope the Commission of Government will give the matter their serious consideration; if so, it will be one of the best things they have done for our young people during their reign....

Mr. Harrington As a Newfoundlander first, deeply concerned with the customs, traditions, progress and destiny of my native land, and secondly as a graduate of the Memorial College, I am more than glad to be in a position of national significance today, whereby I am able to support the motion of Mr. Higgins that the Memorial College be granted the necessary charter by the government enabling it to confer degrees.

I do not propose to speak at any great length on this matter, which is beyond controversy. The mover has summed up most of the arguments in favour, and at the same time disposed of some of the most outstanding antagonisms with regard to the elevation of the Memorial College to full university status. Other speakers have enlarged on the theme and it has been covered rather thoroughly. Yet I cannot let this opportunity pass without adding a few comments of my own on a subject that is very close to my heart....

What is a university? Too many people have the wrong idea. They think it means snobbishness — they think it is a place where a young man or young woman attends for so many years to emerge with several letters after his or her name, which do not mean very much. How mistaken an idea! In this country, the tendency to think of a university as a breeding-ground of snobbishness arises from the fact that only those who can afford it attend a university. But that is not a true appreciation of the real case. The reason that so many of our young people do not, cannot attend a university, is simply that there is no university in the country. The cost of attending a university is relatively small — that is the actual tuition fees, and so on. In the case of Newfoundlanders, it is the expense of travelling, board and lodging and the rest, that makes attending a foreign university prohibitive to most. The establishment of a New-