

In the USA conditions were very bad. In Canada soup kitchens and bread lines (I know personally) were a very common sight, so that we fared about the same as other countries — and our depression was brought about by economics rather than politics.

The member from Bonavista Centre said a few days ago that if Grand Falls did not start when it did; if the first world war did not happen, and if Buchans and Corner Brook did not start, we would be in a more or less chronic depression. This, by use of the word "if", attempts to demolish all the prosperity that we may have enjoyed in the last 40 years.... No complete solution has been yet found to the problem of ups and downs in business, and a man can be just as hungry in other countries as in Newfoundland. A few people think that our economic security can be found by us ceasing to be Newfoundlanders, but I am told that only once in all time was there a place designed to satisfy man's need. That was the Garden of Eden — and we all know what happened to the Garden of Eden.

In reviewing our economic situation, there are a few fundamentals that I think we should never forget. First, I believe there is no Santa Claus; second, I believe that since the Garden of Eden, man has had to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow; third, I believe you get nothing for nothing, not even baby bonuses....

**Mr. Smallwood** Sir, I rise to a point of order. This sounds to me perilously like an attack on confederation, which has not come up for debate yet. If we are going to debate it I am prepared, but let's debate it, baby bonuses and all the rest.

**Mr. Chairman** I can't see the possible connection between baby bonuses and the debate here.

**Mr. Hollett** I rise to a point of order. I object very strongly to interrupting a speaker when he is speaking. I do think baby bonuses have a lot to do with the economics of the householder, and therefore of the country. If anyone wants to refer to baby bonuses during his discussion I see no reason why any member should be refused. It certainly is an economic question.

**Mr. Chairman** He has no right to read into that report anything that is not there. He is discussing this report before the Chair, and I ask him to confine his remarks to that, and none of us can go wrong.

**Mr. Reddy** Fourth, I believe we have to work

out our own salvation.

Some gentlemen say that the solution to our problems is in politics. I think our problems are economic, not political; and our economic future depends on our producing more, and finding markets for what we produce. Last year Canada sold us \$37 million worth of goods, but bought very little from us. If a businessman were faced with a similar situation he would arrange to change this. He would seek another source for his purchases, and would patronise the man or firm who bought from him. And if some of the gentlemen in this House were as truly sincere to try and improve the economic state of Newfoundland as they say they are, they might during the past six or seven months have directed some of their speeches to this angle of our problems rather than offering their own pet political theories as a solution. That is fundamentally a matter of buying and selling.

The USA is the greatest outlet actually and potentially for our products. Last year I believe she bought \$19 million worth of our goods. She is the market for our cod fillets, lobster, salmon, herring, seal skins, cod oil, newsprint, berries, and anything we mind to produce. Is it foolish for me to think or say that our economic welfare lies in the direction of reducing our buying from Canada, who buys practically nothing from us, and spending these dollars in the USA, who will take more from us as we buy more from them? As I said before, it is our economic relations that have to be improved, and with the USA, and by that I don't mean political relations. We are all right as we are, and to me at least, what we want is a closer economic union with the USA, and not a political union with any other country.... What we want is a trade agreement with the USA, which a real patriot, Sir Robert Bond, almost negotiated years ago — only to be blocked and defeated because Canadian business interest suffered. Another truly great Newfoundlander who is in this house today, Hon. R. B. Job, has raised his voice along similar lines only to be drowned out by those who have the answers to all our problems in their own pet political theories.

As I see it, we work or starve. Manna ceased to fall from Heaven thousands of years ago. One gentleman said we have a chronic need of being subsidised, but I don't want or need to be subsidised, and I think the people resent the insinua-