

the truth, sir, I was expecting Major Cashin to come out and agree with me. He knows it was the stone sober truth. He knows that our people have been plundered and looted. I was glad to see that Mr. Cranford agreed with me. He hates those monopolists. But Major Cashin actually defended those looters, he had kind words for them. He stated strongly that it was communistic to talk the way I did. It was not communistic to expose the profits made out of a handful of people. If anything is communistic or fascistic, it is the conduct of those who looted our people during the war.

Major Cashin said I used hard words. Perhaps I did. But what really matters is this: did I use true words? Were those profits made, or were they not? Was the Tax Assessor lying to us when he told us officially of that \$15.5 million cleaned up in clear profits in just one short year? Are our people being plundered and looted, or are they not? That is the thing that matters. If they are, then no language is too hard to use to expose the fact. Sir, when you run up against a brutal fact like that it is no time for soft words, for pussy-footing, but for plain speaking. It was not I, Mr. Chairman, who said this, "There are too many middlemen and commission agents in Newfoundland who are really only parasites on the community." I did not say that, sir. It was our late Governor, Sir Humphrey Walwyn, in his farewell address to Newfoundland. It was not I who said, "If I had my way I'd burn every local factory to the ground." I did not say that, sir. It was Mr. Cashin who said it, in this chamber. If my words were hard, sir, what would you call the words of Governor Walwyn and Mr. Cashin?

Major Cashin told us about the large profits — hundreds of millions, I think he said — made by 29 corporations in Canada. Yes, I do not doubt that. But can he not see any difference in corporations making large profits out of 12 million people, and making them out of our tiny handful of people in this country? As I said before, there may be room in Newfoundland for one millionaire — there may be — but there certainly is not enough room for 21 millionaires. John D. Rockefeller made billions of profits, and so did Henry Ford and Andrew Carnegie, but those millionaires made their millions out of all the people of the world, not from a tiny handful of struggling people here in this little island. Men have become

millionaires in Great Britain, France, and Canada and other lands, but it is a horse of a different colour when our tiny population is squeezed and looted to make millionaires.

Major Cashin says if we go into confederation, within three years our surplus will all be gone. No, it will not. It will not be gone within twice three years. But let me ask this question: if we do not go into confederation, how long will the surplus last? And especially, how long will it last if we should get the kind of government that the majority in this Convention want to get?

I was greatly amused by Major Cashin's repetition of his former exaggerated, extravagant and totally erroneous statement that under confederation we would pay \$80 million in taxes. He does not say how we would pay that amount. He won't condescend to tell us. He just makes this outrageous statement and apparently expects the faithful followers of his form of government to take it down, hook, line and sinker. The Canadian government itself says they will collect \$20 million from us, and tells us in detail how they will do it. Major Cashin doesn't double it and make it \$40 million. He does not treble it and make it \$60 million. No, he quadruples it and makes it \$80 million — exactly four times as much as the financial experts of the Canadian government estimate. It would not be so bad if only he gave us one single word of proof, just one little word. Is he quite sure it would not be \$79 million or \$81 million? It wouldn't be \$81.5 or \$80.75 million now, would it? Or perhaps Major Cashin is \$4 million out, as he was in one of his budgets that he brought in here when he was Finance Minister. Now I remind you that the first time he spoke on the question, he quarrelled seriously and violently with the Canadian government's estimate of \$20 million a year. He said it was 20% out, that estimate, and drove it up to \$24 million. That was the first time he spoke about it. The next time he spoke about it, he raised the ante, he put it at \$32 million. Then he spoke for the third time, and that time he raised it again, to \$75 million. Now, in his latest speech, he has it up to \$80 million. What is he doing, playing auction with himself? He has given us four different estimates — \$24 million, \$32 million, \$75 million and \$80 million. I daresay before the referendum rolls around he will have it up to \$100 million. What's he trying to do, make the handful of souls in Newfoundland