

find that when it is off of butter it will be off of margarine.

**Mr. Smallwood** Clause 22 — *Economic Survey*.

Should the government of the province institute an economic survey of Newfoundland with a view to determining what resources may profitably be developed and what new industries may be established or existing industries expanded, the Government of Canada will make available the services of technical personnel and agencies to assist in the work.

As soon as may be practicable after union the Government of Canada will make a special effort to collect and make available statistical and scientific data about the natural resources and economy of Newfoundland, in order to bring such information up to the standard attained for existing provinces.

I am personally extremely proud of that clause, and in my belief it is incomparably far and away the most important clause in these terms offered by the Government of Canada, and I am not overlooking the importance of the other clauses, family allowances, old age pensions, and the others. I realise how valuable they are, but to those who say that all my thoughts are of the social welfare and social security benefits that might come to us through confederation, and that these are the things I consider to be most important, in reply I say now that we have come to what is far and away the most important clause in this document; and I personally am very proud of it because I was the father of that clause, and the other members of the delegation will agree with me on that. The first time I raised the matter in the plenary session, it was at night, there had been a meeting of the cabinet that afternoon that lasted for five and a half hours. It was the longest cabinet meeting since the war ended.

**Mr. Penney** I rise to a point of order, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman** State your point.

**Mr. Penney** I contend that Mr. Smallwood spent the time in Ottawa talking about these clauses, and there is no reason why he should take up the time of this Convention talking them over one by one. It is up to the other delegates here to talk about them. It is not up to Mr. Smallwood to spend half an hour to an hour on every single clause in this darn book.

**Mr. Chairman** Well, Mr. Penney, whether or not Mr. Smallwood spends too much or too little time in the interpretation of any of the clauses, the point is that the procedure was adopted by the Convention as a whole, and therefore he is simply complying with the procedure prescribed by the Convention itself when he reads these clauses.

**Mr. Penney** There's another side to that, Mr. Chairman, if you will permit me to say so.

**Mr. Smallwood** To a point of order.

**Mr. Penney** I am on a point of order.

**Mr. Chairman** If you don't mind, Mr. Smallwood. There's another aspect to this matter to which I think you want to address yourself?

**Mr. Penney** That's right, Mr. Chairman. In every other report brought in to this Convention on Newfoundland affairs, the general procedure was for the chairman of each committee to bring in the report and make a general explanation of it and leave it to the delegates to discuss it, and as a consequence...

**Mr. Smallwood** To a point of order, Mr. Chairman. This gentleman is completely out of order.

**Mr. Chairman** That is not quite correct, Mr. Penney.... It was pointed out ... that some mode of procedure had to be adopted. The mode adopted was that the person who should pilot this measure, if you will, through the committee of the whole, should be such a person as appointed by me. In that connection, Mr. Smallwood produced and read from a letter from Mr. Bradley stating his inability to be present, and asking Mr. Smallwood to deputise for Mr. Bradley. I intimated to members at that time that if you vested in me the power to appoint somebody to pilot the terms, then I would appoint Mr. Smallwood. As far as I know the Convention ratified my appointment, and as far as I am now concerned Mr. Penney, however unwelcome it may appear to you, I have to hold at this time that Mr. Smallwood is only following the procedure that he was directed, at the instance of the Convention, to follow, when he was appointed by me during and because of the absence of Mr. Bradley, to proceed with the matter now before us.

**Mr. Penney** Mr. Chairman, would you allow me to...

**Mr. Smallwood** Debate your ruling!

**Mr. Penney** Ask you another question, sir? If I have to sit here all through this rigmarole of stuff and be punished...