

trade, except as to the possibility of securing concessions in consideration of these bases. The matter was not discussed. That being so, there is no answer to your second question.

**Mr. Hollett** What was the first question?

**Mr. Chairman** Was the matter discussed? It was not included in the report, first, because it was not discussed, and secondly the report of the London delegation consists of the memorandum of the British government and of the delegation. I am unable to tell you why it was not included.

**Mr. Miller** I think it follows that the answer to the first question answers the others. The matter was not discussed in London by the delegation. What I mean by future relations of United States of America with Newfoundland is political and fiscal and other relations.

**Mr. Chairman** There was no discussion except on the question of the bases.

**Mr. Crosbie** I do not think that is quite correct. I think in connection with the base deals Lord Addison said there was a conference going on at Geneva, and that the question of trade could be discussed. I understood we had representatives there.

**Mr. Chairman** We have representatives to discuss general world trade relations.

**Mr. Crosbie** I think he said it was a question for us to decide.

**Mr. Cashin** In connection with that matter, you will remember the base deal came up at the first meeting; we asked if any effort was made to get tariff concessions in return for the bases. They did not say "no" or "yes". With regard to their taking the matter up further, they told us plainly that if we had our own government we would be able to take up the whole matter.

**Mr. Hickman** I do not wish to delay the debate.... From the report of the delegation and from references made by the delegates themselves, it is quite clear where we stand now. My thoughts over the last few months, and what knowledge we have gained here, have been clarified by the report from London. It is obvious there is only one solution for us. We have to get out and fight for ourselves and stand on our own. We do not want anything from anyone; we do not want charity; we are sounder financially; our credit rating is higher than it has been for some considerable time.

The delegation report refers to the question

which Mr. Miller just raised, further discussions on the bases agreement. We have been told that that is a job for our own government. I think the sooner we can get on our own feet so that we can take up the question of the base deals with the Americans the better. Those interest-free loans should be applied to the reduction of our debt and so cut down on debt services. That is important, particularly in view of the lower rate of interest we will receive next January, presumably.... We have the ability and the brains and the people.... Our future lies in ourselves, and we should get out and fight for ourselves and talk later about what we want to do.

**Mr. Newell** ....We know what the result of the trip to London is. We know it in clear and unmistakable terms. We have all said it is what we expected. Perhaps there was not much else we could have expected. Responsible government means we accept responsibility for our own affairs. Commission of Government means that the British government accepts responsibility for our affairs. We knew that. But it was not a waste of time to send a delegation to London. A good many points were cleared up — points which would have been indefinite if any other method had been used to seek the information. I have just said Commission of Government means that the British government accepts responsibility for our finances. Having said that, there is a bit of a catch. Whereas the British government accepts responsibility for any deficits, it retains the power to see to it that we do not incur any deficits. In other words, the aid we receive from the British government may mean something or it may mean nothing. And if we are to rely on the impressions brought back by the delegation to London, we are inclined to believe it will mean nothing, or very little. It is good for us to be clear on that....

Throughout our deliberations, we have allowed our own personal politics to obtrude too much into the discussion, and history will remember us perhaps just as much for what we said on these occasions, as for what we did. I regret it has been found necessary in discussing the report, to have anything to say about forms of government, and that questions of politics should be dragged in again. Were it not for the fact that there has been so much political colouring to our discussions, they might have been over before this.... Since, however, the question of forms of