

point made by Mr. Bailey. He took a comparison between the town of Fortune in Newfoundland, and the town of Shelburne in Nova Scotia. I take it that they are both fishing towns. He made a most amazing statement. He said that he thought they had the same taxable capacity — Fortune and Shelburne. I wonder if Mr. Bailey really understands what I am talking about when I am talking about taxable capacity.

Look, the highliner fishing boat on the southwest coast this year paid off her men at \$2,200 a man, and for Newfoundland it was fine pay wasn't it? Certainly, compared with what the other men got, \$2,200 was very good. Mr. Chairman, Fortune Bay fishermen, Newfoundlanders from Fortune Bay were fishing the same time aboard Nova Scotia vessels on the same grounds, and they got the same quantity of fish as the *Freda M.*, or slightly below it, and they paid off at \$3,000, and I am going to be told that the same taxable capacity lies in Fortune Bay as in Nova Scotia? What kind of nonsense is that? Taxable capacity is measured by the earning power of the people, and men who earn \$2,200 on the highliner have not got the earning power of men who earned \$3,000 for roughly the same quantity of fish the same year. Everyone on the southwest coast knows that, and they will hear it tomorrow night when it is broadcast. I make that statement now. Ask any fisherman. Captain Bailey is a fisherman, at least he used to be, and probably as he says, he will be again. I have not a word against it. He is going to be a good confederate some day, but anyway he is a good man, but he is not the only fisherman. We have men along the southwest coast, fishermen in hundreds, who for years and years and years have been fishing in Nova Scotia, and every man of them knows that in Nova Scotia they earn more money for the same work. I am not going to try to explain the reason. Perhaps that is too big for me to explain, but you can't compare the taxable capacity of Fortune with the taxable capacity of Shelburne. You can't do it.

Mr. Bailey Mr. Chairman, I said the town of Fortune had the same taxable capacity as the town of Shelburne...

Mr. Smallwood Yes, I know you did.

Mr. Bailey Now look here. We say we are in the saltfish business, and it is bad enough for the fresh fishermen up there. If we say Lake and Lake in

Fortune are producing 10,000 quintals of fish this year, and say Frost in Shelburne produces 10,000 quintals of fish, and the 10,000 from Fortune and the 10,000 from Shelburne go into the Puerto Rico market. Has Fortune got the same capacity to pay as Shelburne got? Was there as much money came back into Fortune as there was in Shelburne from the market? It is preposterous! If there was not a cent paid to the fishermen, wasn't that money brought into Fortune?

Mr. Chairman I think you are getting far from the track.

Mr. Bailey I am not getting far from the track.

Mr. Chairman You are getting far from the track because of the fact that there are no comparative figures as to the earning capacity of Fortune and Shelburne before us, and as far as I am concerned you simply select those two for the purpose of making a comparison. I don't want a prolonged debate upon a question upon which there has been no foundation laid before the Chair. We are discussing now the towns of Fortune and Shelburne, and none of us is in a position to know whether any statement made by anybody on the question is correct or otherwise.

Mr. Bailey I have got to disagree with you there, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman I am not going to have my ruling debated. Is that clear? If you choose to lay the foundation for your statement, then I will decide whether or not the debate as presently carried on by you and Mr. Smallwood is relevant or not, but as far as I am concerned you are both hopelessly afield.

Mr. Fogwill Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a question, sir, under provincial revenue, Department of Posts and Telegraphs. There is the sum of \$87,000 listed as revenue, and I think it is wireless, cablegrams, etc. What I would like to know, if Mr. Smallwood would tell me, is the rate of tax and the number of cablegrams and wireless messages; and also if that tax, whatever it is, is imposed on internal telegraph messages. I ask that now because he may not have the figures with him, and he may have it tomorrow.

Mr. Smallwood I have not the figures here, but I will try and get it.

Mr. Fogwill Thank you.

Mr. Chairman I think if members are going to draw conclusions or comparisons it is not too much to ask that the foundation first of all be laid,