

go about doing the job as it should be done. That should be the feeling of each member. It is not because we have our own feeling for various forms of government, not because the honourable member for Bonavista Centre, has his own ideas about the form of government best suited to our needs; he and the other two gentlemen must realise that the only thing that concerns us is to get the facts. The interpretation to be put on these facts is for the country as a whole. Why not stop trying to colour the business with our own personal wishes? Why not get the facts, whether we like them or not? Why not get the terms from Canada if we can? Why not send a delegation to England and find out what they are prepared to do? We should not care what the Government of Canada will offer us, or what the Government of the United Kingdom will offer us. As a commission of enquiry we are hired to get these facts, or we fail in our duty. For that reason I feel that motion should be put through this afternoon.

**Mr. Miller** I rise to a point of information. It is definitely stated here, "it was doubtful whether the subject matter of the clause was within the terms of reference of the Convention or not". I am not trying to put any hard questions, I just want plain information on it. If the Committee can't back up that word "doubtful" then I think it should be removed. I think it's time we moved in definite fashion, understood each other and what we have got to do. I feel quite sure that if we can't establish certain facts as we go along, we are not

going to do the best for our country's interest. Once again I must say that the answer to clause 1, which is based on doubt, is not an answer at all.

**Mr. Chairman** For your information, that is the answer given by His Excellency the Governor in Commission. Whether that advice is right or not is another matter, but that is the advice they gave us.

**Mr. Job** Might I just add that the Committee as a whole adopted this resolution unanimously, and thought it was a correct statement of the interview, and it did therefore mean that they accepted that advice.

**Mr. Chairman** Exactly.

**Mr. Hillier** I support Mr. Higgins. The people of Newfoundland are looking for facts, and we have no right to deny them, and they want all the information that we can give them and they must have it; otherwise how can we expect them eventually to make a decision on matters with which they are not thoroughly familiar. I am most anxious that our people be well informed, not only with regard to the financial and economic position but with the general make up and possibilities of the various forms of government considered by this Convention based on facts.

**Mr. Chairman** Is the House ready for the question? The motion is that this report be received. All those in favour say "aye", contrary "nay". The motion is carried.

### Report of the Committee on Agriculture:<sup>1</sup> Committee of the Whole

**Mr. Butt** In presenting this Agricultural Report, I do not intend to make a speech. I hope the report speaks for itself. There are one or two observations, however, that I would like to make. The report is not a treatise on agriculture. It is rather an attempt to survey the national aspects of agriculture in Newfoundland in the round. You will note the report is divided into five parts. One is a slight introduction not intended to be a history of agriculture in Newfoundland, but the idea of the Committee as to some of the reasons why agriculture has not taken the part in Newfoundland's economy that it should have. The second part we hope is a close approximation

of the value of agriculture as a unit in our national production. The third part is an examination of government expenditures which involved an examination of the policy of the Agricultural Division of the Department of Natural Resources. The fourth part is the extraordinary or reconstruction expenditure which involves more expenditure than any part of the agricultural programme of the government. Finally we have a summary.

The Committee proceeded in this way. First we had a memorandum from the Director of Agriculture. This excellent document contained no figures of any kind, but gave us an insight into

<sup>1</sup>Volume II:167.