

in the hearing of my voice knows there was only a portion of our trade monopolised under responsible government, which can, at this enlightened age, be remedied by ourselves. But to give Canada, or any country, a monopoly of all our trade is ridiculous. What is behind it all? Are there any selfish motives? That is the question we may ask ourselves also. What do we see in the Canadian proposals that may cause us to throw in our all to them, and give them the monopoly of all our trade, and leave it to the Government of Canada to say who we shall deal with or who we shall not deal with? To me, the idea is ridiculous. I have come to the conclusion that the information that we now have is not conducive enough to cause us to leap in the dark by voting for confederation with Canada.

Mr. Chairman, maybe this is the last time that I may have the privilege of rising in this chamber to speak, but I am sure there are members here today who will be back. I would like to ask them that whenever anything arises that is not in the best interest of the country, such as monopolies, to think of me. Thank you and God bless you all. Mr. Chairman There is a motion before the

Chair that the debate be now adjourned. I have the discretion of withholding or putting that motion. I am reluctant to put it unless I am satisfied that no member wishes to address himself on the business before the Chair. But again, lest my position on this matter be in any way misunderstood, I am personally ready to sit here until seven o'clock tomorrow rather than have any suggestion subsequently arise that I was hindering directly or indirectly any member from addressing himself to the business before the Chair. But again I have to remind members that according to the schedule laid down for me by the members of this Convention, the debate on the motion is scheduled to end tomorrow evening.

Mr. Smallwood Could you ascertain how many members would like to speak? We have had ten speak up to now, that leaves 34 still to speak between three o'clock tomorrow afternoon and 11 tomorrow night.

Mr. Chairman That is why I warn members that there is a motion before the Chair to adjourn the debate.

[The motion carried, and the Convention adjourned]

January 27 — January 28, 1948

Mr. Bradley Mr. Chairman, I don't know whether the order of the day is open for debate now, is it?

Mr. Chairman There is just one matter I want to dispose of first. Members will recall that on Thursday the 22nd inst. there was a resolution passed by the House, requiring me to record the vote of any member on forms of government who was absent through illness or through other uncontrollable or unforeseen circumstances. In the case of the Hon. Mr. Brown, who the House knows has been convalescing for some time on his doctor's orders, it was not possible for him to be in the House at the time the vote on Mr. Higgins' motion on responsible government and Commission government was taken, and I have received a note from Mr. Brown that he was in favour of the motion, but he had no preference.

In conformity with the spirit of the motion I have requested the Secretary to record Mr. Brown as supporting Mr. Higgins' motion, and also stating that he had no preference between the two forms of government included in that motion. In the case of the member for Bell Island, Mr. Jackman, he was also absent because of illness; he consulted me about the matter today, and I told him I would feel duty bound to report his attitude on Mr. Higgins motion, and he is to instruct me in writing. That Mr. Jackman proposes to do, and upon receipt of his instructions in writing, like in the case of Mr. Brown and Mr. Job, I propose to record Mr. Jackman's views on the motion itself, together with any preference that he may express between the two forms of government covered by the motion. Will you take notice of that, Mr. Secretary?

Motion to Place Confederation on the Referendum Ballot

Mr. Bradley Mr. Chairman, this resolution proposes to submit confederation to the people's decision upon the basis submitted by the Prime

Minister of Canada in October last. There is not time for me to go into the provisions of Canada's proposals in the short time allotted to me, and