

Mr. Ashbourne They won't receive too much as far as I am concerned, for mining.

Mr. Jackman I certainly agree with Mr. Ashbourne. I can see his point — what is the working man getting out of it? That is what we had to consider on Bell Island, ... and here are the facts in regards to our position: we have an output, as far as Sydney is concerned, of 750,000 tons of ore, which gives us about two days work a week. It has been brought out in the board of arbitration and there is no question about it, that the Sydney steel plant is losing money and has been subsidised by the federal government of Canada, and it still is. I notice by today's paper that the government is not subsidising the coal mines any longer, but they are subsidising the steel plant. We recognise that we are up against a hard proposition, but we have an opportunity to get into the British market, and we know just exactly what we are up against.

I am a labour man, but I am standing on my feet to defend capital in Bell Island for doing a darn good job. The taxation may seem easy but we, the workers, get the benefit. The less money they pay the government the more we get.

Mr. Hickman I would like to move that this section do pass as read, but I would like to ask the chairman if he could get the values Mr. Ashbourne asked for. I would like, as Mr. Ashbourne has said, to have the actual f.o.b. values of the ore exported, not the nominal one set by the government. After all, you can hardly arrive at the value of the exports and imports if you have not got the true values.

Mr. Higgins I will try to get it by Monday.

Mr. Smallwood There are one or two points I would like to have cleared up. When you are finding out whether there is some arrangement between the government and the company under which only some nominal value is placed on the exports of the ore, if you find out that that is the case, will you also find out what is the real value? It is unbelievable that the government of the country should connive with a corporation to put a falsified value on the exports of that company.

Mr. Higgins I don't believe that is so.

Mr. Smallwood It is unbelievable, but I would like to know the actual value of the exports from Bell Island. Major Cashin here yesterday told us that the company which owns the Bell Island mines has not been paying dividends for a num-

ber of years, and that they are in a bad way. I am not in a position to deny that. I am inclined to think it is true. I see by the *Financial Post* in recent issues that American capital is talking of buying out the company. The point I want to make is this: we must be very much on our guard, in spite of Mr. Jackman's eloquent and sincere defence of the miners and the management, as a country and a Convention, when we are thinking about Bell Island and the company that owns it. The record of the relations between that company, or those companies (they have been from time to time under various names) and the Government of Newfoundland, the history of those relationships is not such as to make us feel any too ready to accept any statement made in the matter. For 30 years now it has been a long drawnout filthy story.

Mr. Jackman I would like Mr. Smallwood to say what he thinks is a filthy story about Bell Island.

Mr. Chairman Mr. Smallwood is in order, Mr. Jackman. Sit down, please.

Mr. Smallwood I don't want Mr. Jackman for one moment to suppose that I have in my mind or heart one evil thought about the miners of Bell Island — not one. But the history of the relationships for 20 or 30 years between the Bell Island company or companies and the Government of Newfoundland has been a filthy story that would disgrace any country. Some of it came out in public and we know it. We know of election campaigns financed out of money from these companies. It is a filthy story and I don't want to see it repeated. I think we have a perfect right, as Newfoundlanders, and as a National Convention, to be very suspicious about any fair and plausible story about that company losing money. I am prepared to believe it, but I am also remembering that this is a company with two countries, one being Canada and the other Newfoundland. It has three activities — mining ore, and smelting ore....

Mr. Jackman Are you finished?

Mr. Smallwood I am far from finished. I have heard of this kind of thing happening.... I would like to have an auditor look and explain to me, how far, if at all, one part of a company operation is milked and sucked dry for the benefit of another part of the same company's operation. Let's say that company is losing money. But they may be making money in Bell Island, and sinking