

ing, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman That motion can only be put with the consent of the Chairman and of the Convention.

Mr. Cashin Well, Mr. Chairman, with your consent.

Mr. Chairman Subject to a further rule that all questions on the order paper have to be concluded. The question now before the Chair has not yet been finalised. Therefore under the rules I am forced to withhold my consent.

Mr. Cashin Thank you. I will bring this in tomorrow afternoon.

Mr. Chairman If you will confine yourself to the motion before the Chair.

Mr. Cashin Returning to the original motion, of whether or not we send a delegation to Ottawa to get the terms of confederation, I am going to support Mr. Penney's amendment. We started off getting various particulars regarding the administration of government during the past several years. We arrived at a point where we were making fair progress, and the main reports have got to come in here yet.... In view of this I consider that the present resolution now before the house, regarding sending a delegation to Ottawa, comes at a most inopportune moment.... Let us get our facts ready. Supposing the Prime Minister of Canada telegraphed tonight that he would receive a delegation of the Convention (and I doubt it very much), what are you going to take up there with you? You have no facts and figures to take. Surely if this thing is going to be one of the forms of government that are going to be put to the people, then the least they might do is wait until these reports are completed. That's not unreasonable to ask, its only logical.... I don't intend to hold up this but I want to register my support in favour of the amendment by Mr. Penney that this resolution be deferred until such time as all reports are submitted to the House and the Convention, and let us discuss it then.

Mr. Chairman Is the Convention ready for the question? I will put the question first and then the amendment.

Mr. Ashbourne I would like to say a very few words on the motion. There is absolutely nothing wrong in ascertaining from Canada the terms she might be prepared to give any delegation. I have not been promised any position on that delega-

tion, or even a senatorship. However, I realise the matter of confederation can hardly be discussed intelligently unless we have these terms. I furthermore understand that it is the policy of the present Government of Canada to give these terms on request, but not unless they are requested.... I am going to vote on the motion; I am going to vote that the facts be given to this House — the terms; because it is up to us to get the terms. I have spent some time in Canada. I happen to be a graduate of the University of Toronto, one of the biggest in the British Empire. While I have an open mind about the matter of confederation, yet I consider that I would like to know something of the terms which Canada is prepared to give to Newfoundland. I realise there have been great peoples who have come together in union, and our very flag is emblematic of that union. The question as to whether or not Newfoundland might perhaps join up with the United Kingdom has also been mentioned in my hearing. I, to a certain extent, agree with the arguments which have been advanced by those who have spoken in favour of the amendment and I can appreciate their point of view. However, in the desire to get on with the business and to get through with it as quickly as possible. I feel that delays are dangerous. However, I feel that when the facts of our economic position are known they may reveal the ability to paddle our own canoe. However, I am conscious of the fact that there is a desire on the part of a lot of people to study the matter of confederation. Unless there are further arguments advanced by other members, I intend at the present time to support it and I further believe we cannot decide about the matter of confederation until we have these terms. I hope no one thinks I am a confederate, but I am prepared to study the terms, if they are given to us. However, unless we are blessed with the right kind of statesmen who are dedicated to their task of conducting the government of our country in the interests of Newfoundland, I fear very much that the time may come when we may have to go to some other country, to Canada or perhaps to the old country and, maybe, with our finger in our mouth.

Mr. Watton I move the adjournment of the debate until tomorrow.

[The Convention adjourned]