

Mr. BaileyOne thing I have been wondering, and that is what has been done with patients from different parts of the island and different hospitals where they have no care going back to their homes. I firmly believe that a lot of spreading of the white killer has been done in that way, whether through total ignorance or carelessness, I do not know. The *Northern Ranger*¹ should have been a modern ship — she was a ship which carried passengers and hospital patients from north to south and from south to north. Fishermen also travel on that ship. There was a case of a man who returned from Belle Isle and shortly after two of his girls got sick. Four months before he had called in a doctor and who said there was no TB. When it was all boiled down, it was found that there was a TB patient travelling in the steerage with that man. It ended up with five of the family getting TB. There should be a special place on the boats where patients from or to hospital can be placed. If a nurse is travelling with them, there should be accommodation for that nurse. There have been cases on the *Northern Ranger* where the nurse had to sleep on the table. That is one of the greatest crimes against us....

Mr. Miller Mr. Bailey has raised the point of TB patients travelling and mixing up with other passengers. When I returned from my Christmas vacation — you will understand there is only one boat on the Placentia Bay route from Lamaline to Argentia — at that particular time the boat was packed, some sitting on chairs, some lying across tables, some walking about the deck, etc. If you got a place to lie down for half an hour, you were lucky. I had occasion to go down in the second class to see someone. The second class was also overcrowded. When I went down someone remarked, "We have a very sick woman on board." As I walked along I looked just below me in a berth, a mere frame of a person. Right down there among a crowd of passengers.... The boat was overcrowded and is nothing but a spreader of disease, and to have a patient in that condition in the second class among a crowd of passengers, I really and sincerely think it is not good enough....

Mr. Crosbie Could you tell me, in the case of families on relief, who have TB in their homes, do they get ordinary relief or do they get an

increase?

Mr. Ashbourne They do get an additional amount. You will find that later on.

[*The Secretary read the section on Recent and Prospective Expenditures*]²

Mr. Hollett That projected expenditure — is that capital or is it upkeep?

Mr. Ashbourne Additional capital expenditure. Some has been made on the new general hospital....

Mr. Crosbie That \$100,000 should be in maintenance.

Mr. Ashbourne They are all projected expenditures. Some of them are capital.

Mr. Crosbie There is an amount of \$420,000 mentioned here for cottage hospitals.

Mr. Ashbourne That is the erection of new hospitals. Mr. Crosbie mentioned the amount of \$100,000 — additional outport doctors and nurses.

Mr. Newell That would be regarded as capital — that with the others; it is an extension of present services....

Mr. Ashbourne That would be a recurring expenditure as well. When we have the new hospitals built, doctors will be required to staff them for years after they are constructed.

Mr. Smallwood All the items in that table are capital expenditures with the exception of the \$100,000 and that refers to increases in expenditures in future for doctors and nurses in the existing institutions, for services. They are down now where the hospital institutions and services are below standard. To bring them up to standard will cost \$100,000. That does not count the additional doctors and nurses in the additional institutions. That \$6,730,000 will be spent. Page 5: "The Commissioner states that they could use an additional 50 nurses at the present time." Before all these places are built. Fifty nurses are at least another \$60,000 or more of that \$100,000. The \$30,000 or \$40,000 left for doctors they need right now.

Mr. Crosbie That is maintenance, not capital. It recurs every year.

Mr. Miller On the question of the nurses' home. We find that the General Hospital report says "A splendid new Nurses' Home has been erected." There are 47 nurses registered and 84 nurses in training. Turning to the Fever Hospital, "It is

¹A coastal steamer built in 1936, owned and operated by the Newfoundland Railway.

²Volume II:266.