

see you and the members of your Drafting Committee for a few minutes?

*[Short recess]*

**Mr. Cashin** I am not rising for the purpose of making any remarks in connection with the matter now before the Chair, but to suggest that as many members who want to make addresses on the subject would want to prepare some notes, I would move the adjournment of the debate until Monday afternoon. Whilst making that motion, I want it distinctly understood that I do not want to hold the floor on Monday afternoon. Also, while I am on my feet, I would like to read the answer to one of my questions. I will read the question again:

I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask His Excellency the Governor in Commission to ascertain from His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom the following information:

If, in the referendum proposed to be held in the spring of 1948 for the selection by the people of Newfoundland of a future form of government, such referendum will be decided by and such future form of government will be selected on the basis of:

- (a) The form of government on the ballot which receives at least 51% of the total votes cast;
- (b) The form of government on the ballot which receives a majority of the total votes cast;
- (c) The form of government on the ballot which receives a greater number of votes than any other individual form of government on the ballot.

Here is the answer and as usual, it is vague:

Commission of Government  
Newfoundland

January 23, 1948.

Dear Sir:

With reference to the question asked by a member of the National Convention on January 13, requesting His Excellency the Governor in Commission to ascertain from His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom certain information, I am directed to inform you that a reply has been received from the Right Honourable the Secretary of

State for Commonwealth Relations to the effect that the issue raised in the question will be dealt with in the legislation governing the referendum. This legislation will not be settled until after the report of the National Convention has been received and considered by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. Before it is enacted, the bill will be published to enable interested parties to comment thereon.

Yours faithfully,  
W. J. Carew  
Secretary.

I said the answer was vague. We are just as wise now as when we asked the question. I think copies of this have been placed on members' desks.

I move now that the debate be adjourned until Monday, and that it be understood I am not going to speak first on Monday.

**Mr. Vardy** In rising to second the motion, I wish to say it is a well-known fact that Mr. John McCormack, one of our fellow delegates has taken unto himself a wife, and seeing this is the day after "the night before" I am sure it is the wish of all the members to wish Mr. and Mrs. McCormack many years of wedded happiness. I second the motion to adjourn the debate.

**Mr. Fudge** I am anxious to get through with this, and I am also anxious to accommodate members who are not prepared to speak at this time. But there are a number of supporters of this resolution, and I look upon it as their day, and I see no reason why they cannot come on and give us the "good stuff". I want to get clear and get away as quickly as possible.

**Mr. Chairman** That has to be decided by the House. It has been suggested by Major Cashin, and I think I am justified in attaching very considerable importance to his observations and to those of his seconder, that there may be some members who would want time to consider their remarks before making replies. The motion is before the Chair and I am entirely in your hands. What takes place is to be determined by you.

*[The motion to adjourn was carried by a majority of 19 votes to 10.<sup>1</sup> Other orders of the day were deferred, and the Convention adjourned]*

<sup>1</sup>Those voting against the motion were Messrs. Crummey, Dawe, Hollett, Fudge, Reddy, Penny, Butt, Fowler, Harrington, Higgins.