

supporting the amendment to this resolution, and I do so feeling that I am carrying out the duties entrusted to me to defend with all the power at my command the rights and liberties of our people. I am one who has confidence in the future of our country and our people, and I do not believe for a moment that this good old ship of state is at all leaky, and I am not prepared to send out an SOS to the Canadian rescue tug.

Mr. Brown A few days ago I spoke briefly in connection with the resolution now before this house. I felt at that time, as I do today, that that resolution was premature. It was brought in before the receipt of committee reports which would show just what the financial and economic position of this country is. I have been wondering to myself the reason why Canada has not sent a delegation here, instead of this Convention sending a delegation to Canada, if Canada wants Newfoundland, and there is no doubt she does want to annex Newfoundland....

I remember quite well, sir, and so do you when members from the government of the day went to Quebec, trying to sell the Labrador to the Quebec government. I can name the men if necessary; I think the Prime Minister was one of them, and they, in the final analysis, offered to sell Labrador to the Quebec government for \$15 million, and the Quebec government turned it down, thinking that in the final analysis the Privy Council of England would award Labrador to Quebec, or to Canada. They would not take over Labrador, or what we claimed we owned of it, for \$15 million. Now we have a resolution before this House asking us to send a delegation to Canada to get the terms, and I presume if necessary become part and parcel of Canada. Canada wants Labrador, and she wants Newfoundland. Perhaps the Dominion government is not so interested, or the people at Ottawa, but the Quebec government is, and wants Newfoundland, and thinks today, Mr. Chairman, that Labrador should never have been ceded to Newfoundland. I have seen a lot happen in this assembly, and so have you, sir, and I don't know today who is the father of this House, whether it is you or myself. You were elected in 1919, 1923, 1924, and I was elected in 1923, 1924, 1928, 1932 and 1946 without a defeat, and I have seen many hard and rough times in this House. This is a famous chamber. Famous sometimes for what it did not

do, and famous for what it did do as well. I was in the House and saw some of the hardest fights across this floor and took part of it myself. I have been here till 7 o'clock in the morning in an all-night session, and my friend Mr. Cashin was here as well, and also Mr. Bradley.

There is so much said about crooked politicians and graft and everything else, but I want to tell this House that I was not one of them. I left politics after all these years associated with the public life of the country a shade worse off than when I entered it. I defy any department of the government in Newfoundland to turn up a piece of paper that I had black-leaded in my name and to say that I spent a dollar in my life of government money. I never have, although I had authority to spend up to \$40,000 and got licked after all. I have never done it, Mr. Speaker, and I feel that I have been a fairly honourable member of this House. At times I was unruly and had to take my seat. I submitted to your ruling, sir, but once I remember distinctly when I balked for a little while and you told me you would have me removed from the House, and I asked you, Mr. Speaker, what man in the House could remove me, and you told me you would have me removed. I looked down at my old friend the late Robert Walsh, and he was about 90 years old, and I said, "Would you like to take that job on Mr. Walsh?", and he said, "No". I have seen times in this House when men could have got money and plenty of it, and I distinctly remember on one occasion when there was a bill on the table before this House, and I, with three others, when all the other members of the opposition were against us, we stood our ground and defied this House on every corner, and three of these members are here today. Mr. Bradley, Mr. Ashbourne and myself, and another man that's not in this House today. Am I right or wrong, Mr. Bradley?

Then some of us have been called political grafters. I defy any man in this country to call me one. There is no one here who can call me such, Mr. Chairman. We have before this House a resolution. It is a different resolution from what was brought before the Steering Committee, sir, and you know it, and we passed this resolution, but when brought into this House it was a different resolution entirely. It may have meant the same thing, but the wording was different entirely. I am not against getting terms from Canada,