

bodied in the grey pamphlet entitled "Proposed Arrangements for the Entry of Newfoundland into Confederation",¹ with reference to the Black Books when absolutely necessary to clarify his statement. When he has finished this statement, I would recommend very strongly that Mr. Hollett be asked, if he will, to reply, and after he had finished, any members who wish to do so will be permitted to state their views. There can be no doubt that those who favour confederation, of whom there are many thousands in this country, as well as many others who are on the fence as regards any form of government, are anxious to get a clear understanding of the meaning of these interesting documents, and it will be a long time before they will understand the position if we are to continue the disjointed style of debate which took place in this chamber yesterday.... I cannot help thinking that this will facilitate progress, and I make the suggestion for what it is worth.

Mr. Chairman Thank you very much, Mr. Job. Without in any way wishing to place any responsibilities upon Mr. Hollett, I might say that otherwise I think your suggestion is very welcome and very sound. The progress made last evening was terrible to say the least, and I feel that Mr. Hollett should address himself to me as to how he feels, about assuming the responsibilities contained in your suggestion....

Mr. Hollett I think I should speak right away before I become involved in the thing. Let me say that I would refuse to undertake such an arduous task as to reply in one address to the multitudinous things that our friend from Bonavista Centre is going to raise on this issue. Not only do I fail to see how the debate last night was so terrible, but I cannot agree with anybody who would state that.

Mr. Chairman I made the mistake.

Mr. Hollett Oh you, sir! In that case I am sorry, I cannot agree with you.

Mr. Chairman That is your privilege.

Mr. Hollett These things have been brought to us from Canada, and unless we examine them step by step we are not going to get this thing across as Mr. Smallwood wants it. For me, or even Mr. Smallwood, to get up and in one long-winded speech to try and tell our people what we think of these terms of confederation, I am afraid we are not getting to the people; and that is

definitely, as Mr. Smallwood has intimated, his whole and sole desire, to get the people acquainted with these terms. I have heard long speeches before, and unfortunately I have made one or two myself and I know they are not the right approach to any matter. Human beings can only grasp one or two, or three or four points at a time to absorb them properly. Therefore to attempt to analyse these two Black Books and these terms from Mackenzie King in one, or two, or three long-winded speeches, I am afraid I don't agree with the idea. If the progress has not been satisfactory we should devise a better case, but I would refuse to take on the burden of proof, if you like, that Mr. Smallwood is wrong.

Mr. Chairman I quite understand that it is a very difficult and arduous responsibility, but in fairness to Mr. Job I think I should correct a misapprehension. As I understand Mr. Job's proposal ... he is not suggesting that you should reply to Mr. Smallwood in one speech. What he is saying is that the section would be read, that Mr. Smallwood would give his interpretation of it as briefly as possible, only referring to the Black Books as it becomes necessary, and then at the end you, if you so care, could reply. That means you would have the right to reply to every interpretation that Mr. Smallwood may place on every section of the report.

Mr. Hollett As I understood it Mr. Job meant that Mr. Smallwood would go through the whole "shebang", and then I would give a reply, but you say it should be section by section. That's a different thing.

Mr. Job I did mean that Mr. Smallwood would give a general impression of the whole thing first, and then Mr. Hollett would reply in a general way.

Mr. Smallwood All one clause?

Mr. Job Well, no. I have no objection. I would not say one clause. I would take more than one clause. We wasted hours on two clauses that I don't think there is anything in.

Mr. Hollett There's only 23 there, you know.

Mr. Job I still think the public would like to hear what the whole thing means in a general way. Then after Mr. Hollett replies in a general way, you get down to the details, and anyone can come in. I know it's got to be discussed in detail. There are a tremendous number of points. When Mr.

¹Volume II:510.