

foundland capital with the exception of some American capital that is invested by the Gloucester interest in our saltbulk fish industry. The frozen fillet fish industry is mostly Newfoundland capital, with I believe some American capital in North Atlantic Fisheries Ltd., in which the Hon. R.B. Job, I understand, has a good deal of money invested. Fishery Products Ltd., which operates a large filleting industry on the south coast, particularly in Burin and Burgeo, owned by Mr. Monroe, is Newfoundland capital — plus, and I am subject to correction on this, some American capital. As for the herring industry, we know that this is all Newfoundland capital with the exception of Mr. Crosbie's herring oil and meal plant at Bay of Islands, in which I understand there is some American capital. As for the lobster fishery, seal fishery, squid fishery, there is not as far as I know one single Canadian dollar invested in one of these enterprises. A few months ago a small Canadian fishing venture was under way in Bay of Islands, but that is only a year or so old, and it is too early to say how it is going to develop. The only Canadian dollar that I know that is invested in the way of industry that is giving work to Newfoundlanders, is in the iron ore mines of Bell Island. This mining company agreed, I believe, in the beginning, to pay an export tax on ore if they exported from Newfoundland. We know that with the exception of a very few years this tax was never paid, and the story behind it is not very complimentary to that particular company. It is a matter of public record that the Hollis Walker inquiry unveiled some of the manoeuvres of this company, and that is one of the darkest pages in our history....¹ It was a dirty, despicable deal, where reputations were ruined but where this company still continued merrily on its way. So we see, gentlemen, that all the money that we have invested in Newfoundland today for starting new industries and developing old ones is either Newfoundland, English or American capital.

Yet we have people saying, wait until Canada takes us over and develops our resources. Why? For the past 50 years every dollar that we have had has been in Canadian hands, and any development that has been done has either been the development of the Prairies or the factories in

Ontario. None of it has been used to develop anything in Newfoundland. And yet there are people foolish enough to think that Canada will be different in the years to come than she has been in the years that are gone. I ask any one of you who has visited the paper towns of Corner Brook and Grand Falls, or even the mining town of Buchans, and seen the lovely homes, gardens, and trees, to contrast and compare those homes with the houses built at Bell Island. You know there is no comparison.

....The man who is going to send a schooner fishing on the Grand Bank searches around and gets an experienced captain to take charge. Then he selects for his crew experienced men who have fished on the Grand Bank before, and he spends some considerable time and money in fitting out his schooner and checking to replace any equipment. He knows that unless he has good equipment and a good crew he is going to wind up in the hole, and his year is going to result in a loss. If you ask that man to select men who would determine his economic welfare not for one year, but for his lifetime, and for all time, don't you think he would take considerable time, and exercise extreme care in selecting the men that he would give this responsibility to? Now, as for those who went as a delegation to Ottawa — Messrs. Bradley, Higgins, Ashbourne, Crumme, Ballam, Smallwood and Rev. Burry — all these gentlemen are friends of mine, very fine men and I have nothing against them.... But they were no better qualified to go to Canada on that mission than I was, and I know I am not qualified. The selection of these gentlemen was done in a matter of minutes on an afternoon 12 months ago. Off they went to Canada with little or no equipment, and to expect these men to come back here with the best terms is expecting miracles. In short, the men we sent, through no fault of their own, were not qualified to do the job for which they were sent. Would you send them on the Grand Bank in your fishing schooner? No. They were as qualified to engage in the Grand Bank fishery as they were to engage with the financial and political experts in Canada. If we could send a delegation to Ottawa comprised of such men as Mr. John Power of Carbonear, Mr. Harry Fletcher of Grand Falls, Mr. Aaron Buffett of

¹Thomas Hollis Walker held public hearings from January to March 1924 to investigate allegations of corruption and graft in the government of Sir Richard Squires.