

heart, and are not trying to fool the people as some would try to have us believe. Due to the fact that Major Cashin is chairman of this Committee, he is entrusted with the unenviable duty of steering the report through the committee of the whole. This, I feel, tends to leave the impression that it is his report — in fact I have heard it referred to as such. They seem to forget that this report is submitted over the signatures of seven other gentlemen in addition to Mr. Cashin.... Now, regardless of to what extent any of these gentlemen contributed to the report individually, it is the result of their collective effort and represents the considered opinion of each and every one of them. I realise that their judgement is not infallible; that their estimates may not, in all cases, be accurate; but I submit that if they have erred at all, the error is on the conservative side. We have heard this report criticised, even ridiculed in this House — this, gentlemen, is the easiest thing in the world to do, and no doubt this is why some delegates indulge in it so frequently. But do they offer any alternative? No! They just seek to destroy the significance of this report for their own selfish purposes.

Mr. Smallwood Point of order. He says this report has been criticised, even ridiculed in this House and that those who are doing so seek to destroy the significance of the report "for their own selfish purposes". Now, that is pretty low.

Mr. Chairman That is a conclusion. There seems to be widespread here, for some reason or other, the unfortunate element of dishonesty. I do not know why it should be here at all. Why cannot there be an honest disagreement on any question? If it is the right of one man to view something optimistically, then *a fortiori* it is the right of any other individual to assume the contrary point of view. As far as I am concerned, Major Cashin and the members of that Committee, all members inside or outside the Convention, as far as I am concerned, are honest men.... Remember that criticism is a very natural thing. It may be favourable or unfavourable, it may be constructive or destructive; but I wish members would refrain from imputing dishonesty or ulterior motives simply because they find themselves in disagreement with opinions expressed by other members of the Convention. I do not feel you are justified in drawing that conclusion.

Mr. Hollett Does that apply equally to men who

say a certain report is not an honest report?

Mr. Chairman In my decision, there is no mid-way position, I particularly stated, between right and wrong. As far as I am concerned, it is not right and it is not proper for any member to impute dishonesty to any other member simply by virtue of the fact that that member happens to express some opinions on a subject which are not universally shared by other members.

Mr. Jackman I think a lawyer can fool some of us and can get away with some disgusting propaganda.

Mr. Chairman My ruling is not open to question or debate. Kindly resume your seat.

Mr. Fowler I respect your ruling. I did not impute dishonesty; I remarked it did appear that way in some cases. I contend that if any person or group of persons sees fit to destroy something, they should be prepared to produce something better in place of it. I doubt very much their ability to do so.

Now, I do not accept this report as a guarantee, but I do accept it as a reasonable picture of our present position, and a reasonable estimate of what things are likely to be in the foreseeable future. The Committee gave us a good review of our industries and their future possibilities. They tell us that the industries dependent on our forests are expanding and that their products are assured of a steady market. Our mining industries are in full production and further development is even now under way. That the great wealth of Labrador will be developed in the not far distant future is common knowledge. We know that the timber resources and water-power of that vast northern dependency are sources of potential wealth which cannot be overlooked. I think that our tourist industry is capable of big development and that, given the necessary encouragement and assistance, may well become one of our chief sources of revenue. Our fisheries cannot be judged by the result of any one branch of that industry in any one season. We must take an overall view of the whole industry and if we do, we must admit that the fishing industry, as a whole, is on a sounder economic basis than ever before. It is more diversified. We are not so dependent on salt cod as we were in the past.... It is true that the Labrador fishery has not been good for the past couple of years, and this is indeed unfortunate for the men engaged. Had they