

you regarding the arrangements which the Government would be prepared to *recommend to Parliament*”. I take it this Grey Book has not been recommended to Parliament and even then they must have an agreement among themselves. We have no reason to believe that this Grey Book will be accepted *in toto*. In that case we have been discussing something that may be ripped to pieces afterwards. I would like to have some clarification on this.

**Mr. Fogwill** We had no session yesterday, nevertheless I did a little work. It is laid down here that the federal government will collect \$2 million in customs and import duties....

**Mr. Smallwood** If Mr. Fogwill wishes to debate finance, count me out. I will not follow the debate through. Let us take the lid off the debate; either wait for information or let us be frank. We decided we are going to hang the dog until December 15. We have nothing to do.

**Mr. Chairman** I do not think you have any right to make any such statement implying that all the members, including myself, are hanging the dog. It does not follow at all. Because any member is desirous of seeking information, and we are waiting receipt of further information, we are not hanging the dog. You have no right to arrive at any such conclusion.

**Mr. Smallwood** I feel like doing some plain talking. I will not do it.

**Mr. Hollett** Let us hear your plain talking.

**Mr. Smallwood** You are the last man to talk.

**Mr. Hollett** Why am I the last man to talk? Let us have it.

**Mr. Chairman** I think if members would cool down, I would not pay too much attention to what has been said.

**Mr. Fogwill** I want the people to know the truth as far as taxes are concerned. As far as excise tax is concerned, I do not think there is much difficulty. I do not think the tariff or the Geneva agreement is going to make much difference. Nevertheless the total in the estimates of the federal government is \$2 million customs duty; \$400,000 liquor tax; \$500,000 tobacco tax; \$1.5 million miscellaneous excise taxes. Take that \$4.4 million — I took the customs returns for 1946 on only nine items, including four items contained in this book and I got \$3 million over and above this estimate, which is the estimate of the federal government.

**Mr. Chairman** That is why I question the advisability of going ahead with the debate at this particular time. Your figures are predicated upon the present set-up, whereas these figures are predicated upon what our probable position will be if and when we became a province of Canada; and because further information has been requested by members.

**Mr. Fogwill** I am not going to discuss how it is made up; all I want discussed is, what are the taxes? What will each have to pay? I think it is the proper way to talk about it — for instance, 20 cents on a pack of playing cards.

**Mr. Smallwood** You want to get in a sly dig every once in a while. We are going to have a debate on the financial side. Are we going to spend the next four or five days going over things we have to change, and come back to it again?

**Mr. Crosbie** I have a lot of sympathy for Mr. Smallwood. He finds himself in this position. He has to debate and pilot through the House figures which he himself does not know how they were arrived at, how they were compiled. He cannot do it. As far as I am concerned, there were certain questions asked from the Canadian government and Newfoundland government concerning the Newfoundland section of this document. Apparently, to kill time, we are going to debate all over again the things we have debated. To me, it does not make sense. I would rather adjourn for a week or ten days than debate that all over again. I move the committee rise now.

**Mr. Bailey** Are we not to discuss this matter at all now?

**Mr. Chairman** I have a motion to rise the committee. Is it the intention to adjourn the House?

**Mr. Crosbie** Yes. Why waste our time here discussing figures which are not correct? That is my attitude. The House does not have to listen to me. We have here a bunch of figures and this country is supposed to vote in the referendum on those terms which are the basis of negotiation with Canada. There is a discrepancy in the figures. Mr. Smallwood says things have changed since the document came down. These figures have to be changed. We have got to get what it will cost the country, where the money will be raised. When we get to revenue and expenditure we will need experts. That means two or three months. Mr. Smallwood admits these figures are wrong. Until we get the answers, we are wasting the country's