

United States with a population of almost ten times that of Canada has a greater per capita debt; and England has a bigger per capita debt than either Canada or the United States. But does that say they'll ever default as we did? They can raise their loans and get along. We know that in England there had to be an austerity programme, but we know something of ... the great fight she put up and what she's gone through. I believe that if we join up with Canada that there will be more Canadian tourists coming down here. That is a thing we want — more tourists. We have a wonderful climate here. Those of us who were members of the Ottawa delegation know something of the heat that is experienced up there, and what a relief it would be to get out and get down to a place like Newfoundland in the summer time; and these people have the money. We saw their cars up there, cars from the States coming down through Canada — tourists spending their American money. I believe that they'd come to Newfoundland too, enjoy our climate, our natural beauty and our fishing. But we want a road joined up with the Humber valley, and if we become a province of Canada, we can make a national park over there somewhere, and Canada keeps up the roads in national parks. I believe that with this ferry that the Canadian government will put on the Gulf to bring across the cars to Newfoundland, that there will be a lot of Canadian and American money coming into Newfoundland....¹ Now the question is can we do that ourselves?

Mr. Crosbie this afternoon has spoken about the fisheries. I would like to refer to the fisheries as well. It was a very sad thing that happened when we were in Ottawa this year, the death of the Hon. Frank Bridges, who was Minister of Fisheries for Canada.... It was certainly very pleasant to meet such a man.... I believe that we would have had quite a bit more information about the fisheries if it hadn't been for the death of Mr. Bridges. I would like to read from information that has been placed on the desks of members.... It says here that the "Deputy Minister of Fisheries pointed out that there was in Canada a growing movement in support of regulatory measures of the type enforced in Newfoundland. The establishment of the Canadian Fisheries Price Support Board which would be set up shortly (by the way, sir, that has now been set up)

would have considerable influence and it might be expected that federal policy would evolve in the direction of the measures already adopted in Newfoundland. Mr. St. Laurent stated that it could be provided in the terms of union that fisheries legislation presently enforced in Newfoundland would remain in force until amended or repealed by the appropriate legislative authority." I understand that all laws that are on the statute book in Newfoundland at the time of union remain operative and are still the laws of the province until they are repealed or amended. "The federal government," it goes on to say, "would not be disposed to interfere with the system presently in effect in Newfoundland, unless it proposed to introduce legislation which would represent an improvement over present regulations, and therefore would not be likely to repeal Newfoundland legislation in order to remove a regulatory system which had proven beneficial. The Newfoundland fishing industry must reasonably be informed that it need anticipate nothing prejudicial in this respect as a result of union with Canada."

Mr. Smallwood Mr. Chairman, who was it that said that?

Mr. Ashbourne This was Mr. St. Laurent in one of the plenary sessions at our conferences in Ottawa this summer.

Mr. Cashin Is it from the Grey Book?

Mr. Ashbourne Yes.

Mr. Chairman Well, I thought you might be able to read that...

Mr. Smallwood Mr. Ashbourne just read it.

Mr. Chairman Under the terms of union?

Mr. Smallwood Yes, in the terms of union.

Mr. Cashin In the Grey Book?

Mr. Smallwood Yes ... there is a clause and I'll point it out to you.... Here it is, section 23, subsection 2, the continuation of Newfoundland laws, courts, commissions, authorities such as the Fisheries Board, etc., until altered by the appropriate authority and as to altering them...what did Mr. St. Laurent say?

Mr. Ashbourne "The Newfoundland fishing industry might reasonably be informed that it need anticipate nothing prejudicial in this respect as a result of union with Canada."

Mr. Chairman What does section 4 of these comments say, Mr. Ashbourne?

¹Gap in the recording.