

gaining and if we cannot bargain, then we are in a better position.

I do not see any argument against getting whatever we can get in the way of information — and as Mr. Newell properly put it, when this matter was discussed the last time, we had all the same arguments for two days and everyone, except one or two, did agree we had to get those terms sometime.... I do not feel like belabouring the question, but we have had much more talk on the matter than is needed under the circumstances. I am prepared to move that the question be now put.

**Mr. Burry** Before the question is put, I would like to say a word. I would like to speak against the amendment because it is going to deny me some information I was sent here to get. The people whom I represent want to get it as they might want to use it in the future. Four months ago I voted on a motion similar to the motion before the Chair now. I am convinced more than ever that I should be in favour of a motion like that at the present time. I have studied and laboured with the rest of you on various committee work and I am not convinced yet that we are self-supporting. I can see where a budget might be balanced, and leave many people in this country and Labrador in the same living conditions they have been in all down through the years, when fishermen have had to live on \$100 a year. Balancing a budget like that, we could do it. I am not convinced that that is what we are here to do. When I think of that \$20 million surplus, a strange feeling comes over me I am not very proud of that surplus. I would like to get information on the possibility of joining up with bigger units, on the possibility of better living conditions and a better system than we have had in the past. I was very interested in the speech of Mr. Keough. I figured to myself that that comes from the background of a man of service to the poor people of this country. I noticed the spirit he was giving it in; knew what was in his mind; knew his feelings. I have had experience such as that myself; I have lived among people who are living in poverty, degradation and misery, great numbers of them.... I am wondering what kind of government we can get to enable these people to get a more decent living.... I am willing to take any chance to get information that will enable me to come to a decision later that will get this

country of ours a better government, one that will give the people a higher standard of living. I am not voting for confederation, and whether I do so later depends on the information I receive....

**Mr. Hollett** ....Mr. Burry states all he wants is information. If he would read the British North America Act he will find the information there. The only thing they cannot give without argument is how much per capita are they going to pay us in the event of our giving up income tax; that is the only information a delegation can get. All the other things are laid down in the act and unless the British government amends that act, there can be no other terms, except these. At the present time in Canada the federal government is in deep argument with the governments of the provinces trying to arrive at a satisfactory amount of taxes. The idea of sending a delegation to Canada is unconstitutional and on that I firmly stand. I care not whether the delegation goes or not; I am merely stating the point; I do not think we have sufficient authority to go there....

**Mr. Watton** We have a motion here before us similar to one we had last fall. At that time I supported that motion. I still contend the people of this country should know the terms of confederation. Early this month we sent a delegation to confer with the Commission of Government to get their advice on certain matters; one was the sending of a delegation to Canada to discuss terms of federal union. That committee brings back a report which says that fiscal, political and economic matters are matters entirely between governments. If the delegation to Canada cannot discuss these things, what are they going to talk about? If the Canadians *did* give us the terms, we could not discuss them. It is a matter between governments. In that case, would a delegation from this Convention get the same terms as a duly authorised government of this country? We cannot bargain. We cannot talk back. I want to get the information and I would like to see the terms of confederation, but I honestly cannot support the sending of a delegation to Canada under these conditions. It would be a waste of time. I am going to vote for the amendment.

**Mr. Job** I would like to clear up a matter that has been raised once or twice. "Fiscal relations" was not intended to refer to confederation; that matter was raised by me in the event of confederation not being discussed; whether we could discuss