

measure linked up with its educational concepts. With your permission, Mr. Chairman, I should like to give notice that on tomorrow I will move that the report of the Education Committee be discussed in a committee of the whole.

[On the advice of the Chairman, the Convention moved immediately into committee of the whole on the Education Report, which voted without debate to rise and report progress]

Report of the Forestry Committee¹

Mr. Fudge Mr. Chairman, I have great pleasure in rising to move that the Forestry Report as tabled be received by the Convention. Our committee has been meeting continuously three times weekly since appointed some four weeks ago, and have been able to get together some most interesting and valuable information relative to the forest industries of the island of Newfoundland and its possession, Labrador. All matters referred to in the report, which is covered under several headings, have received the closest attention of every member of the Committee and I am glad to be able to inform the Convention that our findings are definitely unanimous. I regret however, that owing to our friend Mr. K.M. Brown having been ill, he was unable to attend all meetings. I want to take this opportunity of paying special tribute to Messrs. MacDonald, Vincent, Dawe and Cashin, who were the sub-committee appointed to draft this report, and who have been instrumental in making the report of such general interest. I would now request Major Cashin to give a review of the entire report for the further enlightenment of the delegates....

[The Convention moved into committee of the whole]

Mr. Cashin Mr. Chairman, having been delegated by the members of the Forestry Committee to further explain this report, I feel that it will not be thought out of place if I make a few brief comments on its contents. I do this, so that those delegates who are not members of this particular committee may understand the background of our work and the objects which we had before us in compiling the report. As you will have noted, the various phases of the report cover a wide range, including pulp and paper industries both at Corner Brook and Grand Falls, the pit-prop industry both in Newfoundland and Labrador, the saw mill industry, reforestation, etc. Our studies, which have extended over a period of several weeks have included a detailed

examination of all available facts and statistics, and in addition we have availed of the knowledge and experience of those members of our committee who are particularly qualified to discuss matters relating to our forest industries.

As intimated in our report, we regret that we did not get all the information which we required from government sources, and in particular I refer to my request for the annual financial statement of Bowaters.² The government have also been unable to furnish us with any survey of standing timber on the Labrador. But, in all, we believe that we have managed to include in our report all pertinent facts and figures necessary for the making of a fairly accurate estimate of the present and future prospects of the forestry resources of our country. In some cases, as you will notice, we have deemed it advisable to furnish some historical background. We have thought this necessary, in order that the Convention may more clearly understand just how things are with us today. I might say, and I feel that I speak on behalf of the members of our committee, that irrespective of our individual political leanings, we have always kept in mind the necessity of our being as objectively factual and as impartial as possible. No attempt has been made to distort circumstances or exaggerate figures, and we have only criticised where we conscientiously felt that such criticism was fully justified and was in the best interest of the country....

The introductory section gives a general synopsis of the available and existing timber resources of our country, the amount of timberland under lease and the principal operators. It will be noted that by far the greater portion of our timberlands has been acquired by the two pulp and paper companies. Whether it was beneficial or otherwise to have given these two corporations such a virtual monopoly of our forest wealth, may be regarded by some as debatable. But certain it is that we cannot do much about it just now, and

¹Volume II:56.

²Bowater's Newfoundland Pulp and Paper Mills Ltd., owner of the mill at Corner Brook.