

position is this: here in Newfoundland the people and the government have \$115 million on deposit down here, and we don't know what reserve of gold is behind it. We are entitled to know if we are going in partnership. I think I told the story of the gold standard in 1932, and how, through manipulation at that time with the Canadian government and the Canadian banks, Newfoundland depositors were deprived of approximately \$20 million. As far as I am concerned, I am going to see that that does not happen again, that before this country goes into confederation with Canada, or into confederation with any other country we want to know the state of their affairs, just the same as they know ours. We were told here this afternoon by Mr. Smallwood that the Canadian government knew all about our affairs.

Mr. Smallwood Our trade, our business.

Mr. Cashin Well our trade, our business, how do they know all about it?

Mr. Smallwood They have a High Commissioner here.

Mr. Cashin Yes, and they have had a High Commissioner here since 1941, who laid the seed to bring Newfoundland into confederation, and I mean former Commissioner Burchell. That was his main object, and today he has a continuation in his office here in Newfoundland, and the only regret, Mr. Chairman, that I have is that his office is located in the house in which I live. He left his job and was given a holiday. For what? To go to Ottawa to help the Newfoundland delegation. Now, Mr. Chairman, I propose to make a further speech on this whole affair at some later date, particularly when Mr. Smallwood brings in his provincial set-up, which I understand from him will be on Monday. But in the meantime it is immaterial to me whether this House adjourns until Monday or not. As far as the financial situation is concerned I am prepared to go ahead with it now, and in that respect, if Mr. Smallwood is not prepared to give us the information, and the High Commissioner for Canada comes in here and gives us the information, I am prepared to go ahead with the debate with him, and let him tell the story of Canada's present financial position.

Mr. Chairman, I got an answer to a question yesterday which I placed on the order paper, and I am sorry I have not got it here at the moment. I asked how much the present austerity program

recently adopted in Canada will affect the people of Newfoundland. It was no surprise to me. It is going to affect the people of Newfoundland. If you, sir, or me, or any other gentleman, wants to take a holiday in the United States now (and we are entitled to one if we can afford it), some for health purposes, etc., you get \$150 of your own money, Canadian money, American money, that's all they will allow you, even though we are probably \$20 million in credit in United States currency in Newfoundland. Consequently the people of Newfoundland are being persecuted, so to speak, in order to assist Canada in this present austerity program. That was the question I placed the other day, and to which I received an answer.

Mr. Ashbourne Can't you get more than \$150?

Mr. Cashin Well, hold on a minute now.

Mr. Chairman That has absolutely no bearing on the...

Mr. Cashin It has a bearing on the whole situation.

Mr. Chairman No, on the motion before the Chair.

Mr. Cashin I am speaking to the whole confederation issue.

Mr. Chairman The motion before the Chair...

Mr. Cashin As I said a minute ago, in view of the fact that Mr. Smallwood is not ready to continue the debate I am prepared to refrain further this afternoon from any comments in connection with this whole matter, and I am prepared now to support Mr. Crosbie's motion that this committee rise.

Mr. Smallwood Mr. Chairman, I appreciate very much what Major Cashin has said, and what Mr. Crosbie has said about rising the committee, for this reason: if I am to bring in certain figures and statistics on Monday, affecting possible and probable provincial government finances, to have the next couple of days to do that would be a great help to me. After all, I don't know that there is much that we could debate between now and Monday that would be very profitable, and it would be a good idea in my opinion, as Mr. Crosbie has suggested, and Major Cashin agreed, that we should rise the committee and then adjourn until Monday.

Mr. Reddy We have heard a lot about the good side of confederation — baby bonuses and old age pensions and all the rest. Now, sir, we come to the dark and gloomy side. I want to hear the