

the dirty linen of his province. Premier Jones did it on that occasion. Prince Edward Island ... is one-twentieth as large as the island of Newfoundland. Its population is double that of St. John's, 90,000-odd people, yet it is a province.... It is just one big farm, and it has only a handful of people. Ever since they came into confederation in 1873 they have been clamouring and clamouring for more and for more from the federal government, and they have been getting more and more from the Government of Canada. Since 1917, the Government of Canada has spent \$40 million to provide that little island with a ferry service. In 1917 they built them a train ferry at a cost of \$1 million.... In 1927 the government built them a new ferry — a \$2 million ferry. Just two years before that we thought we did very well when we got the *Caribou* on the Gulf. She cost half a million dollars.... They ran that from 1927 until she was lost last year. They ran that for the people of Prince Edward Island at a loss of \$1 million a year, after spending \$2 million to put her there. And this year they gave them a brand new ferry at a cost of \$5 million; and on top of that they spent another \$6 million to build up-to-date wharves and terminals at each end of that ferry run. Let's look at the ferry. She is the biggest ice-breaker ferry in the world today; carries 750 passengers, 60 motor cars, and 20 train cars. Now I don't know how many that would be equal to of our cars for our railway. The Canadian cars are bigger than ours, and 20 Canadian cars would perhaps be equal to something between 20 and 30 of our cars.... On top of all that, sir ... Prince Edward Island has another ferry that the Canadian government subsidises every year. Now what is their complaint? In 1945 they did not have the big new one, they still had the \$2 million ferry and the extra ferry that the Canadian government was subsidising. What was Premier Jones' complaint made at the annual provincial council that Mr. Higgins was quoting from? What was his complaint? That the ferry boat would not take trucks and buses while the other one would, so that you could load up your truck somewhere on the island and run her right on to the ferry.... The main ferry would not take it, but the other one would, the one that the Canadian government was paying a subsidy to. \$40 million since 1927 the Government of Canada has spent to provide that little farming province ... with a

good ferry service, and from 1873 to 1927 it was nearly another \$40 million. And when you discover what that tiny province has cost the Government of Canada just to give them ferry service, just about as much as our whole railway system has cost us, then you have to ask yourself the question, would the federal government treat Prince Edward Island as well as you know....

Mr. Chairman I think we are getting beside the point.

Mr. Smallwood I agree, sir, but Mr. Higgins raised it, and I have the right to do the same thing; and I am willing to take it province by province, the whole nine provinces of Canada, and argue from now till doomsday as to whether it did them good or bad to go into confederation.

Mr. Chairman I am not willing to listen to that.

Mr. Smallwood But you are willing to listen to Mr. Higgins!

Mr. Chairman No, I mean now, before you attack my integrity.

Mr. Smallwood I am not attacking you, sir.

Mr. Chairman Well, I don't know what you are doing, but I want to make this clear. I did state that Mr. Higgins was entitled to quote from the Premier of Prince Edward Island upon the railway and steamship service, but I insisted that he should quote, and not attempt a paraphrase. If, to cover his point, he was compelled to deal with other matters, I had to decide that we would hear his quotation or we would not. In view of the fact that the quotation in part had a bearing upon the discussions, I ruled he was entitled to quote. I did not hold that Mr. Higgins was entitled to go into the general terms of confederation as existing between the Canadian Parliament and Prince Edward Island.

Mr. Higgins I did not read it all.

Mr. Chairman On one occasion I was compelled to rule you out. Would you please, Mr. Smallwood, confine your remarks as nearly as you can to the ferry service and railway service.

Mr. Smallwood I have no more to say on the question at the moment. I will bring in here a letter which I received from the Premier of Prince Edward Island, the very gentleman whom Mr. Higgins has just read from. I will produce a letter written by the Premier ... dealing with this very matter and with your permission, I will read it.

Mr. Chairman You will be permitted to read it for the same reason. As long as it bears directly