

this Convention desires to send a delegation to Washington, D.C.

Be it further resolved that the delegation shall have no authority whatsoever to negotiate or conclude any agreement or in any manner to bind the Convention or the people of Newfoundland.

Mr. Chairman You can file your notice of motion with the Clerk. Orders of the day: notice of motion. Mr. Higgins to give notice that he will on tomorrow move that the Report of the Mining Committee be presented.

Mr. Higgins I give that notice now. I am

prepared to proceed this afternoon with the presentation of the report if the Convention is prepared to receive it.

Mr. Chairman Do you move that?

Mr. Higgins Yes.

Mr. Chairman It has been moved and seconded that, with the consent of the Convention, notice be waived in this matter, and that this Convention do now resolve itself into a committee of the whole to consider that matter. Is the House ready for the question?

[The motion carried, and the Convention resolved into a committee of the whole]

Report of the Mining Committee:¹ Committee of the Whole

Mr. Higgins I would like to inform you that the report which you have in front of you is not complete insofar as the mimeographing is concerned.

Subject to your approval, I would like to go ahead this afternoon with the sections that are completed.

As you will note, the report is divided into nine sections, made up of the introduction, sections on Buchans, Bell Island, St. Lawrence, sections dealing with coal and copper, a section dealing with various other minerals in the country, and a table comprising the water-power. Insofar as the water-power is concerned the Committee felt it was not strictly a part of its job, but as no other committee did it, we brought in what we could on that subject. The other sections left are those on Labrador and the section containing the summary....

I don't intend to comment on the contents of the report before you, as the introduction deals very fully with the report itself. I would like, however, to thank the members of the Mining Committee for their co-operation in the preparation of this report. The Committee worked extremely hard and, as none of us, with the exception of Mr. Jackman, had any real knowledge of the mining industry, it took us a little longer to get the information and digest the facts necessary to compile this report.... I suggest that we might deal with it in sections, taking the introduction first.

[The Secretary read the introduction]

Mr. Higgins Are you satisfied to proceed with

the next section, which is really part of the introduction, or is there any question on the introduction? I will be glad to answer them now.

Mr. Crosbie I would like to know about the \$25,000 that was spent in Labrador, where this was spent and how.

Mr. Higgins You mean in the field survey?

Mr. Crosbie Yes.

Mr. Higgins It was the cost of the parties in the field. Their expenses were paid by the Geological Survey....

Mr. Smallwood On the first page, the third paragraph, while mining is listed third of the country's industries, nevertheless the wages paid prove it to be the most highly paid industry in the country. Does that mean the hourly wages paid are the highest, or the average earnings per man per hour?

Mr. Higgins The average earnings per man per hour are the highest. Mr. Howse gave us that information.

Mr. Jackman On page 4, paragraph 3: "It is of great interest to note that this same mine again possibly will be a producer of lead, this time under the management of the company operating the mine at Buchans." I would like to read here a quotation from Toronto with regard to the situation in regard to the supplies of lead in the world today: "Today lead is receiving in world markets the highest price in history — 15 cents per pound. There is no reason why this should not be held for some time to come." Apparently the situation today as far as lead is concerned is very precarious, and they have to go to outside

¹Volume II:313.