

growing where it had been burnt over. Now the government estimates a total of roughly five million cords, not counting birch. What I am getting at is this: does anyone know how much timber we have in Newfoundland?

**Mr. Cashin** The companies know what they have got.

**Mr. Smallwood** But does anyone know how much timber we have belonging to the Crown?

**Mr. Cashin** No, I don't believe so.

**Mr. Smallwood** I wonder if the Convention realises what a damning reply that is. Not damning to the Forestry Committee now, but to the Commission of Government, particularly damning to them, but damning to every government we have ever had. For 13 years they have been in this country and surely within the first six months they would have taken immediate steps not merely to find out how much timber we had in Newfoundland, but how much minerals, and how much waterpower. Today they still don't know how much timber the Crown owns in this country; or how much waterpower is here. The other day the government decided to get a hydroelectric engineer to come and make a survey of the waterpower — after 13 years! And here we are trying to make an appraisal of the value of the resources of the country, and we don't know yet (a) how much timber we have, (b) how much waterpower we have, (c) how much minerals. Major Cashin is looking very pleased, but I am not saying it for his benefit, that is the position. Would Major Cashin tell us frankly that he does not know and the Committee does not know?

**Mr. Cashin** The only information is what we have got from the Department of Natural Resources — about five million cords.

**Mr. Smallwood** But do you believe it, or is it a guess?

**Mr. Cashin** Well, they told us they are only making a stab at it.

**Mr. Smallwood** No doubt when Mr. Higgins brings in his Mining Report he will be able to tell us just what minerals we have. What about the waterpower? What committee looks after that?

**Mr. Cashin** It comes under the Finance Report, I think.

**Mr. Smallwood** You mean that we will have a watered financial report?

**Mr. Cashin** Yes, we watered our stock!

**Mr. Miller** After Mr. Smallwood spoke about the government purchasing back that timber I really thought he was going to suggest that we include another \$5 million to survey the waterpower and minerals, etc. in Newfoundland, but he did not do it. I am rather disappointed.

**Mr. McCormack** Hitherto I have taken very little part in debate on the different reports. For this reason, and also because of the fact that you have patiently tolerated irrelevancy in the past, I now trust that you will allow me some latitude if I too am a bit irrelevant. I did not take part in debates for various reasons, chief of which was that I always felt, and still do, that we should never have had public sessions and that we would have done our work much more efficiently and with less politics if we had had a summary of our proceedings given weekly to the press and broadcasting stations. It is a rather late date to be expressing such opinions — I give them now only because some of the people in my district listening to the various speakers talking of roads, etc., in their districts seem to think that those districts are going to have a lot of public funds expended there, and are afraid that history will repeat itself as in the old days of responsible government when it was said, "All gone and none for St. Mary's". This phrase originated presumably because of the fact that St. Mary's district never seemed to be able to get anything done from the Public Works Department. I wish to assure them that were it a matter of voicing our needs at this Convention, I would be on my feet as readily as any of the delegates.

Mr. Chairman this supplement to the Report of the Forestry Committee is very encouraging and the co-operation of Mr. Lewin in giving us the results of his company's private surveys is to be appreciated. I am not over-enthused over these companies getting so much control over so much of our territory. The different governments in the past have made a rather thorough job of giving away our assets — waterpower and forests. The paper companies have virtually closed towns with the corporations controlling everything and we, the owners, even leave it to them to carry out a scientific reafforestation policy. It is quite true that these industries leave considerable money in the country but it is only sufficient to operate their work and the profits go outside the country.

If we are to judge by the different committee