

improvement so far as Newfoundland is concerned in our trading relation with the United States of America, because the arrangements have merely stabilised for the time being the current duties on our fresh fish, and the result from other concessions is negligible. It is true that the duty and processing tax against our seal oil and whale oil entering the United States of America has been reduced by 50%, but the existing tax is still a prohibitive duty. As you know, sir, I have been a steady advocate of the idea that a so-called partly internationalised position, or what has been termed the position of a condominium, might be the better solution for the future of Newfoundland. My reason for this is that I believe we are dependent for our future prosperity not only upon our trade with the USA, and with Canada to a small extent, but also upon our relation with the mother country, without whose assistance in various ways our trade in salt codfish with European countries would be cut short, and our fishermen would then indeed have a hard time. Anyone who imagines for one moment that the old country is permanently down and out, and will not be in a position to assist us, is making a grave mistake and they will find that her recovery will be very much quicker than they imagine. As heretofore, Newfoundland will be able to rely upon the mother country, whether under Commission government or not, not only for assistance in marketing our fish in the European countries and providing exchange for it, but also for a market for a great many of our products which found a market there prior to the recent war. This question of fostering a joint interest by Great Britain, the United States of America and Canada in our future development, in terms of giving them the right to use our strategically placed country for their own defence and the defence of democracy everywhere, should be carefully investigated before confederation is placed before the people of Newfoundland in any form. All opportunity of making Newfoundland a prosperous country reliant upon its own resources may be entirely lost if we act too quickly; and instead of enjoying a development of our own resources, we may be in the humiliating position of living upon a Canadian government with a much reduced population. It is my considered opinion that if Great Britain is sensible, and I believe she will be

if we make our viewpoint clear, she will help us to obtain our goals, and at the same time give us back, if we wanted, a useful form of government with proper representation by our people. If she does not help us to do this, I do not hesitate to say that in my opinion the strength of our people will be towards political as well as economical and fiscal relations with the great and wealthy republic to whom Great Britain has already given a footing in this island without the consent of our people.

In closing this address I will ask Mr. Smallwood and his supporters to reply to one single, simple question. That question is this, does Mr. Smallwood, and do those who apparently think as he does, really and honestly believe that it is right and proper that the terms indicated, not offered by Canada, which have not resulted from any negotiations, and which many people confidently believe could be improved upon, should be placed before the people of Newfoundland now, for an irreversible or irretrievable decision? Or is it not reasonable that such a question should be deferred for a specifically limited period until there have been proper negotiations by an authorised government after very thorough investigation? I would like this question clearly answered without any equivocation. That is all I've got to say.

Mr. Reddy First I must congratulate the Hon. R.B. Job for his intelligent address.

When I left to go home to tea, sir, I was discussing the Labrador boundary situation. There has been some debate with respect to the Privy Council decision on the Labrador boundary. Mr. Cashin said that this decision would be upset, and Mr. Smallwood said that such an idea was fantastic, and that the only way that Quebec could take over Labrador was by raising an army. I know that Mr. Smallwood is not quite as naive as that. Mr. Cashin said he knew of three different ways by which Quebec might get Newfoundland-Labrador, perhaps the biggest asset we possess today. There will be produced there 10 million tons of iron ore annually when they get going, four or five years from now. Mining experts in Canada and the USA say that it is the biggest thing of its kind in the world, that its richness is beyond financial calculation. One of the officials of the American government publicly recommended to the US Senate that the USA