

for itself. That is why I draw the attention of the Convention to it. Only one thing more I'll say, the Convention must be composed of men from the districts, so the Convention Act says. I guess that was so in order that we would have men who are not conversant with power politics — men who could have put it over them. Well, that day is past and I believe that somebody is going to get a surprise this time, and it won't be Newfoundland. You can't fool all the people all the time.

Mr. BanfieldToday we know where we stand. Today we know what Great Britain can do for us or can *not* do for us, whatever form of government we may have in future. In the first place, we know that if we vote to have responsible government, Great Britain will not give us any financial help whatsoever should we ever need such help. We will be free to vote for responsible government if we want to, but we will be on our own from that moment. If the people feel sure that their country is self-supporting now, and that it will be self-supporting in the years to come; if they feel sure that this country can go ahead on her own, without any help from anybody; if they have no fears of any future depression they will no doubt vote for responsible government. Whether they feel such confidence I do not know. Only time will tell....

The delegation brought back another piece of information: that if we decide to remain under the Commission system of government, the British government will continue to guarantee our financial stability. That sounds like a lot more than it really is. I suppose the British government did not feel like saying that they would chop us off altogether if we decided to remain under the Commission system, but when we consider Britain's own very bad condition, we must suspect that if they had been free to express their real feelings, they would have said to us, "You can have any form of government you like, but it will have to be without any help from us, for we are simply not in a position to help you under Commission government or any other form of government."

Like Mr. Smallwood, I honour the mother country for her generous and gallant offer, but I cannot help remembering what I have read and heard about her own terrible condition.... I doubt very much whether Britain will be in any position

to help Newfoundland for many, many years to come. Britain needs help herself — it is nothing short of selfishness on our part if we look to her for help....

To sum it up, Mr. Chairman, it seems that under responsible government we'll get nothing at all from Great Britain; and that under Commission government it'll be very little more. We might as well face it right now, that so far as the mother country is concerned, this country is on her own right now, and will be on her own in the years to come....

Mr. FudgeUnfortunately there were seven delegates went over. I say unfortunately, because there should have been only five, and they would have agreed. Now the position of the disagreement, as I see it, repeats itself back to the first time they sent out their three goodwill commissioners to Newfoundland. Some of you saw them, and they went back with the verdict that we in Newfoundland did not know what we wanted. The second time they sent the Prime Minister of Great Britain with two others. I understand the same verdict was marked against us. Now they have a National Convention set up, wherein the people can discuss the suitable form or forms of government they desire.

The manager of the hotel, and his wife, which housed the Newfoundland delegation, were kind to us. They did all they possibly could. They gave us all they had, but I am still convinced that had any other concern, other than Dominions Office or the Office of Home Affairs, looked after it, we would have had better accommodation than we had. As far as cars are concerned, I think we did get a couple of cars once free, but I think I spent most of my surplus money on cars, getting back and forth to the Dominions Office.

Now you know the good book reminds us of the ten virgins who went out, and says there were five wise and five foolish. I wonder whether or not this country will think there are two wise and five foolish. That is up to them to judge. The two gentlemen who could not see eye to eye with us in signing this document, they have a perfect right, but I was surprised to find that the whole seven took an active part in making the report, and then later the division came.

On our arrival at Gander on our way over we were met by the staff at the airport. We were treated well there, and on our return we were