

might be all right to get together, and, I do not understand much about it, but there is a trade agreement — you buy your stuff from me and I will buy from you. I supported Sir Richard Squires and went down with him. I said to him once, "I don't know much about what can be done, I am not in the government, but I believe if this was gone into right we could get the thin edge of the wedge into Middle Europe". He said, "What has Czechoslovakia got?" I said, "Boots and shoes", and he said, "We have a local industry". "Well," I said, "we can't produce shoes as cheap as we can herring, and if we don't produce herring we can't buy shoes whether we buy them here or not." That's the position. The first man in this country that you have got to look to is the primary producer — the fisherman. We had only a small pulp and paper industry at that time, and there was lots of talk of the Humber, and things were pretty tough when fish dropped from \$19 a quintal to around \$8. Things were hitting the fishermen pretty hard. Well, he said he would take it up and see what could be done about it. He went into it and a month or so afterwards I happened to go down to Mr. Halfyard's and Sir Richard was there, and he told me there was nothing could be done about it because of the local industries.... We could have been putting one million barrels of herring into Europe. Now suppose that one million barrels only gave the fishermen perhaps \$5 a barrel, what would it have meant to this country during the depression? According to Sir Richard — I won't malign the man — the local shoe industry meant more to this country, but according to what I have heard there were some boots and shoes imported into this country from Czechoslovakia; and children's shoes could have been laid down here for 80 cents a pair, women's for \$1 and men's for \$1.20. There was a tariff, I forget what it was called...

Mr. Smallwood Anti-dumping clause.

Mr. Bailey I don't care who it hurts or who is responsible for it, whether they are dead or alive today, these men went a long way towards bringing on this country what we had in 1936. I made a census in 1939 in every village from Lead Cove to Summerside, Trinity Bay, and the number of people who died from TB between 1920 and 1930, and between 1930 and 1939 trebled. Whoever is responsible for this sort of legislation in this country is responsible for the deaths of

those people, or a part of it, because you can understand what it would have meant to this country if there had been \$5 million, or only half that amount during those years. A few people have been enabled to go ahead and have a profit at the expense of the health and wealth of the primary producer of this country....

We are not ashamed of anything we have done since we came here. If a royal commission came here they would have the power to find out the facts, but we have no power at all. I believe the words that Major Cashin said, "We are a glorified mock parliament", and that's all. We are not in a position to do anything. If the responsible government and Commission of Government had been up to their jobs, we could have walked into a certain office and got the information right away, and certainly they have enough offices, they are the biggest real estate owners in the country. We find out that this country has been run worse than anything I have ever seen in my life. I don't know who is responsible for it. It looks to me that we were never intended to find out the truth about this country....

Referring to the tobacco factory. I was here in St. John's in 1942 when one of the Commissioners came back from overseas and spoke for the boys, and asked people to give money to send them smokes. At the price we were paying for cigarettes it looked all right. I had been used to going to St. Pierre to buy Gem cigarettes for 60 cents a carton, but this gentleman appealing for smokes for the boys — Wings, one of the cheapest cigarettes in the world — says, "You can buy these cigarettes for \$1.20 a carton", when the merchant in St. Pierre could buy them here and freight them to St. Pierre and sell them for 60 cents a carton. I am wondering if the honourable gentleman had shares in the tobacco factory. This is one of the reason why the cost of living is as it is. I am not going to take up any more time on this. I am not against local industries, I believe we should have more, but let us produce what we can produce cheapest, and sell to the people who can manufacture cheapest, so that the cost of living can be kept down....

Whatever government comes in, the first thing we have to do is find out who in this world can take our stuff from us that we can produce and sell, and take from them what they can produce the cheapest, and give our people a chance to live.