

had oil on deck. After I had landed it I left the vessel, and one day went into an oil manufacturer to see a friend of mine. I saw the oil we landed. Happened to speak about it to the manager, he lit in to me, and asked if we were gone crazy down here in Newfoundland. I asked, "Why?" "I paid \$360 per ton for that oil." "Well," I said, "I can't enlighten you much, but I know the fishermen got \$89 per ton, but some day I'll find out." Fifteen months later I came home and I found out the price was \$123 ex-wharf. And who got the difference? I tried two firms, it was the same price. I went back to Boston, saw my friend and found out his agent got \$237 less expenses. Not a bad profit to make with a pencil, and that's how it goes, gentlemen. In Canada the woods are full of them. We will have to do more than confederate to get clear of the mule skinner. The only answer to it is the co-op. Get a good large wholesale import and export co-operative society. Your small retails might change your charter, so money can be ploughed back in the business. Get the people together, then we can lick the muleskinner. You can lick them all, but you have to organise.... There is the answer to it. I agree with Mr. Smallwood's finding the disease, but he is a long way out on the cure....

The time has come to wind her up and I'm glad to join the old sea-shanty, to "Leave her, Johnny, leave her" — and to wish our country bon voyage.

Mr. Kennedy Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I rise at this time to speak on the motion now before the Chair, fervently believing it to be an evasion of the rights due to our people under the 1933-1934 act. We have not at this time, nor have we had in Newfoundland since 1933 a government representative of the people. Any decisions reached by the Commission of Government entertained no more consideration nor respect for the beliefs of our people than did the leasing of our territory to foreign interests bear any reference to individual Newfoundlanders, many of whom at that time were paying for the defending of this island with their blood. As I stated before, my generation has had the right to fight for Newfoundland, but never the privilege of speaking for her, much less voting. In some of the speeches given in support of this motion reference has been made not only to post-Convention propaganda, but also to the sentiments prevalent in various

districts. May I here and now register my heartfelt disgust in the use of this chamber and the radio as a medium for this post-Convention propaganda. It has been said by a certain speaker in support of the motion, that this Convention has not been able to give the full truth concerning confederation to the people. If this be so, then the pilot of this report should be ashamed, and consider himself incapable, that during the past weeks of debate, he has been unable to ice the cake of confederation sufficiently attractively to hide the sour dough that lies beneath it. Nothing that Mr. Smallwood or any other pro-confederate may concoct or serve to the people can alter the fact that the terms as sent to us from Canada are final. No amount of surmising or imagination can give Mr. Smallwood or anyone else the power to improve the offer from the Canadian government, of a sprat to catch the Newfoundland mackerel.

As far as I am concerned I am interested in no figures or estimates of our country supplied by Canadians, or outsiders who have never set foot in this country to see how the ordinary Newfoundlander lives or wishes to live. I will accept only the concrete figures given to me by Newfoundlanders for the use of Newfoundlanders. Today in Newfoundland, her native sons have no freedom to employ these figures, and until such time as we have any negotiation with any country, it is bound to be one-sided and that side is not likely to be ours. I have no intention of asserting that the majority or minority of members in this Convention represent the greater or lesser proportion of the people. This has just been another example of naive conjecture on the part of certain members, but I wish to put on record that hundreds of men from the district that I represent have worked and fished with men from the Dominion of Canada, and as a majority or minority, they are more adverse to union with Canada than they ever were. I maintain that no member in this house has the right to speak for every individual Newfoundlander who will cast his vote, regardless of the beliefs of Mr. Starkes or myself. We have been given no proof that new taxes will not be enforced on us and I, Mr. Chairman, cannot conceive that the three types of government that union will bring us will be run at a lower cost than the one that responsible entails, if it ever comes into force.