

issue, because I think, or I know, it's no good, at least it's not what I want." Some of our professional politicians are in for a rude jolt when the people next go to the polls. I am not trying to build up a case for confederation, but the charge made by some few that there is not a strong sentiment in favour of union with Canada is fantastically untrue. If I were asked to voice an opinion I would content myself with saying that there is a strong warning of caution against a reversion to the unrestricted politics of the past. I know nothing of what confederation might offer. I have bothered very little about it, yet in fairness to a large minority of my intelligent fellow countrymen I would like to see the approach made to Ottawa, and if terms are offered it would be unfair to dispose of them without a thorough and honest examination. If they offer political stability and promise of future security, better things for Newfoundland, then they should go on the referendum next autumn.

I am content to leave the ultimate choice of government to the intelligence of my fellow Newfoundlanders. I would not dare suggest that this country has no choice but to accept literally the wording of the Amulree recommendation. I am not concerned about somebody else's interpretation of the terms of reference setting up this Convention — and under no illusions as to what Bonavista North and Newfoundland expects of me. My position is this, I shall support the examination of every issue that promises economic betterment to Newfoundland....

Mr. Higgins Reading over this resolution, on the bottom of page 1 it says: "To send a delegation consisting of the Chairman and six of its members to the United Kingdom at the earliest possible moment...." I was under the impression, although it may have been altered since the original notice was given, that the question of time was to be set there. I don't want to complicate matters, but I wonder if the Chairman would state whether or not the delegation would proceed until all the reports had been tabled, except perhaps the economic side of the Financial Report.

Mr. Chairman Yesterday, in consultation with the Steering Committee, Mr. Hollett decided to alter the wording of his resolution somewhat. The motion before you now is the result. It is possible to amend that resolution. If you have any sugges-

tions Mr. Hollett might be satisfied to incorporate them without the necessity of an amendment.

I suggest the use of "the earliest possible moment" is very elastic, and it will be impossible to set a date until we receive a reply from the United Kingdom government anyway. We must not get it in our heads that if we send this off tomorrow we are going to get a reply the next day. It may be a week or two and in the meantime I think the bulk of our reports will be concluded. The Steering Committee has work to do before the delegation can go at all. However, the matter is for you to decide; I just suggest these considerations for thought, but the Convention must do as it pleases.

Mr. Hollett The phrase was purposely left more or less elastic. We could not say whether or not the Convention would be satisfied to allow a delegation to proceed to Great Britain before all the reports were in. It was felt by some that possibly if we had the meat out of these reports which have not yet been filed, and had the financial side of the Financial Report and not the economic, that the Convention might allow the delegation to proceed as soon as word was received. The government of Great Britain is a pretty busy organisation and would want to fix the date when they would receive us. If we embody a statement saying that the delegation should not proceed until all the reports were in it would be impossible for them to fix a set date. I felt that if we made it elastic then if we got permission to send a delegation with the reports already in and the meat out of the others, and the financial side of Major Cashin's report, then I think that we might be prepared to go. We will have to have sessions, without the microphones, to draw up the questions which will be asked. If Mr. Higgins and Mr. Job will suggest some amendment I will be perfectly happy to have it altered.

Mr. Higgins I merely brought it up as a matter of record. Mr. Hollett's explanation is quite satisfactory.

Mr. Miller Would the departure of that delegation mean there would be an immediate adjournment and that the reports would not be considered any further? As it is most likely that the delegation would be accompanied by the Chairman of the Convention, would that not be the order?

Mr. Chairman It would appear the Convention