

Committee, and we should find a remedy to revive this industry which does not cost anything at all. It would be a wise thing to do.

Mr. Hickman I am not in the blueberry industry and I don't know much about it, but I understand the decrease in the blueberry production was mainly caused by the volume of employment at the bases, and the people did not have the necessity of going blueberry picking. That was the main factor in blueberry production, the price was definitely set, and perhaps as unemployment increases, which we trust it won't, it may bring back a greater production. That is the answer you get from businessmen engaged in it.

Mr. Smallwood I wonder if Mr. Bailey could tell us something in connection with wool. I followed his argument on herring with great interest. I thought it was completely sound...but now about this wool. He suggests importing wool from Australia as the United States does and as Canada does. If we were to import wool from Australia to manufacture into blankets and men's suits, does he suggest that that is an economic proposition for export, or is he picturing merely importing enough wool to supply our own needs? And has he considered the cost of a plant large enough to do that? Has he worked that thing out?

Mr. Spencer I have noticed that this report does not say anything about our local shipbuilding industry. Can Mr. Hickman tell us if that is covered by another committee. In view of the importance of this to the fisheries I don't think it should be overlooked.

Mr. Hickman We did not make that investigation, as we thought it would be covered by the Fishery Report.

Mr. Northcott The enemies of man are fire, floods, earthquakes and disease, and it looks as if we could add local industry as an enemy. I think we should encourage every local industry, whether small or large. Every industry started in this country means a few more people get work, happier people and happier homes. Our people are not crying out for money, but for work, therefore we should encourage those local industries and place no barrier in their way. It seems too bad that there are barriers in the way.

Mr. Spencer I wonder if the convenor of the Local Industries Committee will answer the following question. It is on page 19 of the report in connection with cardboard cartons. I wonder if

you have any idea of the price of them?

Mr. Hickman No, the cartons come in for so many products that we have no price on the various types. It would take quite a bit of computation to get all that.

Mr. Bailey Replying to that question, I did not have any idea of exporting, I thought it would be a long step ahead in the industrial development of this country if we got as far as where we could clothe ourselves, and I shall have something to say on this later when another report comes in....

Mr. Ashbourne Rather than import raw wool from Australia and New Zealand I would be in favour of raising it in Newfoundland ourselves, even though we have to subsidise every man who keeps sheep, and the time may come when the government pays them to do it. I realise that the Committee had quite a job owing to the lack of statistics. One of the things the government might look into now is the formation of a bureau of statistics. It already has the personnel, and let it be simplified so that we can get government statistics, not only for these local industries, but upon everything pertaining to the economy of Newfoundland.

When Mr. Bailey was speaking about wool, I was thinking of the amount of hams and bacon used in Newfoundland, and I am of the opinion that we don't raise enough pigs. Talking about sealskins, Mr. Smallwood mentioned my name just now. It is quite true that I had a pair of sealskin boots. We had quite a number of harps and hoods, and the price was about 63 cents for a damaged skin, so we decided to send some of them to Harbour Grace and have them tanned. It was an expensive process, and we have not yet got rid of all those skins, but we used them in the manufacture of certain articles like pouches, purses, school bags and also for furniture, leather for chairs, etc. It was quite suitable and I feel sure there is quite a market for that in Newfoundland, but not in sufficient volume or quantity to take the whole of our catch....

Mr. Hickman Some sort of statistical department should be set up.

Mr. Higgins On the question of wool products — I do not know if I got Mr. Bailey's story right, but I do not see how we can compete with outsiders. I do not know if your Committee has any information about the Riverside Woolen Mills? I do not see why they cannot be increased. I