

I don't know how true this is. But there's one thing I do know. If Major Cashin can convince the people of Newfoundland that the British government and the Commission government believe in confederation, if he can convince our people that the British government and the Commission government want us to vote for confederation, if he can convince our people that the mother country thinks that confederation would be the best thing for us, if he can convince our people of these things, then nothing on earth, nothing on earth, will hold our people back from voting for confederation. As a confederate, I say now that I hope with all my heart that Major Cashin is right....

At several points Major Cashin compared our railway with Canada's superb and world-famous transportation system. Mr. Chairman, didn't he realise that there's something comical about comparing our 600 miles with Canada's tens of thousands of miles of railways which happen to be amongst the very finest railways in the whole world? He spent practically an hour here telling us of the hundreds of millions and the thousands of millions of dollars that Canada's government has spent on her railways....¹

Major Cashin told us that the Bank of Canada made \$150 million out of Newfoundland in United States dollars...

Mr. Cashin That it made \$150 million worth in the transaction makes a different light in the terms.

Mr. Smallwood In Newfoundland?

Mr. Cashin Oh, no.

Mr. Smallwood The note I have made here, I misunderstood Major Cashin and the last thing I want to do...

Mr. Cashin I'm sorry if I...

Mr. Smallwood It was such an amazing statement. I was going to go on here, but I won't go on if you didn't make that statement, I'm glad you didn't make it because that \$150 million struck me between the two eyes.

Major Cashin told us this, I jotted it down. I won't guarantee, sir, that it's the identical words he used, pretty close. He said if we go in, we can't get out. Incidentally, it's a good slogan.... Meaning, of course, if we go into confederation, we got to stay there. Now sir, that statement is just about as true as a lot of others we've had flung at us in

this debate. What is the simple truth of the matter? If, when we go in, we find it a good thing, then we won't want to get out.... If we find it a bad thing, we cannot be kept in. We cannot be kept in against our will. There are nine provinces in the Canadian union, four of them came in in 1867, one in 1869, one in 1871, another in 1873, and two of them in 1905. Not one, not one of these provinces has ever tried to get out. No province can be forced into confederation and no province can be forced to stay in against its will. All right, let's look at that for a moment. It's quite important. Let us say that in the referendum our people vote for confederation and that we become a province of Canada. Let us say that after ten or 15 years or 20 or 30 years we don't like it.... What can we do about it? Can Canada force us to stay in against our will? Can't we get out if we want to get out? Of course we can get out. We've got to want to get out. It's not enough for half a dozen people to want to get out. You have in Nova Scotia today one man, at least one man, who thinks Nova Scotia should get out. And on July 1 every year, which is Dominion Day, the first day of confederation, that one man flies his flag half-mast.... It's not enough for one man to want to get out. It's not enough for ten men. It's not enough for 50% of the people. But if the people of Newfoundland wanted to get out of confederation, if they really wanted to get out, nothing on earth, in earth or out of it can keep us into confederation, if we want to get out. Just in the same way that nothing will keep us from responsible government if we really want it. Nothing will keep us from Commission government if we really want it, but we must want it. We must want to get out of confederation and if we do, nothing can keep us in.

To go from the sublime to the ridiculous. Major Cashin told us that we wouldn't be allowed to import a fur coat from the United States. That, sir, will be bad news to our fishermen and especially bad news to the thousands who are on the dole this winter. They won't be allowed, under confederation, to import a fur coat from the USA; if they import a fur coat it'll have to be from Canada.

I want to take up a point made by Major Cashin that Mr. Burry has touched upon here in his speech today, when the Major said that the

¹The recording becomes inaudible at this point.