

these hard facts stop this loose talk about our Savings Bank? No, it will not. We will still hear the talk, all right, fast and loose.

Mr. Hollett tells us that we are bound to have a certain percentage of our people who will be up against it, whatever form of government we may have. There is a lot of truth in that, and it is that very fact that makes me a confederate. I know exactly how these people will fare under every other kind of government, and I know how they will be treated, how their families will be treated under confederation. That is one of the things that makes me a confederate.

Mr. Hollett tells us that the Canadian and British governments are trying to get Newfoundland into confederation, and that in this they are being aided and abetted by the Commission of Government. If Mr. Hollett can convince our people of that — that the British government and the Commission of Government would like Newfoundland to go into confederation — then he will do more than any other hundred men to convince our people that confederation is the best thing for us. I hope Mr. Hollett and Major Cashin are right, I hope the British government and the Commission of Government are both in favour of confederation. Our Newfoundland people are much more likely to be guided by the British government and by the Commission of Government than they are by Major Cashin and Mr. Hollett. If the British government and the Commission of Government are for confederation, and Messrs. Cashin and Hollett are opposed to confederation, then I'll be happy.

Mr. Hollett asks why these microphones were put in this building. That is an easy one, Mr. Chairman. The microphones were put here so that what we say could be broadcast to the people. What we say is broadcast so the people can hear it. They are given to hear it so that they can get a good idea of what they would be in for, if we got the kind of government that a majority of the members here want the country to have. Why, that fact alone makes the broadcasting of our proceedings worth at least a million dollars to our people.

Mr. Vardy tells us that the large number of Newfoundland people who want to vote on the question of confederation in the referendum must be protected against themselves. They must be protected against themselves, Mr. Vardy says.

But isn't that what Mr. Alderdice did, when he refused to let the people decide on the question of Commission of Government, although he had promised them that he would let them decide the question? He protected the people against themselves, and now Mr. Vardy wants to protect the Newfoundland people against themselves. Mr. Chairman, never in my life in this country have I heard the pure doctrine of Fascism and Nazism so neatly put as in that statement by Mr. Vardy. It is the very essence of dictatorship that a handful of men set out to protect the people against themselves. Or is it the new democracy we have had preached at us in this Convention? This is the strangest doctrine I ever heard — that Mr. Vardy wants to protect the people against themselves.

Then Mr. Vardy says, "The people did not authorise us to deal with this confederation matter." This, from a member who on two occasions voted here in the Convention to send the delegation to Ottawa to get the terms of confederation! When Mr. Vardy voted twice to send for the fair and equitable basis of union, or the terms, what was in his mind? Did he mean the terms to be gotten and then thrown into the wastepaper basket? Or did he mean them to be dealt with by us? The people, sir, did authorise us to deal with this confederation matter, for they authorised us as a Convention to deal with all forms of government that might be suitable to the people. To deal with them — not to decide them, but to let the people decide. But Mr. Vardy says to the people of Trinity North, "No, good people, I won't let you deal with this confederation matter. I will not let you vote on it. I am trying to protect you against yourselves." And sir, the people of Trinity North will remember those words at the right time.

Mr. Vardy And they will remember you, too.

Mr. Smallwood I turn now to Mr. Higgins. Mr. Higgins touched on the question of divorce. This is an important matter and I am not going to waste time discussing any details. The position is very simple. We have no divorce law in Newfoundland, and I hope we never shall. If we go into confederation we will take no divorce law in with us, for we have no divorce law. What about after we get in? Will we pass a divorce law then? No, we will not. Will Canada pass a law for Newfoundland, to grant divorce in Newfoundland? No, sir, Canada will not. The Government of Canada and the Parliament of Canada