

**Report of the Ottawa Delegation
Proposed Arrangements for the Entry of Newfoundland into Confederation
Committee of the Whole**

Mr. Cashin When the committee rose yesterday afternoon, I was addressing the Convention on the issue of confederation. This afternoon, whilst it would be my privilege, according to what has been going on here lately, to give some "tedious repetition", as it would be termed, it is not my purpose to do so.

When I took my seat yesterday I was discussing the Marshall Plan and how it would affect Canada. I pointed out that Canada is longing for this Marshall Plan to go through in order that she may get some very badly needed American dollars. For this reason, if this plan goes through it will involve an expenditure of \$7 billion a year, a lot of purchases for which might be made in Canada, and consequently will give Canada considerable American funds which she now needs so badly. I intend to go on from that part of my talk.

Let us take another look at these proposals. Annex IV in the Grey Book¹ tells us that the total revenue which Canada will expect to obtain from Newfoundland, if we become a province, is slightly over \$20 million annually. These figures may be just guesses, otherwise they are fraudulent and dishonest.

Mr. Smallwood Point of order. Major Cashin is now attributing very dishonorable motives, to say the least, to the Government of Canada. A former Chairman, Judge Fox, ruled that it is not competent for members of the Convention to refer in disrespect or in terms of that type to His Majesty's Government in Canada.

Mr. Chairman I do not think you can impute dishonesty.

Mr. Cashin They cannot substantiate the figures.

Mr. Chairman It does not follow that if the figures are incorrect they are fraudulent. I am not listening to charges of fraud.

Mr. Cashin These figures were handed by the Canadian experts to the Newfoundland delegation to take home. They are not worth the paper they are written on. Mr. Smallwood never questioned the figures. Why? Because it was part of his game.

Mr. Smallwood Point of order. Is it correct for

Mr. Cashin to be imputing dishonest motives to me?

Mr. Chairman No.

Mr. Smallwood He has done so and was not called to order. Must I rise in my own defense?

Mr. Chairman You must. It will be thought I have some ulterior motive in intervening when it is not justified.

Mr. Smallwood Unless I rise and claim protection of the Chair, I am not to have it?

Mr. Chairman Unless there are questions of grave disorder, I am not bound to intervene. I must ask you, Major Cashin, not to impute dishonesty.

Mr. Smallwood I am anxious to sit here and listen as long as he does not make charges of that kind. If he wants to make the same charges again, I will not stand for it.

Mr. Chairman That fact that you believe the figures are incorrect, Major Cashin, does not lay any foundation for your making an allegation of fraud.

Mr. Cashin When I presented the Economic Report, I never interrupted Mr. Smallwood. I let him go to town on it. He does not like some of his own medicine.

These figures, of course, are not ours. They were handed by the Canadian experts to the Newfoundland delegation to take home. And the Ottawa delegation apparently took these figures without even asking a word of explanation; never questioned them. They have no explanation to offer. I want to compliment Mr. Fogwill on the effort he made in dissecting these figures. I know, as a former minister of finance, what he was up against. He had to go through that Blue Book and he had to go through it from cover to cover, trying to prove his figures. We have no proof here. No Canadian representative has been brought to this house. Mr. Smallwood has been acting on behalf of the Canadian government.

Mr. Smallwood I rise to a point of order. I was appointed by you, Mr. Chairman, to pilot this report through the House. I have been acting on behalf of this House. Am I to be charged with acting on behalf of the Canadian government?

Mr. Chairman You are going too far, Major

¹Volume II:520.