

wood's statement, and I will deal with you, after I have investigated the facts. I have not the facts before me.

Mr. Hollett Why were the microphones put in this building? Why, sir, did the Commission of Government arrange the trip to Canada, the Ottawa delegation? Why, sir, were the so-called proposals of Ottawa not delivered to us by the delegation? Mr. Chairman, I can answer all these questions to my own satisfaction, and I am sure every man in this Convention can do likewise. Now sir, I may not be against union with Canada under certain conditions, but I certainly am under these unnegotiated terms, terms which I honestly believe would redound to the economic sabotage of the country's resources and the country's future. Vote against putting confederation on the ballot? Of course I shall, knowing full well I shall incur the displeasure of some people in this country, but also knowing this full well that I am doing my duty by the people whom I serve. If our people want confederation, in Heaven's name let them elect a government with a clear mandate to negotiate. The delegation had no power to secure proposals. Why then did Canada send proposals to His Excellency the Governor of Newfoundland, who afterwards passed them on to us? When the people elected us, did they authorise us to discuss proposals for union with Canada? No, they did not, and we exceeded our duty in discussing them at all. It seems to me that we have discussed nothing much else than union with Canada since this Convention met. Have we, I ask you, discussed any other form of government? Have we discussed the particular form of responsible government we may want? Have we discussed Commission of Government, or any amended form thereof? No, sir, we have not been allowed to.

Mr. Smallwood complained on Friday that he had never had a chance to bring the facts of confederation before the people in this Convention. I ask you sir, when has any other form but confederation been brought before the people in this Convention? Never, until Mr. Higgins brought in his motion the other week. Mr. Smallwood made much ado about monopoly and monopolists on Friday, and my friend Major Cashin has referred to that already. I agree with Mr. Smallwood, I do not like monopolists either. I know that monopolies exist in this country in

connection with the sale of Canadian war assets, and particularly do I refer to 6,000 Canadian blankets which were sold in Gander. The man who put the corner on these 6,000 blankets, was he or was he not a monopolist?

Now Mr. Smallwood, on Friday, very magnanimously gave us an opportunity to say a few words on taxes on property, and I availed myself of that opportunity. He spent two hours last week replying to me, telling us that the federal government did not tax property. Whoever said they did? I did not, or that the provincial governments taxed real property. I now find out, however, that the provincial governments did tax real property. For instance, in Saskatchewan in 1943 the province collected altogether in taxes just over \$11 million, and of this amount something over \$3 million was collected on real and personal property. (These figures which I am quoting are taken from the *Comparative Statistics of Public Finance*). The Province of Alberta collected \$1.25 million on real and personal property, and British Columbia \$1.3 million, and the thought of the whole matter is that every province of Canada, with the exception of Quebec, collected some taxes from real and personal property. But the point I endeavoured to explain was that generally the provinces, having the power to tax real and personal property, delegate this tax collecting power under the BNA Act to the municipalities or town councils, and herewith I submit some figures to show the great extent to which the municipalities have gone in collecting their necessary revenues by taxes on land, buildings, farm equipment and fishing equipment, Mr. Smallwood, and other real property.

For instance, in the province of Nova Scotia 1943 the total municipal taxes were \$10 million, and \$7.5 million of this came from taxes on real and personal property. In New Brunswick the municipal taxes amount to \$5.8 million. Now of this, \$4,417,000 came from taxes on real and personal property. In Quebec province the total taxes were \$75 million, and of this \$61 million came from taxes on real and personal property, on such things as I have quoted there, that is to say on land, buildings, farming equipment, fishing equipment and other real property.

In Ontario the total municipal taxes were \$114 million, and of this \$104 million came from taxes on real and personal property. In Manitoba the