

perfectly well that 90% of these homes are not equipped with the conveniences and comforts that people of this age and generation have come to expect. A great number of these homes are not equipped with furniture that might be described as the chesterfield suite, on which the breadwinner might be able to recline at the end of the day to rest his weary bones, or even on a Sunday afternoon. A lot of the furniture are hard-backed chairs, home-made couches; not only that, the kitchen range is still the Waterloo stove in a lot of them. I could take members of this Convention to homes where there are not even hard-backed chairs, but packing cases to sit on, and where stoves are still strung together with wire and sometimes local cement or mud. These are isolated cases perhaps, but yet they are cases we have to recognise. It was also said that even if our people do not make very much money, they do not need as much money as other people — they are able to get their own fuel by their own labour. That was true in my day, in our childhood days perhaps. But it is not true in larger sections of our country, unless the man is willing to take a hauling rope on his back when the early snow comes in the fall and use it throughout the long winter months; then he might be able to do it, by hauling wood from long distances. There are very few places where firewood can be obtained without putting in the whole winter, and I am sure we are not prepared to have our people do that and say it is the justified and right thing for them to expect.

I do not want to take up any more time on this debate. There are several things in the report I would like to call attention to, but the time is rapidly going. I would like to know where they get their authority for some of the things that they have quoted here, especially the picture they have built up with respect to the Labrador Mining and Exploration Company's work in Labrador and its possibilities for the future. I have always had an optimistic view of that future, but they have outdone me in my optimism. I wonder where they get some of the figures when they give this inflated picture. It seems to me it is a proposition of great magnitude and we certainly hope it will mean a lot to the economy of this country and to Labrador. I wonder what they mean when they say, "Upwards of 10,000 Newfoundlanders and Labradorians will be able to find employment in

the production of iron ore".... It seems rather optimistic for them to say, "It further means, that the great Grand Falls water-power will finally be developed and from statistics shown by a survey conducted a few years ago by the Aluminum Company of Canada, it is estimated that this waterpower when developed will produce somewhere in the vicinity of one and one-half million horsepower." They are very optimistic, it seems to me, in saying that this water-power will be developed. I have not found anything to encourage me to think that this water-power is going to be developed by this company.... The impression I have received from people in authority is that it is very doubtful yet; no conclusion has been arrived at to lead anyone to believe this water-power will be tapped at all. It is a gigantic undertaking and if power for this job can be obtained at less expense, it will not be tapped at all. The Committee says it will be tapped. They say it will be 1.5 million horsepower when it is tapped. As I recall it the Committee gives the estimate of 1.16 million horsepower. Of course it is true that the Mining Committee did point out that if the waters of Michikamau Lake flowing into the Hamilton River were tapped, 20% would be added. Since it is doubtful that the falls will be tapped, it is optimistic to say 1.5 million horsepower will be developed — used in the production of iron ore and exportation of power to the Quebec area.

There is just one other thing I would like to say. As far as this country's being self-supporting is concerned, I am not in a position to admit that because the Secretary of State for Commonwealth Affairs makes a bare statement ... that we are self-supporting; or because a former Commissioner for Finance ... also makes the bare statement, without any qualification; and because the majority of the Finance Committee makes the same statement.... I am not able to accept that and many other things; it seems to be an inflated opinion of the economy. I do not feel justified in supporting the passage of this report through the House at the present time.

Mr. Ashbourne The time has come at last to consider and discuss the economic position of Newfoundland. I was sent here as an elected member, elected by one of the outports of Newfoundland, with a duty to perform. I find in the terms of reference ... that our duty is three-fold or