

to permit you to proceed with your address.

Mr. Penney I would like to say that you are the only person, as Chairman of this Convention, that I am afraid of in this Convention.

Mr. Chairman I do not like my job here anymore than perhaps you like the way I am doing my job. If I am appealed to, I have to enforce order as best I can. I do not think you are entitled to use unbecoming language.

Mr. Penney I accept your ruling. I do not intend to use any personal remarks, nor do I think I have done so, to this time.

Mr. Chairman Certain gentlemen are well-known to be ardent confederates by this time — that is an inescapable conclusion. I do not want it to be misconstrued that you are speaking under my guidance. I have not seen your address. I can only deal with the points as they are delivered.

Mr. Penney Since I cannot convey the meaning I intended to convey, I will have to do the best I can. Now that we have reached the crossroads, surely it is a time when self-respect alone should compel us to stand firm. It is your country and mine, where in the outports every man and woman is comparatively free from special taxes; where we can obtain our living from land and sea unhampered by periodic calls from tax collectors. Why then give up your life-long freedom because champions of confederation ask you to do so? When you must feel in your heart and soul there is something behind the move? I dare not do anything or say anything to knowingly harm our future prospects, for posterity will eventually determine whether we are right or wrong. Believing this, I cannot be a party to selling out our country.

Mr. Smallwood Point of order. That is once he has offended since you gave your ruling.

Mr. Cashin I rise to a point of order. Mr. Penney stated he cannot tolerate the selling out of our country. What is this? We are making a deal; they are taking over our national debt, consequently we are handing them over something for something. Therefore it is a sellout.

Mr. Chairman I will deal with the point. I see nothing wrong with the word "sale" when it is employed in this sense. After all, if we go into confederation, it is a contract of sale and there is no stigma to be attached to the sense in which you have employed the word "sale"....

Mr. Penney Do I understand you right, there is

no objection to the word "selling"?

Mr. Chairman If you want to describe it that way.

Mr. Penney It is, in effect, to me a sale and the price is those terms we have been discussing.

Mr. Chairman You are at perfect liberty to refer to it as such.

Mr. Penney Thank you. I have some words here you may not permit me to use — I had better not use them. I want to tell this Convention to act warily. Elect your own government first and foremost, controlled by the people of Newfoundland, and represented by a body of selected Newfoundlanders, so that you may control the keys. Good men and true with adequate control of our treasury. The form of government we now have — am I allowed to refer to that?

Mr. Chairman Not at this stage. You had better confine yourself to the form contained in the motion.

Mr. Penney I will end it up this way. There are four days to go before this Convention dies, and I have no regret about that whatsoever. But I will not likely have another chance to talk to this Convention as a body, so I want to make a few remarks concerning the history of the Convention, in closing. Now that our term of service here is approaching its end, for which I have no regret because it has lasted many months longer than it should have, and has been swerved from its path of duty because of the projection of controversial political questions in the early stages of our studies of Newfoundland affairs. This, however, is past history. Now as we come to the end of our service here ... may I say in closing that it was a great privilege to meet and know the delegates of this Convention, most of whom I had not met or known before.

The sad side of this get-together was almost at the very beginning of our Convention sessions when our revered and respected Chairman, in the person of the late Judge Fox, was claimed by death. The suddenness of his passing shocked us all, for we knew we had lost a Chairman of outstanding fitness for the tasks ahead, an eminent judge, whose guiding hand and sound judgement was recognised in the loyalty and respect of all delegates. May his soul rest in peace as his revered memory lives on. Then, too, this Convention lost another outstanding public leader in the person of Mr. K. M. Brown who was