

agents, the Commission government, might further expend the monies of our treasury, which they have done and are continuing to do at the present time. Did not Mr. Crummey tell us that the Ottawa delegation was told that in case Newfoundland could not successfully balance its provincial budget under the present Canadian proposals, that it would be necessary to impose additional taxation on our people to do so? Did not Mr. Crummey tell us that under the present laws of Canada there did not exist any legislation which would permit our Fishery Board to carry on as it is doing at the present, and that consequently it would be abolished, and that our fishery products would then come under the federal authorities, and that the present system of our marketing would cease to exist? Is it not a fact that some members of the Ottawa delegation advocated a subsidy of \$8 million instead of the \$3.5 million transitional grant, and were turned down? Other matters of great national importance were also given attention and were not reported to this Convention because it does not suit the plan of the pro-confederates. I have stated in this assembly that the estimate of possible revenues which the Canadian experts made that Canada would derive from union of our two countries, amounting to slightly over \$20 million annually, are fraudulent; that in my opinion the amount they would receive would be over \$30 million. And this does not take into consideration the possible increase in revenues that would accrue from the development of the Labrador iron ore project. I repeat that statement today, Mr. Chairman, I repeat that the deficit on the proposed provincial budget would be not less than \$9 million annually, and that in order to balance that account increased taxes would have to be placed on our people in the way of further sales tax, hospital tax, property tax, educational tax, municipal tax, and God knows how many other kinds of taxes.

I know that the advocates of confederation do not look at this matter in the light of what would accrue for provincial administration. Their sole ambition is to stress to our people the advantages to our people that would accrue from the payment of baby bonuses, and the vilification of our merchants, etc. I know that is their policy, but I tell them now that knowingly or unknowingly they are traitors to their country. Some of us have been

accused of national treachery...

Mr. Smallwood Mr. Chairman, isn't that hitting a bit below the belt? If I were to tell Major Cashin that he was a traitor to his country he would not like it.

Mr. Cashin No, I would drive you through the window.

Mr. Smallwood Well now, you are 50 pounds heavier than I am, and if I weighed as much as you do, and if it was the other way around, maybe I could throw you out the window. I think that's hitting below the belt.

Mr. Cashin Well that's my opinion, and I am entitled to express it.

Mr. Smallwood Is he entitled to express that opinion, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman No, I don't think you are entitled to that, Major Cashin.

Mr. Smallwood All right, don't hit below the belt.

Mr. Cashin All right, I throw that insult back in the ocean. I will take it back if you like. "Some of us have been accused of national treachery." How is that?

Mr. Chairman No one has any right to impute treachery to any person simply because they are divergent in opinion.

Mr. Cashin I would throw that back at the faces of those who so accuse us, and tell them that the proposals contained in the Grey Book sent us by His Excellency the Governor by Prime Minister King are not such as would constitute an equitable basis of union of our two countries, and should not be submitted to the people at the coming national referendum. I tell those that would accuse us of national treachery, and who would advocate such proposals, that they themselves can by their very own actions claim the first right and title to this dishonourable name. To me sir, it seems that any Newfoundlander, or group of Newfoundlanders, who deliberately set out to pass all that they are and have across the traitor's counter, I say such people owe an explanation of their attitude.

I have yet to hear them give us that explanation. To trifle with a people and a country, to compromise the lives of future generations, are no small things. Yet that is the very thing that is now being attempted, to the end that we shall cease to exist as an independent country, and that Newfoundlanders shall be no longer Newfoundlanders. I would go on at much greater