

of all our little petty differences, when the mother country was in trouble we immediately donned our uniforms and rushed to the colours. We are also conscious of our very close friendship with the United States. That is an undeniable fact. In fact we see Canada, Newfoundland and the USA flirting so closely that many times we feel perhaps that they should get married; yet down deep in our inner consciousness is that longing for freedom, the longing to cement even closer our relationship with Great Britain. I cannot see eye to eye with many of the things that have been said. I spent, during the two wars, something over seven years in the Pacific, around the British coast and in various parts of Britain. I have never yet been able to find a word that I could say in disrespect of the British people. I know that our treatment in 1932-33-34 was not really the wish of the British people.... It was not the people, but the Dominions Office who gave us that treatment. It was a handful like that who betrayed Belgium and France.... I want to see this National Convention uphold the principle that the mother country and the Union Jack have stood for for so long.... Since I have come in here today I have worded an amendment to the motion. It is along the lines that Mr. Butt suggested in the early part of the debate: "That, in view of the fact that a delegation is about to proceed to the United Kingdom to ascertain what the mother country is prepared to do, no further discussion should take place on this resolution until the delegation returns and its results are discussed." I think that in all fairness, with that consciousness in our hearts that the mother country has stood up for us at all times, that we should give her the last chance of giving our delegation the proper information and proof in realistic terms, that they still stand behind Newfoundland, as Britain's oldest colony, and that they are prepared to liquidate our national debt for the blood we have given to protect the British Isles. We were told repeatedly over there that if it had not been for the colonial troops the mother country would have gone under....

I know there is an element who would welcome the idea of annexation with the USA. I have a lot of friends in the USA, and I know that they are a fine people, but I don't think that those in authority in the United States would give it one moment's consideration at the present time, because there are bigger factors than New-

foundland, this tiny island of rock. When you start to come north and look at the chart on the bridge and look at this island, you think of our 300,000-odd people, and you think of the people you left in their millions, and you then become very conscious that as far as the rest of the world is concerned, we are very unimportant, and that our only hope is to stick to Britain until she shows definite signs of forsaking us. I am not going to deny the fact that it was Englishmen, the Pilgrim Fathers, who founded the United States, and eventually Great Britain herself will be only too happy to see all the western hemisphere come together as one. I am sorry, but while I have a lot of respect for the motion, and for the courage Mr. Jackman has shown by bringing it in, I cannot really support it, but I would have it discussed later on.

Mr. MacDonald Mr. Chairman, I am emphatically and irrevocably against it. I think it should be at once put before the Convention to get the treatment it deserves — to be thrown out.

Mr. Jackman May I speak once more?

Mr. Chairman No, sir. Is the House ready for the question? Well, Mr. Jackman, you may close the debate.

Mr. Jackman It is not my idea at all. I did not bring in this resolution because I believe in it. I believe in Newfoundland for Newfoundlanders, and I think we are going to be absolutely wrong. After all, who are we? Are we masters or servants? I was sent here to this Convention to find out what I could do for my country. As far as I can see, we have been given instructions in this respect according to our terms of reference. Professor Wheare ruled that we can recommend any form of government. Now here's my position, and I hope I make myself clear; it's not for me or for you to decide, it's up to the people of Newfoundland to decide, and we have been told by a constitutional expert from Great Britain that it is in order to put the United States on our ballot paper in the referendum.

Mr. Chairman I have to correct you there. Mr. Wheare never made any such statement.

Mr. Jackman Well, Mr. Chairman, I think Mr. Butt put the question, and as I understood it he did say so.

Mr. Chairman I can assure you that he never made any such statement.

Mr. Jackman Well, sir, if I had known that I