

coming from? Certainly not from Newfoundland in any numbers, so where will we get any revenue from the work that will be supplied there? Under the old act we would get 10 cents per ton, and I have yet to see who could advise that that 10 cents per ton be taken off.... Can anybody here tell me how iron ore mines in Michigan in 1944, when the war was at its height, how these mines could operate at a loss and continue operating?

**Mr. Smallwood** The same as our fish merchants do. They always operate at a loss.

**Mr. Hollett** Where do they get the capital?

**Mr. Smallwood** They had a lot when they started.

**Mr. Hollett** Yes, I know all about that. I know a good many fish merchants who had nothing when they started and have a lot now. I would like to remind some of my friends here that in Quebec the royalty paid is per horsepower.

**Mr. Higgins** Installed horsepower.

**Mr. Hollett** Yes, \$1 per horsepower in Quebec, and why in Newfoundland should we say that 15 cents is a very good figure? I can't understand it. Application has been made for the export of

water-power, and I am of the opinion that the country, or the government, should not, or rather that before any such license is granted, the whole matter of royalties, both on ore and on water-power should be again raised. I would almost be prepared to make a motion to this effect. I can see that the revenue of this country cannot be enhanced in the next 25 years, either by income, royalties or labour, through the 1944 act.

**Mr. Newell** ....We are a country with certain minerals, and we require employment for a certain number of men, and we think that's a desirable end. On the other hand there is a company which has capital which it wishes to invest, solely that it may make profits. The two meet and do a bit of bargaining. The country is not concerned about the interests of the company, and neither is the company concerned about the country. They are both out to make the hardest bargain. It looks to me as if we have been driven the hardest bargain....

*[The committee rose and reported progress and the Convention adjourned]*

#### April 22, 1947

**Mr. Cashin** Mr Chairman, I move the following resolution: that the members of this National Convention desire to record their profound sorrow at the passing of Sir John C. Puddester, Commissioner for Public Health and Welfare, and to convey to his family the hope that the Almighty Father will be present with them in their bereavement.

Mr. Chairman, this morning Sir John Puddester passed away. I have known Sir John Puddester, both in public and private life for a period of over a quarter of a century. In the year 1920-21 and on to 1924 he was prominently identified with the political party in Newfoundland which was led by my father. In 1924 he was elected to the district of Bay de Verde in the Monroe government, and in 1932 he became Colonial Secretary in the Alderdice government, following which, Puddester was appointed Commissioner for Public Health and Welfare, which office he has filled since the inception of Commission of Government in Newfoundland.

Personally, Sir John and I have differed on many occasions on political matters, but now that he has passed to his eternal reward, I pay him

tribute in this respect, that ever since he assumed office in 1934 he has devoted all his efforts, to the best of his ability, to build up the social services of Newfoundland, and today we have many memorials to his credit in the form of cottage hospitals in various sections of the country, sanatoriums in other sections, and a large extension to the St. John's General Hospital, as well as further extensions to the sanatorium on Topsail Road. I feel sure that Sir John was prominently identified with the building and acquisition of these various institutions, which are essential to the public health of our people; therefore I feel that this afternoon it is my sad duty to move this resolution and to ask that it be sent to the family of the deceased.

**Mr. Job** Mr. Chairman, I think perhaps this resolution might have better been seconded by Mr. Starkes, who was connected with the House of Assembly. I did not ever come in close contact with Sir John, as a member of the upper house, but I always had a respect for him, especially for his convictions, and also, more especially I think than anything else, for his capacity for work. He certainly worked hard in the interest of the