

would never have attempted to bring it in. The only reason was that I felt that there are a certain number of people in Newfoundland who would want to be given a chance to vote for union with the United States. I quote the *Sunday Herald*. I like that paper, you get a lot of news out of that. I have seen in that paper where the United States, in a straw ballot, topped all other forms of government. Have we the right to turn around and be dictators and say: "No, you are not going to have any chance whatever to vote for the United States, you are not going to have any chance to vote for confederation, or any chance to vote any way"? Is that what we say — we 45 delegates? Who are we? Are we dictators? If this is turned down, we are dictators. We are telling people that as far as we are concerned they have no right to vote for federal union with the United States. I protest in fairness as a democratic citizen, as a true blooded Britisher. Possibly there is a great deal more British blood in my veins than in a good many here. I protest in the name of Runnymede and the Bill of Rights. After all, when the Convention is over and we discuss forms of government, it is all finished. Are we the masters? No, we are only the servants. The people of Newfoundland, as far as my experience is concerned, and I have been a working man always associated with labour, I know they are pretty good. They might not know the three Rs, but they know the difference between a codfish and a herring. Let us give them the final say. I protest with all my power against this dictatorial attitude, against the attitude of this Convention in saying to the people of Newfoundland, "You can't put your name on the ballot paper for the United States." I think we should consider it very carefully. I challenge any member as far as my loyalty is concerned. I believe in Britain, she is the cradle of democracy. It was there that trade unions started, out of which I get my living today. Hitler's first move was to bust the trade and labour unions wide open, but thanks be to God

the trade and labour movement in England stood by when the blackshirts and everyone else...

Mr. Chairman I must ask you to confine yourself to the question. We are not concerned with Hitler.

Mr. Jackman Well, no, I don't want to talk about Hitler, he is not worth talking about, but in my opinion it is quite possible the people will turn it down. I wish they would, but my argument is that we have no right to take it off the ballot paper. If we do we are dictators. It is the people who have the last say on this matter. Why not put it on the ballot paper and give them a chance?

One of our men said last September, after the ruling of the late Judge Fox, he did say, and Professor Wheare ruled on it, "You can send a delegation to Timbuctoo if you want to." We have got one going to England and one to Canada, and there's a lot of people in Newfoundland who want one to go to the United States. Give the people the chance. If we turn down that amendment we are putting ourselves in a position where we are 45 people who have decided that we are going to take the destiny of Newfoundland in our own hands. You can do what you like, but I will vote to give the people of Newfoundland what they want.

Mr. Chairman Gentlemen, you have heard the question.

Mr. Hollett Standing vote sir?

Mr. Chairman I will put it in the ordinary way first. The motion is that this resolution, which has been read twice already, do pass. Those in favour please say "aye", contrary "nay". I think the "nays" have it. Those who are in favour of the resolution please stand — two. Those who are against it please stand. Mr. Clerk, I have not recorded my vote on any resolution. I intend to record it today with the "nays". You will please record it accordingly.

Mr. Jackman Well, it's a dictatorship.

Mr. Chairman Order, please. I declare the resolution lost by a vote of 34 to 3.

Report of the Mining Committee:¹ Committee of the Whole

Mr. Chairman The section dealing with the La Manche mine has been read and is now open for discussion.

Mr. Hollett Before proceeding I would like to

correct an error which I made in a statement yesterday. It has been pointed out to me. Yesterday when I was referring to the Buchans Mining Co. railway cars which were made up at Bishop's

¹Volume II:313.