

Act they could not get any relief, so they had to put it in as it stands, and my understanding is something like Mr. Fogwill's: under the same conditions as unemployment insurance benefits.

Mr. Chairman Well, I interpret that section to mean, "Will be entitled for six months from the date of union, or six months from the date of unemployment, whichever is the later, to assistance on the same scale and under the same conditions as unemployment insurance benefits"....

Mr. Hickman Mr. Chairman, I think this is rather important, if there were a lot of factories closed down and several thousand or hundred people were laid off. It should be clearly laid down what they would receive, so I think we should get that point cleared up.

Mr. Higgins I don't know if I can clear it up in any way for you. It is my understanding that that particular clause was inserted ... with the idea that if industry was disrupted during the period immediately prior to, or immediately following confederation, then any insurable person working at that time, who lost employment within six months before or six months after confederation, and were still unemployed at that date, or who lose their employment within six months, are entitled to have six months insurance. There is no question about it at all...

Mr. Hickman I don't want to labour the point. We could, or Mr. Smallwood could have that determined, and the Canadian interpretation put on it, so that we could know exactly what it means.

Mr. Smallwood I will put in a question on that, Mr. Chairman, and get it cleared up...

Mr. Chairman I don't think we ought to waste further time because at Mr. Hickman's request an official pronouncement, if you will, is to be sought and obtained by Mr. Smallwood, so we might continue.

Mr. Cashin Mr. Chairman, do loggers and fishermen come under this thing?

Mr. Smallwood I don't know, frankly, at this moment. Not fishermen, no, but loggers and longshoremen may or may not be in. It is now two months and more since we left Ottawa, and about three weeks before we left they were getting ready to bring loggers and longshoremen in. Whether they are in yet or not, I don't know.

Mr. Cashin The fishermen and loggers are not

in, that's the point.

Mr. Job What proportion of our population are into this?

Mr. Crummey There is no possible chance whatever for fishermen and loggers to get any benefit. That was put in primarily for those who would be thrown out of employment by virtue of going into confederation.

Mr. Smallwood Mr. Crummey is entirely wrong there. The date of union is the big thing. When we become a province any person who, under the act, is insured and who becomes unemployed, comes under these benefits. If by then loggers and longshoremen are in the act, if they become unemployed they come under this clause.

Mr. Crummey Isn't that put in there because they thought some industries would be disrupted?

Mr. Smallwood Yes, that's the reason for it, but it's the thing itself that counts.

Mr. Crummey Isn't that the reason Mr. Burry went down to see the Unemployment Insurance Commission?

Mr. Smallwood There was no thought of loggers or fishermen or anything else. How can you put loggers or fishermen out of employment by virtue of coming under confederation?

Mr. Chairman I don't see that there is any point of debating this at the moment. The fact is that it is to be interpreted....

Mr. Smallwood Mr. Chairman, will I read the next clause?

Mr. Chairman Are members satisfied to go on to the next clause?

Mr. Smallwood Clause 19. *Education.*

The Legislature of the Province of Newfoundland will have exclusive authority to make laws in relation to education within the Province, provided that the Legislature will not have authority to make laws prejudicially affecting any right or privilege with respect to denominational or separate schools which any class of persons has by law in Newfoundland at the date of union, but the legislature may authorise any two or more such classes of persons to amalgamate or unite the schools and to receive, notwithstanding such amalgamation or union, their proportionate share of the public funds of Newfoundland devoted to education.

Excerpt from the letter of the Prime Minister of