

man's fortune lies in himself', and this applies also to countries. It applies to Newfoundland. She must look to herself for her fortune and her prosperity. Today she is in a happy position. She is one of the most solvent countries in the world. She has money, she has brains, she has the assets, and she has the men who can govern her and protect her sovereign rights. What then is holding us back? Why do we hesitate? What are we afraid of? What is all this talk about tying ourselves onto someone else's apron strings? We are not children, we are men! We are the sons of liberty-loving people. The job awaits us, and we are able to do the job. Then let us get on with it! For myself, I have faith in my country and her people. Every time the challenge came to our fathers, they stood up to that challenge. They fought and they won. As I see it, such a call has come to us today. And in the historic words of Nelson, "Newfoundland expects every man to do his duty." With us, our first duty is to take over the control of our country — to get back what we lost. When this is done, then time enough to talk about making deals with other countries. After all, what do we want from other countries? All we want is a chance to do business with them. We only want their trade, not their traditions, not their politics, not their ideas. All these things we have ourselves in full measure, and we don't want to change them for a foreigner's. As I see it, it is a waste of time, a mistake, for us to think of sending delegations to Canada or anywhere else. If there are a certain number of people who are curious to know what terms would be offered us by these countries, then they could have their desires satisfied by simply having the government of this country send a letter asking for such terms.

I agree with Major Cashin that we should not waste time with any lengthy discussion of the report before the Chair. We all know now what it means without going further into the matter. We should now get on with the job. That job is to give the people of the country a chance to express themselves by the ballot. If we do not soon do this, then there will be no country to hand back to the people, and the treasury itself will be emptied. In closing, then, I ask that every man, woman and child in the country unite their voices, their strength, and energies, in the great common task of giving Newfoundland back to Newfoundlanders, and bring victory to this old and

loved land in 1947.

**Mr. Hollett** What with the shades of Sir Edward Morris and Sir William Coaker, I feel rather dubious about getting to my feet, especially after hearing the eloquent addresses of the various speakers.... First, I am not disappointed in the replies which we received from the Dominions Office. I did not expect to bring home something in a basket. As you knew from the first, an attempt has been made to work out our destiny by powers other than the popular vote of the people of the country. I felt it before I went to London, and I am confirmed that that attempt has been, and will continue to be made. We must take note of these things, and endeavour to exercise the prerogative of every man and woman in the British Empire. The mother of democracy is doing something no mother in a democratic world should ever try and map out for her child....

We were asked to consult with the Dominions Office on matters relative to public debt, interest-free loans, development loans, the position arising out of the various base deals, financing and control of airports, and trade and tariffs — the one concerning trade and tariffs is the most important and the one to which we got the most disappointing reply from Lord Addison — and any other matter which the delegation may raise and which the British government may feel disposed to discuss!

The Dominions Office was well aware of these subjects which we wanted to discuss, and they had expressed their willingness to receive your delegation and to answer and to discuss the matters. What happened? We were handed these replies which, in my opinion, could easily have been sent at a cost of 20 cents. Why therefore was it necessary to have 12 people travel all the way from St. John's to London to be handed this document? Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, you may answer this question how you wish. This is my answer, and I have given it much thought. But before I give you that answer, let us look at what they will do about the debt. First, the two 3.5% sterling loans amounting together to about £870,000 which mature in 1950 and 1952; that has been taken care of — "In making available to the UK Government interest-free loans ...." How delightfully smart of them; how sweetly naive to say this action was taken at the instance of the Commission of Government. They tell us that the