

absolutely free of duty. If we make them up into a manufactured article we get a 50% tariff or something like that. The same thing applied to the British market. The tanning of sealskins is an art — it is an art learned in Great Britain at very heavy cost. We have had factories — one on Water Street West and another in Harbour Grace — and much effort was made to turn out a good article. It was discovered utterly impossible to do it.

I do not want to transgress on the questions asked of Mr. Crosbie, but I would like to say one word about fish offal. It may not be known to Mr. Smallwood, but about 70 years ago, my firm lost £20,000 trying to deal with fish offal. It has a very enticing appearance, you sell all this stuff being thrown away. You think, "This is ridiculous", but I am sorry to say my firm and others put up factories in Catalina, Bay Bulls and L'Anse-au-Loup; I am told it cost my firm £20,000 and it very nearly ruined us. The day will come when fish offal will be used, but it depends on the question of centralisation of the fisheries. Mr. Crosbie is doing a lot towards that. I hope it will be a successful adjunct.

Mr. Smallwood There was a time when we got 500,000 sealskins a year; if we get it back to 200,000 it will be good. Even these could be made into boots and shoes and consumed locally — manufactured locally for the home market. I have seen in the States pocket books, women's purses, all kinds of leather goods made in England and exhibited in the States and Canada, paying the high duty and selling. In New York you will see a fine class of leather goods made in England, and on which they pay high duty. I was once given a pocket book made of Newfoundland seal — it was soft as silk — if you were to buy it, it would cost \$30 or \$40. If England can do it, we can....

Mr. HigginsI believe I understood Mr. Smallwood to refer to the Imperial Tobacco Co., and the protection it received.

Mr. Smallwood No.

Mr. Higgins Well, you corroborated Major Cashin's ideas in the matter, and the suggestion that the amount they were receiving in connection with salaries after all did not warrant the protection they were receiving. The suggestion was that the protection is not given in other countries. I believe those familiar with Canadian and American tariffs will remember that the price

of American cigarettes, if you can buy them in Canada, is very much higher than here. Obviously it is the same subsidiary of the major company who are making the lines of cigarettes that are sold. They must enjoy a very much higher protection to be able to charge a higher price for American cigarettes. I thought it was worth mentioning, because the Imperial Tobacco Co. was under attack, because I knew the position myself, and I am sure a lot of you know it.

Mr. Crosbie Mr. Chairman, I have taken very little part in the numerous debates which have taken place, for the simple reason that I prefer to listen and learn; besides, many of my fellow delegates have said, in certain instances, what I would have said myself. However, I cannot let this opportunity pass without expressing my views on some phases of the Report on Local Industries.

I would first say how disappointed I was at the small number of replies received by the Committee to the questionnaires sent out to local firms. Can you imagine, that out of 150 firms, only 35 showed sufficient interest to answer. Those who failed to reply have nothing of which to be proud. If we had our own government, and if I were a member of it, I would see that these firms produced the answers to the questions which were asked. It is regrettable our government did not have the faith and foresight to implement and entrust this Convention with power to demand information, and get it. In many ways (and I agree with my friend the Major) this country has been put to unnecessary expense at this National Convention in ascertaining certain facts when the government should have, and must have, figures and statistics which, after proper analysis, would show if our country is self-supporting or not.

I was sorry and disappointed, but not surprised, at the tirade that bellowed forth from my genial friend, Mr. Smallwood, who like Pathé News, professes to see all, hear all, and know all. I am far from convinced that he knows all the correct answers to all the questions all the time. After the Local Industries Report was tabled, my friend, with his usual gusto, for 15 minutes or more, told us what he would do with local industries which were not producing from our own raw materials. Now, what did he tell us? Exactly nothing, except that he would do away with them, even if it meant paying something like \$4 million