

to hold out a hope that should the Canadian government decide to make an economic survey they would do it as soon as practicable. I wonder if Mr. Smallwood will say a word on that?

Mr. Smallwood Mr. Hollett is, whether intentionally or unintentionally, confusing the two paragraphs; the first paragraph deals with an economic survey, and the second paragraph deals only with a special effort of the Government of Canada to collect and make available scientific data. It is that which is to be done as soon as practicable after union. The other thing is done when the provincial government institutes the survey. The reason is this: ... that if it were not left to the Government of Newfoundland to institute and initiate the economic survey, and the Government of Canada stepped in on its own, immediately what we would be hearing would be, "Oh, I see, so without a by your leave the Government of Canada is going to walk in and begin surveying your resources". Should the government of the province start it, then the Government of Canada will step in and do the job, so that no one can say they will ride in here roughshod, or without permission. It's up to the Government of Newfoundland.... The other point is as to Prince Edward Island. We have said a lot about PEI in the Convention in the last few days. Is there any need for me to say once more that PEI, although it is a province, is a little island of 2,000 square miles, one-twentieth the size of the island of Newfoundland. It is only a large farm. It has no industries, no natural resources apart from the soil and the fish in the water. It has no minerals, no oil, no timber, has no natural resources except its very fine soil and the fish surrounding its coast. Therefore, what happens is this: a man who had a farm in PEI of 50 acres 30 or 40 years ago, inherited it from his father who had owned 300 acres, and the various sons took 50 acres each. Now he is married and has sons, and there is not enough land for four or five sons to live on, so what happens is the oldest sons stay on, and the younger ones have to get off. When the population grows to the point where the land cannot support them, they emigrate to other parts of Canada, and a good thing it is that they have other parts to immigrate to. Let's hear no more about this tiny little Island of Prince Edward's.... Now one other point Mr. Hollett raised on this clause. Take the second paragraph: "As soon as

may be practicable after union". Any member of the Convention, or any member of the public may care to think that the Government of Canada is just putting up a big bluff, only a cod, that they are a crowd of cheapskates who are trying to bluff this country; if anyone wishes to believe that he has a perfect right to believe it. If Mr. Hollett wishes to believe it, he has a perfect right to, and if he says that the words, "As soon as practicable after union the Government of Canada will do such and such" are not worth the paper they are written on, he is entitled so to believe.

Mr. Hollett What do you think?

Mr. Smallwood I am convinced of this, and it seems to me a very reasonable belief: Newfoundland as a province of Canada is either going to be a drag on the Dominion of Canada, or she is going to pay her way. One or the other. Which would Canada want?... She would want to step in and give us a lifting hand that would help us stand on our own feet and be independent financially and otherwise. That is what I believe.

Mr. Hollett I only asked you a question.

Mr. Smallwood Well that's my answer, and I stand by it.

Mr. Higgins I would like to make a short comment on that paragraph, particularly with respect to the first part. I am a little disappointed in the wording, and in the interpretation that we were given in Ottawa, and the interpretation that Mr. Smallwood has given today. In reading the first part of the first paragraph, it is clearly stated that should the Government of Newfoundland institute an economic survey and request the Government of Canada, then the latter will make available technical personnel or agencies to assist in the work. It does not say, as I was led to believe, that the Government of Canada would pay for the work. It merely says to assist in the work. Now how much assistance it is going to be, and who is going to pay for it, is questionable — very questionable. They may merely provide the personnel and the agencies, and we will have to pay for it. That is the meaning of the paragraph, and I would challenge Mr. Smallwood to interpret it otherwise.

Mr. Smallwood I will very gladly do that. If Mr. Higgins can point to one single solitary case in the 80 years of Canadian history where the federal government surveyed a province and charged that province for doing it...