

that statement, sir, I contend that you're wrong. We went there representing not a subservient but a brave people, a financially strong country, and a people capable of good government. That would be the general tone, I think, of the delegation which went to Ottawa and worked there for three months. We were led in that spirit by our Chairman, Mr. Bradley, when he made his two masterly replies to the addresses of welcome from Mr. Mackenzie King on the first meeting in his country club and the next morning when he made the official welcome speech. Mr. Bradley made two masterly replies to these speeches. I am told that they did not appear in our newspapers in Newfoundland. If they didn't, it's just too bad. Those pieces should have appeared in our papers, and when the history of Newfoundland is written, they should be put into that history to give our people something like the Gettysburg address that is so respected by the people of America. That's how I feel about these replies that Mr. Bradley made, and the spirit of them. He pointed out among other things in those replies that we were not a crippled people, and we did not come to Ottawa looking for economic crutches to lean upon, and other things along that line.¹ That whole spirit was maintained through-out our discussions. We weren't a subservient people. We went there representing a bold, courageous people and tried to hold our end up as best we could. I think the Major is absolutely wrong, and I think he's unfair. If he'd examine the facts I think that he would find that we did not do badly and that we did do a good job. Now sir, I don't know if I have more time to continue. Do you want to be in till 6 o'clock? I think I'll be finished in a quarter of an hour.

[The Convention adjourned to 8 pm]

Mr. Burry When the committee rose for the dinner recess I was dealing with the charge that Major Cashin has made that the delegation went to Ottawa representing a subservient people begging for help. I was trying to point out that as far as I could see, that had no foundation whatever. I think it was altogether unfair that Major Cashin should make that charge unless...

Mr. Cashin Mr. Chairman, I rise to a point of order. I didn't make those charges. I said, if my memory serves me correctly, that the delegation

went to Ottawa in a subservient manner, not as representatives of a proper and prosperous people. I can remember my words.

Mr. BurryNow sir, I do not intend to reply to the many, varied arguments made in this Convention against the terms that we have here in the Grey Book. I think that this Ottawa delegation is acting the part of wisdom when it allowed Mr. Smallwood ... to reply to those who had spoken on the question. I think that it's wise to do that, not only because he is in my estimation the most capable person of doing it, without casting a reflection on any other member of the delegation, but his doing it naturally limits and conserves time in this debate. But there is one matter that I would like to draw attention to. As we all know, Labrador has played a prominent part in these discussions and rightly so. It is an important part of our territory, made all the more important because of the great iron ore deposits already found there and the timber wealth that we know it possesses. But I have a feeling, sir, that sometimes that importance is altogether warped out of shape when some member or members are trying to make a point and ... sometimes I feel that we are boosting a little too much in making claims for the great wealth of Labrador, as much as I feel that it is a value to this country and will be in the future. It has been said here that Labrador is so important that Canada is intending to get it at all costs, by hook or by crook. That I am not able to follow. My experience at Ottawa and what I know about the Canadian ambitions do not lead me to that conclusion. We all know that Canada has great vast territories to the west and to the north and it has great natural resources. The resources that we think of as ours in Labrador — the mineral wealth there, the iron ore that's found there — one must remember that we only possess a part of it. When the Mining Committee brought in its report sometime last year we were able to say that the deposits were fairly equal. But I understand that that would not be true today, that the better part of the deposits of iron ore are being discovered on the Quebec side. But there are great deposits on our side also. I'm not so much afraid that we are going to lose the Labrador possession as some of the members seem to be.... I place my trust, sir, in the Privy Council and also

¹Paul Bridle (ed.), *Documents on Relations Between Canada and Newfoundland Volume 2, 1940-1949, Part I* (Ottawa, 1984), p. 520.