

Mr. Smallwood Paragraph 4:¹

Welfare services presently provided by Canada, and therefore applicable to Newfoundland after union pursuant to clause 3, include the following:

- (1) Family allowances, as provided by the Family Allowances Act, 1944 and amendments;
- (2) Old age pensions and pensions for the blind, as provided by the Old Age Pensions Act, 1927 and amendments, subject to agreement with the Government of the Province;
- (3) Unemployment insurance, as provided by the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1940 and amendments;
- (4) Sick mariners' benefits for merchant seamen and fishermen, as provided under the Canada Shipping Act, 1934 and amendments;
- (5) Assistance for housing, as provided under the National Housing Act, 1944 and amendments.

Family allowances are the name given to payments of money made each month to the children of Canada. There are in Canada, under the age of 16, 3.5 million children. Every child in Canada under the age of 16 is entitled to receive, every month, a cheque for \$5 up to the age of six years. Over the age of six and under ten it is \$6 a month for every child. Over ten and under 13 it is \$7 a month for every child. Where there are five children or more in family, the amount is reduced on the fifth child by \$1. If there are six children \$2 is taken off the sixth child...

Mr. Miller I have an idea that Mr. Smallwood is reading from a book which is not official, it is probably nothing better than a magazine. We are not going to accept information from a magazine.

Mr. Smallwood Turn to volume 1, page 92, section 47....² This which I was reading is a table showing the family allowances in Canada and showing how they are reduced after the fourth child. This is an official document compiled by National Health and Welfare in Canada and shows family allowances. What are family allowances? Family allowances are regular cash grants made to families towards the maintenance, care, training, education and advancement of children....

¹Volume II:511.

²The Black Books.

Mr. Higgins Cannot we have a more brief explanation than we are getting?

Mr. Smallwood This is not brief enough. It is going to take more than a quarter of an hour to explain this. Mr. Higgins is not going to run this Convention.

Mr. Higgins Mr. Chairman, I have been accused of trying to run this Convention. I asked Mr. Smallwood to be brief. He has been 25 minutes explaining one part of a clause. He has gone through two books and is now attempting to go through another.

Mr. Smallwood Mr. Miller objected to my quoting from a pamphlet which, he said, was not official. I am now quoting from the official pamphlet...

Mr. Higgins The Black Books are only another magazine.

Mr. Smallwood They are part of the holiday Mr. Higgins had in Ottawa.

[Demonstrations from gallery]

Mr. Chairman I want no demonstrations from the gallery. Mr. Higgins went to Ottawa as part of your delegation.

Mr. Smallwood He has said he had a holiday.

Mr. Chairman You are not to say it. I ask you to withdraw it.

Mr. Smallwood I will withdraw it — it went into history anyway.

Mr. Higgins I move the committee rise.

Mr. Smallwood You do not want confederation debated after three month's holiday. You are going to hear the explanation of this document or move the closure motion.

Mr. Higgins The delegation should not have gone to Ottawa in the first place.

Mr. Chairman Whether the delegation should have gone or not is entirely beside the point. The delegation was sent to Ottawa, certain information has been received and the Convention quite frankly decided that information should be discussed in the briefest possible time. I do not want to embarrass you, Mr. Smallwood, but would you endeavour to be as brief as possible.

Mr. Smallwood As brief as possible in justice to the people of Newfoundland. It is the people of Newfoundland we have to think of — not what Mr. Higgins wants. Mr. Higgins is not going to tell me how long or how short I will be in explain-