

health service are the less fortunate people of the island. The same applies to education. Even if our tariff is high, our people are still getting the benefit of it. It is merely robbing Peter to pay Paul. Mr. Smallwood may say, "Oh yes, but the wealthy are still making money out of it." That I admit, and under any form of government, however the taxes are raised, you will always have some people making more money than other people. That is the capitalistic system under which we live and under which Canada lives. If Mr. Smallwood wishes us to become converts to Karl Marxism and bow down to the doctrines of Joseph Stalin, he should now make a motion that we federate with Russia. But even in holy mother Russia, the share-the-wealth policy is by no means universal.

I should like to refer to a very important statement made by Mr. Crosbie some few days ago. He said, Mr. Chairman, that our sales of fish to Spain and Italy were only possible because of trade arrangements made through the United Kingdom government. In the event of confederation these arrangements would not apply, consequently Newfoundland would be unable to make a sale to these countries. Last night, in an address at Burns Night, Mr. Gushue, Chairman of the Newfoundland Fisheries Board, said that Newfoundland produces for export around a million quintals of salt cod per year. At least half, at times more than half, is sold to European markets. The loss of these markets would be a death blow to the industry. Our trade has been made possible by the use of sterling converted into dollars. Before the war, when two of these countries were short of pounds, our exports were able to be continued as a result of our being included in trades and payments agreements made between these countries and the United Kingdom. As a result we received payment in dollars. Whilst Mr. Gushue did not say so last night, I know for a fact that Canada wanted to sell fish to these countries at that time and could not. Mr. Gushue admitted that due to abnormal after-war conditions, we could not convert the sterling into dollars and the government had to step in and help out the situation. Then he said we must satisfy ourselves which of the forms of government under discussion can make sure the continuance of this trade, without which we would be in a very awkward position. That, said Mr. Gushue, was one prob-

lem that had not been discussed in the Convention, and the other was the type of currency best suited to Newfoundland. Newfoundland is tied to the Canadian dollar and the Canadian exchange control. For some years we had a surplus of US dollars which the Canadian exchange control got the benefit of. Canada has a huge recurring deficit in its dollar account with the United States. If sterling cannot be converted what will our position be? We sell to Europe much more than we buy. Then he said, should we not satisfy ourselves which currency is best suited to the complex trading position of Newfoundland? There is no man or body of men in Newfoundland today who can answer that question, but the question cannot be ignored as probably the whole future of the country depends on the answer.

I would suggest to Mr. Smallwood, who is most anxious to be prime minister of Canada's tenth province, that there is no reason why he cannot realize this announced ambition of his. Canada, as he has told us so often, is the third largest country in area in the world, yet only has a population of 12.5 million. Even now she is bringing in immigrants, displaced persons, from Europe, and any others that she can encourage to enter Canada. I would imagine with the contacts Mr. Smallwood has with the Canadian government that he might very well have an area set aside from which a new province could be founded. As was suggested before in one of our local papers, this province might very well be named Small-Brad-land. He might take with him all those people who want to be Canadians. He could be the prime minister and those in this Convention who adhere to his ideas could very well be his cabinet. Then with the government of his heart's desire, as he described it, in his new province he might very well exercise all the power he is so anxious to acquire. Why, he might be even as powerful as the gentleman he described as that Fascist, that Nazi, that slimy person, the Premier of Quebec. There then he and his supporters could really ascertain if a fair and equitable basis for union is present. He could give a true account of the taxes that would be necessary to be paid and the value of all the wonderful services. After ten years he could come back to us here in Newfoundland and tell us the real picture of life in that wonderful country, and then we will make up our minds on the whole idea. To