

pretation, I am asking you.

Mr. Chairman The nature and extent of the services envisaged by the phrase is in question, and for that I would refer you to the volume of the Black Book where this is referred to.

Mr. Higgins I ask you again how you interpret the words "to assist in the work." Does it mean to complete the work or merely to assist in the work?

Mr. Chairman I construe this clause to mean that the work envisaged and contemplated by the section in question will be facilitated by the Government of Canada by providing the technical personnel and agents. I construe the word "agents" to mean technical personnel and technical agents to assist. How I construe that is this: there is a certain job to be done which will require certain technical advice and technical skill, that technical personnel will be provided by the Government of Canada.

Mr. Higgins Should not the word "assist" be left out?

Mr. Chairman No. If, for example, you are going to build a paper mill tomorrow, you may have 15,000 employees; but of that number, only maybe 5% or 10% provide the technical help and assistance. I regard this as meaning pretty well the same thing. They will provide the technical help and assistance.

Mr. Higgins The province will have to provide the other services?

Mr. Chairman I think it is merely an undertaking on the part of the Canadian government to facilitate, not to "do", by providing the technical personnel and assistance to bring about the completion of the work; the rest and residue falls on the province. That is my interpretation for what it is worth.

Mr. Smallwood Here are some of the things the Government of Canada does...

Mr. Higgins Could we not ask the government a straight question?

Mr. Smallwood He is quite welcome to do that. I am about to read, at your request, sir, a description of some of the things the Government of Canada does.

Mr. Chairman I was asked a question about the nature of the technical services, if the answer is in the Black Book, you may read it.

[Mr. Smallwood then read sections of the Black Book, Volume 1, dealing with the Canadian

departments of Mines and Resources and Public Works]

Mr. BaileyAfter this survey is carried out, what is to be done then? Our people, even the most ardent confederates, are looking forward in terms of dollars and cents; what our people want to know is how quick can all those scientific terms be turned into cash.

Mr. Chairman I do not think anyone alive can answer that.

Mr. Bailey I do not believe that if we went into confederation all those scientific terms would bring one barrel of flour into the pantry or one piece of pork into the barrel. To my mind that is not worth the paper it is written on.

Mr. Chairman The clause simply says they undertake to conduct an economic survey with the idea of determining the resources that may be properly developed and to provide, if you will, the necessary technical help and assistance in determination of that. The establishment of industry after that takes place is something entirely different, depending on world conditions, the ability to raise money and other factors.

Mr. Bailey We have been referring to PEI pretty often recently. I believe the population of that Island when they went into confederation was 110,000, and today it is 92,000.

Mr. Smallwood 94,000.

Mr. Bailey I wonder why the people cannot get as good a living there now as they got 70 or 80 years ago. I have here a quotation from the Department of Reconstruction of Prince Edward Island where it gives the wage earnings. I think our people should know of it. In the borough of Queens, 4,045 wage earners, average yearly earnings each, \$720. County of Kings, 1,411 wage earners, average earnings \$419. The point I want to press home is that apparently confederation has not increased wage earnings on the Island. Take the fishermen and loggers and average it up, very few people in Newfoundland, except those unfortunate enough to have a bad voyage, make below \$419. I know on our part of the coast the ships' wages for four months in Bay de Verde and Grates Cove is somewhere around \$300, and the same thing applies to many ships that go to the Labrador.

Mr. Chairman You are as far from the point as the sun is from the earth. We are debating section 22. You are telling us about PEI. What possible