

Mr. Ballam Does that mean that we will go over the summary when we come back?

Mr. Chairman If there is no dissenting voice against the withdrawing of Mr. Watton's motion.

Mr. Bailey There seems to be a bit of dissatisfaction with the matter before the Chair, and I think I voice the sentiments of my colleagues on the Committee, that if anything is not clear, we will do our best to get information. I honestly believe that we have tried to get the information, and there is a lot of credit due to Major Cashin in that he has tried, but he seems to get up against a

blank wall. It seems right from the very first, and I think we are going to find it right straight through, that the government of this country has no bookkeeping at all, and sometime of course you have to start bookkeeping, and until that day we have to do the best we can. I think it is a pity that we did not have a National Convention years ago.

Mr. Chairman The motion is that the committee rise and that I return to the Chair.

[The motion carried, and the Convention adjourned]

November 18, 1946

It was moved by Mr. Bradley, K.C., seconded by Mr. Figary and carried, that the reading of the minutes of the previous session be dispensed with and that the Convention adjourn to attend in a

body the funeral services of the late Chairman, Honourable Mr. Justice Fox.

[The Convention adjourned accordingly]

November 19, 1946¹

Mr. Bradley Mr. Chairman, I move the following resolution:

Whereas Almighty God has removed from our midst the Honourable Mr. Justice Fox, K.C., our Chairman; and

Whereas in his passing Newfoundland has lost one of her great sons and this National Convention one who graced it, and by his unflinching devotion to its best interests raised it high in the esteem of the country:

And Whereas the members of the National Convention are deeply conscious of the light that has passed from them; therefore be it

Resolved that the members of the National Convention desire to record their profound sorrow over the passing of their Chairman, and to convey to his family their hope that the Almighty Father will be present with them in their bereavement.

Sir, how true is it that "in the midst of life, we are in death." Not many days ago, Mr. Justice Fox, our Chairman, was amongst us; today, his Chair is vacant; his soul has winged its way to the God who gave it and we have laid his earthly tabernacle beneath the mouldering dust of earth. Some knew him but a few weeks, since the opening of this Convention, and yet knew him for his unflinching courtesy and kindness, for his scrupulous fairness, his deep and abiding love for

the land of his birth, and his loyalty to this chamber where in days gone by he presided as Speaker with such dignity and ability. Others of us knew him many years. My own acquaintance with him dates back to the early days of the present century, when we were youths together in the study of the law. Even then he impressed me with his kindness and consideration for others, with his broad charity and his aversion to speaking ill of anyone, with his earnest conception of the seriousness of life and with his complete freedom from all unworthy motives. That impression, sir, has outlived the years and it abides with me still. I need not here enlarge upon his career: that is a public document which all may read and one of which those who loved him best may justly be proud.

In the practice of his profession, he was deeply sensible of his duty to those whose interests were entrusted to his care. He was profoundly concerned about our system of laws, which he regarded as the greatest bulwark of human freedom.

Three times was he called to the counsels of his country, and in his native district never did he suffer a defeat at the hands of the electorate — eloquent testimony, indeed, of the place that he filled in the hearts of his countrymen. Later he was elevated to be one of His Majesty's judges of our Supreme Court, where he had scarcely

¹The Secretary, Captain Warren, acted as Chairman.