

Going further into it, I am personally, I do not speak for the Committee, not taking such a gloomy view of what we are going to get out of the operation in Labrador as I was inclined to at the beginning. I believe that this company, with all the money they are going to invest, will be declaring big profits in the interest of the shareholders, and seeing that we are going to get 5% of the profits as a royalty, and 35% income tax — 40% of the profits they declare — I think we are going to get something substantial out of it. That will be cold cash.

There are some people — I have found them in my conversations around the city — who think because we have this great iron deposit and water-power, the revenue accruing will be sufficient perhaps to take care of the running expenses of this country.... If we think in terms like that, we are going to be disappointed....

There is another point we have not touched on very much, the profit that will come to Newfoundland and Labrador as a result of the labour that it will give to our people. We have had figures given to us as to the number who will be employed on that operation, and it is considerable. I can visualise men and families going from all areas of Newfoundland, and from the coast of Labrador and setting up their future homes, and that will be a tremendous help to Newfoundland.

Some people think, "We are fishermen! How can this country expect fishermen to carry on a mining operation?" To offset that, I would point out that in St. Lawrence we have a mine, and Mr. Poynter told us that when they went there 12 years ago, the men around there were fishermen and knew very little about mining, and now, 12 years hence, they have very fine miners, equal to any in the world.

As far as the people in Labrador are concerned, we have a small population on the coast. These people suffer intensely from lack of funds. This mine is in Labrador. We want to see those people benefit — uproot themselves from the coast and go into the interior of Labrador, and become miners and if anyone is in doubt that the Labradorians are not capable of making good miners, they can get that out of their minds. I have been associated with them for 15 years, and I know they are capable of hard work and of adapting themselves.

When Goose airport started, people from the

fishing settlements along the coast came to the airport to work, and helped to build the airport; and the superintendent there told me they brought a great contribution to the airport. The young chap in charge of all the electrical repair work is a Labradorian, as is the man in charge of the oil-heating apparatus.... The people along the coast will bring a great contribution to the mine, and I hope our government will help these people move from a place where they cannot make a decent living, to a place where they can start again in life. I would not want to take them from the fishery if they could make a living, but they have not been able to do it in the past. It might help the fishery if the men now associated with the industry who cannot make a living were taken where they could make a living, and newer blood brought in for the fishery.

I have lived in that area 15 years, in the same latitude, same temperatures, same summer, same winter, I know the climate and conditions they would have to live under. I think the climate and the conditions under which they would have to live are very conducive to a happy, healthy, comfortable era. When the air base started, men from northern Ontario came to Goose Bay to work, and I visited the base on a good many occasions, and the first question they would ask was, "When are we going to get our winter? You do not have low temperatures. This is nothing compared with northern Ontario. We are certain you must have more severe winter." They found out for themselves that conditions are not more severe than the northern part of Ontario. What is true of Goose Bay is true where the Labrador Mining and Exploration Company is going to operate this iron ore deposit.

I have never missed an opportunity ... of trying to point out the atmospheric conditions and living conditions, and how they are not to be looked upon as adverse; people moving into the area will find a good climate, and will be able to grow their own vegetables and live under similar conditions to northern Newfoundland and northern Canada....

I think it is important that Newfoundlanders and Labradorians should take advantage of this mining operation, and anything the government can do to get our people, who are not making a comfortable living, to move in there, will add to what Newfoundland is going to get out of it. As