

taxes, and what they would spend in Newfoundland, were made up by the financial and commercial experts of that government. Now I wonder if Major Cashin's contempt for experts is as real as he makes out? What is a doctor, Mr. Chairman, but an expert in the diseases of the body and how to cure them? What is a lawyer but an expert in the law? Do we despise these legal experts, or do we go running to them when we get in trouble? We are very glad to take their advice, and to pay them for it too, as no doubt you have found out, sir, in the past few years. What is a musician but an expert in music, and a motor mechanic and an aeroplane pilot, experts in those fields of human endeavour; can't there be experts in the field of public finance and trade and commerce? Major Cashin called Mr. Gordon Howell an expert in customs matters here in this country, and Mr. George Allan an expert in income tax matters. Is there anything strange in the Government of Canada having experts to assist them? Their Department of Finance is a great department of government, and as a matter of fact the Government of Canada is extremely lucky in the calibre of their experts, and it was those men who made these estimates of what the government would spend and collect should we become a province. These are the men who make up Canada's own budgets, and if we think that's a job that any slouch can do, then we had better think again. They have to know exactly what they are talking about, just as Mr. Walter Marshall in our own Finance Department has to know what he is talking about, and Mr. Herbert Russell has to know what he is talking about before he can run our Railway.

....What is the good of special training if there is no such thing as experts? There are experts, and it was experts who compiled these estimates. Some of them are experts in our Newfoundland trade, because it's been their business to study it, and know it inside out. Hundreds of millions of dollars of our trade has passed through their hands in Ottawa in the past few years through allocations and quotas and the like, and on top of that Canada has stationed here a trade commissioner in the person of Mr. Britton to study our trade and see what we import, and how our trade is conducted. It is his job to do that, just as it is the jobs of dozens of other Canadian trade commissioners scattered around the world. Do you

know, Mr. Chairman, that these Canadian trade commissioners are obliged to visit the very factories and plants in Canada where they produce the goods that are sold in the countries where these commissioners are stationed? They have to secure samples of the products of Canada's competitors sold in the countries they are stationed, together with prices and similar trade information, and keep sending that type of information regularly back to the Department of Trade and Commerce. I spent many hours in the Department of Trade and Commerce in Ottawa, and I happen to know that it is one of the finest organisations of its kind in this world today. They know our trade inside out, and they were at the elbows of the financial experts when those experts were making up the Canadian government's estimates of what revenue they would collect here in Newfoundland should we become a province. There are about 6,000 men and women in that great department, and amongst them all you will find specialists and experts with very intimate knowledge of every country in the world with whom Canada trades; and you will find men whose specialty is the trade of our own Newfoundland. I hope we will hear no more of this contemptuous talk of experts, this attempt to sneer at them.

Major Cashin told us that the Bank of Canada had this very month withdrawn its support price for long-term bonds. I do not know just what we were supposed to infer from this simple fact, but I suppose it was intended to make us think that there was something wrong with the value of the bonds. What Major Cashin failed to tell us was that the Bank of Canada's action was taken exactly ten days after the United States Treasury had done exactly the same thing with regard to United States bonds. In both countries it was official government policy, and it was part of the mutual American-Canadian policy of anti-inflationary measures. And what Major Cashin did not tell us is that a few days afterwards the Bank of Canada resumed its support-price policy. Mr. Chairman, a lot of statements can be made that sound bad, that sound as though there was something wrong, but which are capable of a perfectly reasonable explanation. Truly, a little knowledge is a dangerous thing.

I was greatly interested when Major Cashin tried to make our blood run cold with his talk