

Newfoundland

Now whether the source be Mr. Claxton or any other bubbling spring of misinformation—

They have that wrong, because I said "babbling brook of misinformation."

Mr. Claxton: There is a good deal of misinformation about it.

Mr. Drew:

—I for one tell this conference that it will move very much closer to success if those who are attending it—

He was attending it.

—make their comments at the conference table and do not attempt to convey the impression outside that statements made here were incorrect.

The report goes on to give the discussion that took place. No remark I have made tonight in any way varies what took place at that time. The minister's memory is short, and perhaps that can be forgiven because of course he has been in another department since then, where health is not the main concern. He seems to forget that at the time we were discussing this the dominion government had put forward very substantial amendments and that when we met in April the then Prime Minister of Canada put forward a whole series of new proposals which he said must be regarded as an integrated whole.

I am not now arguing the merit of one tax or another. I do say, however, that when the suggestion is made that the dominion government made proposals for contributions of one kind or another the public should bear in mind that the way they were proposing to take care of it was by an income tax over and above the existing heavy income taxes, on an even level on all people, without exemption, and by what the present Minister of National Defence chooses to call a registration fee but what any child knows is in fact a poll tax.

Mr. Ashby: Riding along here in the caboose it is almost impossible to accurately follow anything being said at the other end of the chamber, except the words uttered by the leader of the Progressive Conservative party. I do not know whether I correctly understood the minister when he spoke a short time ago, but I thought he asked whether anyone in this house believed social services could be rendered to the people by other than contributory means. If that was what he asked, let me say that I certainly know of other methods. If people are asked to contribute part of their earnings toward any social services whatever, it means they will have to go without something. In the case of workingmen it means they will have to go without a good roast of beef and eat

[Mr. Drew.]

bologna, for example. Let me give you an instance, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Irvine: Of "baloney"?

Mr. Ashby: I will give you an example of pure, unadulterated "baloney". In *Industry*, the official organ of the Canadian manufacturers association, I find a statement made by a university-trained man, who was chairman of an educational committee, in an address to an association or society. These are his words:

The only place the government can get the money—

—to render social services—

—is by taxing the people.

I would like hon. members to keep those words in mind. I am going to make another statement so similar to that one that I am merely going to alter the words: The only place the Imperial Oil Company can obtain gasoline is by draining it out of the gas tanks of automobiles. I do not know how many of the hon. members of this house will believe the statement that I have just made. I will guarantee, however, that if that statement is repeated often enough beginning with little children, we can get university presidents, presidents of great manufacturing companies, many preachers and teachers to believe it, and then finally the people themselves. It is not true that the only source of money is from the pockets of the people, and it never has been true. Yet people actually believe that statement to be true. It is a general assumption, even right here in this house, that the only source of money is from the people. I have mentioned before that people do not make money. People may earn it, but they do not make it. If the Imperial Oil Company want gasoline, they go to the source for it. They are drilling now half a mile from our farm in the hope of striking the source of gasoline. If we want money for any purpose, it matters not what that purpose may be, it is our duty to go to the source for money, not to impoverish the people.

The Chairman: May I remind the hon. members at this time that discussion in committee should be directly relevant to the clause under discussion. If hon. members will refer to standing order 58 (2), they will find it:

Speeches in committee of the whole house must be strictly relevant to the item or clause under consideration.

Mr. Green: May I suggest to the Prime Minister that there seems to be one way in which the Canadian parliament could deal properly with this question of old age pensions to be paid in Newfoundland. Why could