

he was referring to some of the fishermen he knew, but I am just as sincere in saying that the fishermen I know, and the equipment I have seen them use in the past, certainly cannot be described in that way. I rather think that if an efficiency expert were to pass judgement on some of the equipment our fishermen have to use, and I am not thinking only of the Labradorians, but of the fishermen who go to the Labrador, that at least 50% of it would be thrown on the scrap-heap, and the other 50% would not reach a very high stage of efficiency.

And not only is the equipment of the fisherman a handicap to him, but I think it can be well said that a man cannot do his best unless he is well-fed and well-housed, and well cared for in that way. On the bread and tea economy that our fishermen have had to depend upon, they are not able to bring their best possible contributions to our productive life. It is true that that man's bread and tea economy has been varied, as far as he is able to have a meal of fish and brewis two or three times a week, and on Sunday he can have a meal of puffins and turrs, but that kind of diet does not enable him to bring his best possible contribution. We all know that when England had to reduce on her rations the authorities saw to it that the men who had to go down in the mines, and the men who had to work in the factory, and the fishermen, were given an extra ration. It has a bearing upon his ability to produce. The same is true of our people. If they had better equipment, and were better fed, they could bring a better contribution to the economy of this country.

When the member from Bonavista Centre made that speech here two weeks ago on the opening of the debate, on the way out I offered him my congratulations. I thought he was rendering a great piece of service to this country. It has been backed up several times by other members, and especially by Mr. Bradley this afternoon. I offer him my congratulations because I thought then that he was "on the beam", as some other individual put it. I hasten to explain that in giving my congratulations to Mr. Smallwood, I am not giving blanket approval to all he said that day. He has a way of saying things sometimes that perhaps I don't like, and perhaps others don't like, but nevertheless who am I to say what he should say, or how he should say it?....

There have been letters read here, I think the

member from Bonavista Centre has read letters, from individual members of their constituencies, and I suppose if the rest of us were to gather together our letters and read them it would take up a great deal of our time, and I am not going to do that, but what I want to say is this: that there is none of us in this Convention who is so short-sighted as to think that because there is an individual family or two somewhere on the coast of Labrador, or somewhere in the bays of Newfoundland, who are living in squalor, poverty, distress, and hunger, that because of that the whole background of this report should be darkened.... But when there is forced in upon me the fact that these are not isolated cases, that there is a great deal of hunger, and has been in the past, and a great deal of poverty, and a great deal of distress in our island, I think that that fact, which our Committee members must have known, should have made them shade in some dark lines in the background at least in the report, rather than presenting only the highlights.

It is not a waste of our time to look at this country through the spectacles that so many, many people on the island and the coast of Labrador have to wear through all the year, and see the position we are in through the shady spectacles that they have to wear. I think it is not a waste of time, and I think we would have spent some portion of the 14 months we have spent here more valuably, if we had tried together to see the country as it really is.

It was with a great deal of concern and regret that I read this morning in the *Daily News* of the fact that another of our industries in Labrador has had to declare itself insolvent. That company touches in a very vital way a large part of the coast of Labrador. The people along that coast have had a very hard and very difficult existence all through their lives. A few years ago this industry started. It did not have a very good beginning. It dropped out of existence for a while and came back again, but when this company came into existence these people saw an opportunity whereby they might be able to make a few dollars other than through the fishery. In the long winter months they might work and make a bit of money, rather than have to rely upon the dole which they know so well. It was a very bright spot to them. Now to most of us it would not be a bright spot. It is not an easy thing to have to make