

governments in other countries are aiming at providing.... I just wanted to know what was behind that statement, if the Committee was thinking in terms of excess services that should have been cut off to reduce the expenditures, or if more frugal spending within these services could have done it. And I take it was the latter is the case from Mr. Cashin's explanation.

Mr. Cashin And in order to get those expenditures down now from where they are, it's going to be some job.

Mr. Chairman Would any of the members care to discuss further the Finance Report?....

[The committee rose and reported progress]

Mr. Higgins If there is to be any further discussion on the Report of the Finance Committee, I suggest it be postponed until the Economic Report has been presented.

Mr. Vardy Mr. Chairman, I move that resolution too.

Mr. Chairman It's been moved and seconded that further discussion on the Finance Report be deferred until the Economic Report has been tabled. I'd like to make it clear that this is not a closure motion. It is merely to the effect that further discussion on the Finance Report should be deferred....

[The motion carried]

Mr. Cashin Mr. Chairman, in moving the adjournment of the House this afternoon until the call of the Chair, I'd like to point out that the Finance Committee is now in session to prepare the Economic Report. It will probably be ready, in a week. As every member who has had anything to do with committees and compiling reports knows, a report like this, which is the summary of all the reports practically, is going to take some time. And whilst we may be able to compile it in two or three days, it's got to be mimeographed and collected and so forth, and that that's going to take a few days. And consequently, Mr. Chairman, I now move that this House adjourn until the call of the Chair.

Mr. Smallwood Mr. Chairman, I wondered if Mr. Ashbourne, who yesterday, on another motion, desired to raise a point, could do so. I think it's fairly customary in parliamentary circles for a member wishing to bring up a matter which doesn't quite properly fall under other motions or orders of business, to do so on the motion to adjourn.... I caught enough of it yesterday to

realise that the matter he was attempting to raise was rather important, and while possibly we can do nothing whatever about it, possibly he wants to ventilate the matter and use the Convention as a medium through which to raise a matter of grave public concern.

Mr. Chairman Well, with the indulgence of the House, the motion made by Major Cashin has not...

Mr. Ashbourne I'll second the motion, and in seconding the motion I'll take advantage of this opportunity which I trust is in order although I asked permission yesterday in the committee of the whole to bring up the matter, which I understood I had to rescind. However, one of the members rose to a point of order, and I regret very much having been out of order at that time. The matter, sir, refers to the convertibility of the amount which is being received as proceeds from the exports of our fish in Canadian dollars...

Mr. Chairman You'll pardon me Mr. Ashbourne, I'm going to rule that you have the right to address yourself, because while I can't anticipate your remarks, I do think that your remarks might have a bearing upon the deliberations of the Economic Committee which is now in the midst of its work. Therefore, I will welcome anything that you have to say.

Mr. Ashbourne Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. As I was beginning to say yesterday, I wasn't here at the time that this announcement was made by the government around September 20, governing certain shipments of fish, and by the way, I understand that it is not for the whole catch that this provision has been made. I speak subject to correction upon this matter. But the important point in my mind is the rate at which the sterling proceeds of this fish is to be converted into Newfoundland and Canadian funds. I think myself that it's only right and proper for the trade to expect some announcement to be made by the government as to the rate at which this exchange will be converted. I understand at the present time the rate is something over \$4 to the pound; and at that rate exporters would be in a position to make a price for shore and Labrador fish. But should there be a pound sterling decline, to say \$3 to the pound, we can readily understand that it would mean a cut of 25% in the value received for our fish. And it was this point, sir, that I had in mind yesterday. I don't want to stress the fact now, but