

report, when we know Great Britain is not in a position to buy iron ore or fresh fish?.... The point I am trying to make is this... that this matter comes within the scope of the Convention for the simple reason we are here to find out the economic position of the country. Great Britain tells us they cannot do anything with the US. The Dominions Office tells us they are not going to try. Why not let us try?.... The fish business is the livelihood of 50% of the people. Consequently, as a Convention, even if we have no power, it is our job, even if we have to drive it down the throat of the Commission of Government and the Dominions Office.

There is another matter, the sale of iron ore to the United States. We all know some of their mines are worked out. It will be five to ten years before Labrador produces. If Lake Superior is worked out, there are millions of tons here on Bell Island. That would be another trade agreement. No effort has been made by the Commission or the Dominions Office to get trade agreements for us. When they gave the bases away, the Commission and the Dominions Office forgot all about Newfoundland.... They tell us we got some labour; we did, at restricted wages. They tell us it was to protect us. Do they expect us to swallow that? 300,000 people, and they are worried about us! The island of Newfoundland is a fortress for North America, and both the Canadian and American governments are interested in Newfoundland for that reason. The Commission betrayed their trusteeship. I think it was brought up at a meeting with the Dominions Office, that they were trustees, and we were told that the bases were gone and that there was nothing they could do about it. I am going to support this motion whether it receives the consent of the Commission of Government or not.

I want to compliment Mr. Reddy on his speech. Today all our newsprint goes into the United States.... We have to develop a fresh and frozen fish market in the United States if this country is going to live. We do not know whether we are going to sell a ton of iron ore to Great Britain or a pound of fish. They tell us they cannot approach the United States. If they cannot do their job, then let them get out of here and let someone else do it....

Mr. Miller We have a very peculiar situation here. First we have your ruling; second we dig

back and find we have information from the Commission that it was beyond our power to do this; third, we have information supplied by the delegation to London. We defy all that and go on trying to press something. I would press just as hard as anyone, if I found just the slightest chance of getting it through.... What is the sense? I have every respect for Mr. Penney and the effort he made. I agree entirely that the future of Newfoundland lies with the United States, but I do not think we are going to get anywhere with this.... I am going to introduce an amendment to Mr. Penney's motion. I move that the words beginning "for general trade..." be deleted, and the following substituted: "to secure information on matters affecting the future economy of Newfoundland in its relationship to the United States of America."

Mr. Chairman Does anybody second that amendment?

Mr. Hollett Is there any difference between that and Mr. Penney's motion?

Mr. Higgins I presume you are going to rule against it. I will second it.

Mr. Chairman One is for general trade discussions, the other is to secure information on matters affecting the future economy of Newfoundland. I cannot rule it out as being a repetition of the other. On the same grounds as I ruled out the original motion, I would have to rule out the amendment. I still think you are entirely wrong in your interpretation of the motion. I do not intend to rule out the amendment.

Mr. Smallwood We do not want to look ridiculous: a "delegation of six or less" — it might be none.

Mr. Penney I am satisfied so long as this Convention is satisfied to send a delegation to Washington: so long as the sense of my motion is not disturbed.

Mr. Job I think it is probably generally known that this resolution is after my own heart. I believe in it, and I believe we may get somewhere if we can get the delegation to go there. I think one of the troubles may be to get the request passed by the authorities. I see no harm whatsoever in trying. I wonder how we can get it done quickly. I do not see how the deputation can be of use to this Convention unless it can be done quickly. I always thought we had every right to make enquiry on this question of trade between here and