

paper industry envisages an increase in annual earnings to a total of not less than \$20 million.

If, Mr. Chairman, the outlook for our forest industries is any indication of the future

economic security of the country, then that future is promising indeed.

*[The committee rose and reported progress]*

### Motion to Send a Delegation to Canada

**Mr. Chairman** Mr. Smallwood, you propose, with the consent of the Convention, to move a resolution of which you give notice today. Would you please frame your motion accordingly.

**Mr. Smallwood** I move the following resolution:

Whereas it is desirable that the National Convention and the people of Newfoundland should be fully informed so far as possible of all facts having any bearing upon forms of government that might be submitted to the people in a national referendum; therefore be it

Resolved that the appropriate authorities be advised that the Convention desires to inform the Government of Canada of the Convention's wish to learn that government's attitude on the question of federal union of Newfoundland with Canada; and further wishes to ascertain the terms and conditions on the basis of which the Government of Canada consider that such federal union might be effected; and be it finally resolved that the delegation shall have no authority whatsoever to negotiate or conclude any agreement or in any manner to bind the Convention or the people of Newfoundland.

**Mr. Chairman** That is the motion of which notice has been given by Mr. Smallwood.... Is there any objection to the subject matter of the notice now being discussed by Mr. Smallwood? If not, I will assume you have given your unanimous assent to the waiver of notice.

**Mr. Smallwood** Mr. Chairman, the history of this island is an unbroken story of struggle. Our people's struggle to live commenced on the day they first landed here, four centuries and more ago, and has continued to this day. The struggle is more uneven now than it was then, and the people view the future now with more dread than they felt a century ago.

The newer conceptions of what life can be — of what life should be — have widened our horizons, and deepened our knowledge of the great gulf which separates what we have and are

from what we feel we should have and be. We have been taught by newspapers, magazines, motion pictures, radios and visitors something of the higher standards of well-being of the mainland of North America; we have become uncomfortably aware of the low standards of our country; and we are driven irresistibly to wonder whether our attempt to persist in isolation is the root cause of our condition.

We have often felt in the past, when we learned something of the higher standards of the mainland, that such things belonged to another world, that they were not for us. But today we are not so sure that two yardsticks were designed by the Almighty to measure the standards of well-being; one yardstick for the mainland of the continent, another for this island which lies beside it. Today we are not so sure, not so ready to take it for granted, that we Newfoundlanders are destined to accept much lower standards of life than our neighbours of Canada and the United States. Today we are more disposed to feel that our very manhood, our very creation by God, entitles us to standards of life no lower than our brothers on the mainland.

Our Newfoundland is known to possess natural wealth of considerable value and variety. Without at all exaggerating their extent we know that our fisheries are in the front rank of the world's marine wealth. We have considerable forest, waterpower and mineral resources. Our Newfoundland people are industrious, hard-working, frugal, ingenious and sober. The combination of such natural resources and such people should spell a prosperous country enjoying high standards, western world standards of living. This combination should spell fine, modern, well-equipped homes; lots of health-giving food; ample clothing; the amenities of modern New World civilisation; good roads; good schools, good hospitals, high levels of public and private health; it should spell a vital, prosperous, progressive country.

It has not spelt any such things. Compared with the mainland of North America we are 50