

tee, and the object of committee is to relax the rules of debate, in particular the rule which restricts any member when in Convention to speak more than once, and then for not more than one hour, unless extended for a further 15 minutes by the indulgence of the House.

Under standing order 45 it is specifically provided, "In committee members may speak more than once to the same question." Now as to the number of times he may speak, how long he may speak, there is no restriction. That is in the discretion of the Chairman in committee and there is no appeal.... Under standing order 54 it is provided, "Whenever any matter arises ... which, in the opinion of the Chairman is not covered by the standing orders, reference shall be made to the rules and regulations of the House of Assembly of Newfoundland, and the matter decided in accordance with those rules, save that where the said rules are silent upon the matter, the question shall be decided in accordance with the rules of British parliamentary procedure."

There is nothing in the rules of the House of Assembly covering this course. I have to take recourse to established parliamentary procedure, and in May, 14th edition, pages 570-571, the author says that "Order in debate and in committee is enforced by the Chairman, as he is responsible for the conduct of business therein, and from his decision no appeal can be made to the Speaker or the House." On page 571 it says, "The Chairman is permitted to check irrelevant or tedious repetition." Now in this particular instance, Mr. Smallwood, I am not permitted to prescribe a time limit as such.... I cannot abridge your right, or the right of any member to speak more than once ... but I will have to ask you to confine yourself to strictly relevant matters, and to matters of a novel origin which may have been raised by Mr. Hollett; I don't want any repetition of matters to which you have already referred.... I will have to ask you, if you don't mind Mr. Smallwood, to make your remarks as brief as you possibly can, please.

**Mr. Smallwood** Yes sir, I will certainly do that, as I always do.

**Mr. Hollett** Point of order. I might point out that in summing up this matter I asked the person who is supposed to be piloting this thing through no questions whatsoever.

**Mr. Chairman** That is not the point. He is per-

mitted to speak more than once. There does not have to be any question at all....

**Mr. Smallwood** Yes sir, I will attempt to cover all or nearly all the points raised by Mr. Hollett in his speech. I made a number of notes as Mr. Hollett went along, and I intend to refer to those notes.

Mr. Hollett paid a tribute to the Dominion of Canada for the very great part that Canada had played in this war, and he made use of this phrase: "Canada, united in war, divided in peace." Sir, the Dominion of Canada is a federal union of nine self-governing provinces, just as the United States of America is a federal union of 48 self-governing states, just as the Commonwealth of Australia is a federal union of, I think, six self-governing states, and in every case in this world today that I happen to know about, where you have a federal union, what you find is difference of opinion, of conception, little grievances, little quarrels between one state or province and another, or between a number of states or provinces and the federal government on the other side.

**Mr. Chairman** My attention has been called to the fact that at the moment I have not a quorum.

**Mr. Smallwood** I may inform you, sir, if it is of any interest to you, that the idea was that I was not to be allowed to speak today, and that is why there is no quorum at the present time, but if there is a quorum I will speak.

**Mr. Chairman** (to Secretary) I will have to ask you to call the members again.

**Mr. Smallwood** Yes, sir, we are adjourning today and they want the last word to the country to consist of a lot of poison that can't be answered, but I am going to answer this. I know all about it. I have known it for a week.

**Mr. Chairman** Fifteen members of the committee constitute a quorum. We are sitting in committee.

**Mr. Smallwood** Is it a quorum now?

**Mr. Chairman** Yes.

**Mr. Smallwood** Well, sir, I will proceed. It has been said by Mr. Hollett that Canada is a nation united in war but divided in peace, and the reference came while he was describing the Dominion-provincial conference that was held a couple of years ago.... At that conference they had their differences of opinion, the various premiers stating their viewpoints and the Government of Canada stating theirs, and he