

of development.

There are many who hold that this country has suffered grievously by being tied down to the system of education of other countries. They do not believe that any system, no matter how excellent in its own country, is really suited to our life and problems. It is their belief that we must evolve our own system of education completely independently of other countries, so that Newfoundlanders may develop their own way of life with the enlightenment and enrichment that only a sound educational system can provide, and in my belief this system can only be developed from the establishing of a cultural focus, such as a university.

I now wish to move the following resolution: I move that the report of the Committee on Education be further considered.

**Mr. Butt** I second that motion.

*[The motion carried.]*

**Mr. Higgins** I ask leave to move the following resolution:

Whereas it is the opinion of this Convention that the status of the Memorial University College should be raised to that of a degree-conferring institution,

Be it therefore resolved that this Convention places itself on record as being of opinion that the necessary financial arrangements should be made immediately by the Honourable the Commission of Government for this purpose, And be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable the Commission of Government.

**Mr. Chairman** The situation is very awkward. That is not an amendment to the Education Report. It is an expression of opinion to be sent to the Commission of Government. I cannot see the connection. Frankly, I did not know what your motion was to be. I thought there was something to be added to the Education Report.

**Mr. Higgins** I understood the only way I could

bring it in was to move that the report be considered.

**Mr. Chairman** You have the report on the table for further consideration; what do you propose to do with it? I think it is unnecessary to touch the report for the purpose of Mr. Higgins' making his resolution. I am prepared to receive the resolution.

**Mr. Hollett** The Education Committee recommended that the Memorial College should be extended to a degree conferring institution, but they did not recommend that the government find the money for it.

**Mr. Chairman** Why not let it stay at that? In incorporating it in the report it does not go to the government. The government has nothing to do with our reports. Here is a recommendation to the government. Some months ago we made a recommendation that nothing further be done with the assets of the country. That resolution was adopted and sent to the Commission. Now Mr. Higgins thinks we should send another expression of opinion, that the Memorial University College be given full university status. There is no reason why we cannot do that and not disturb the Education Report.

**Mr. Smallwood** The Education Report is now before the House on motion of Mr. Higgins. I move that the Education Report be re-adopted as read.

*[The motion carried]*

**Mr. Miller** I would like to second Mr. Higgins' resolution, and I propose to move the adjournment of the debate.

**Mr. Smallwood** If I move the adjournment of the House, would I have lost my opportunity to speak to the motion?

**Mr. Chairman** No. Moved and seconded that the debate be adjourned until tomorrow.

*[The motion carried, and the Convention adjourned]*

May 26, 1947

**Mr. Chairman** We have a communication from the Department of Home Affairs, which the Secretary will now read in the House.

Commission Of Government

Office Of The Secretary

St. John's, Nfld.

May 26, 1947.

Sir:

The Commission of Government have considered the resolution of the National Convention which you have submitted with your letter to me of May 23rd.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Above, p. 569.