

none of our business whatsoever. Why should we not go and endeavour to interview the governments of a dozen countries who take our products? If we are going to deal with the United States, why not with Portugal, Spain, Italy, Greece and the West Indies? ....

The second part of that section — "Bearing in mind ... free entry ... etc." — we have gone into this before, and I think we all agreed that we did not give any territory of ours to the United States, therefore in what way can we use that as a bargaining power in order to get our fish into the USA duty free or with concessions? That part of our territory which has been stolen from us and given away, was taken from us by Great Britain. If we look for concessions on account of that, we must look to Great Britain, who sliced it off this little island and gave it away. I can imagine the answer any delegation would get if we approached the United States saying, "Look here, you have got some of our territory, what are you going to do about it?" That's a signed and sealed bargain, by which Great Britain gave away for 99 years, which means forever, those bases, and for which they got 40 or 50 old destroyers. That I think is something which we have to think about in dealing with that particular section....

*[Mr. Hollett read Section 2]*

In other words we are expected to communicate with the Commission of Government, and in conjunction with them set up a committee to say, "Well now, if we have responsible government, what will you do for us?"; "If we continue your puppet government as it is, or slightly reformed, what will you do to help us?"; or, "If we take some other form of Government, what is your attitude then?" I think that's the most ridiculous section of the lot. In other words we have to decide what form of Government we will recommend to the people. Can you conceive of the Commission of Government sitting down and talking to asses who would ask them questions of that sort?

Then we come to clause three. A nice little parcel tied up with a neat little string. The same parcel which we had several months ago, and which we spent a week or ten days arguing about, nicely disguised and designed to fool people, there is no question about it. Mind you, I have no objection to our knowing the terms under which we might go into union with Canada, but I am

reminded of the fact, when I think of it, that the Ottawa government is unable to come to terms with the various provinces at the present time.... In spite of that we consider sending a delegation to Ottawa to find out the terms. I admit that is not the exact wording, but that is the point of the section....

I am not very strongly against this motion. It commits us to very little except that it asks us to approach the Commission of Government. I don't know if they will receive us. There is nothing to get us into serious trouble at the moment, but it is a pity that we can't get on with the job for which we were sent here and then, according to our own poor judgement, make up our minds as to whether we are self-supporting. Major Cashin told us yesterday that we were self-supporting since 1941, but we have not decided that in our wisdom. I think we ought to get to work and finish our business, and find out just where we are, and let the government talk fiscal matters with the United States, and with Canada for that matter.

**Mr. Job** May I make a few remarks of explanation?

**Mr. Chairman** Anything that you have said you may explain, Mr. Job, if it has been misinterpreted. In addition you have your right of reply at the end of the debate.

**Mr. Job** I don't want a long debate, but there is nothing in this resolution calling for an approach to any foreign government at all. You said we might as well approach Spain or Italy or Greece or the United States, but this motion is not for approaching the United States, but our own government, for information which I think it is necessary for us to have in doing this job here. There is nothing in this resolution which calls for the sending of a delegation anywhere outside of Newfoundland.

**Mr. Chairman** Is the Convention ready for the question?

**Mr. Fogwill** Mr. Chairman, the last paragraph of the resolution, I wish to move an amendment to delete the words from line six "the Chairman of this Convention in consultation with the Steering Committee shall thereupon select a delegation of members of this Convention", and insert these words: "the Convention shall elect from amongst its members a delegation which, with the Chairman of the Convention, shall constitute