

to. As a matter of fact Britain is in no position to cancel anything for anybody. She simply has nothing left. Under these circumstances the conversion of debt offer must be interpreted as a generous gesture.

2. *Interest-Free Loans.* The disposition of the balance of interest-free loans is to remain at the discretion of the Newfoundland government — a right and proper thing.

3. *Development Loans.* The answer given is most reasonable.

4. *The position arising out of the various base deals.* It is my unqualified opinion that Newfoundland should have received, and still should receive, a suitable *quid pro quo* for the territories that were alienated. We have been told that if we want something done about all that, that we should get ourselves a government and do it ourselves. Sound advice, mind you, and maybe we should be doing something about it instead of sitting here fiddling while we burn.

5. *Financing of Gander Airport.* Admittedly the arrangement for the financing of Gander is far from satisfactory. Again, it is a matter of getting ourselves a government and of doing something about it.

6. *Trade and Tariffs.* It was unfortunate that Britain could not give us an understanding to do more with regard to our fish and iron ore. I say "understanding" not "undertaking", for the delegation was not such a body as an undertaking could be given to. We were not empowered to negotiate any trade agreements. The hard fact is that just now, out of utter necessity, Britain must consider herself and what will best suit her purpose first — and all other things second. And no arguments to the contrary are likely to move her in that at this time.

7. *Forms of Government.* Anyone who was not expecting exactly the answer received was not a realist. He was building castles in Spain with visions of United Kingdom guarantees and grants-in-aid. The answer does emphasise a point I have always tried to make — that any people to be sovereign unto themselves, must first be sufficient unto themselves. Responsible government to be really responsible must be able to finance its own way, and be its own adequate guarantee in the credit markets of the world. For it to be anything else would be not to be really responsible, since its sovereignty would be open

to dictation from the source that would foot the balance of the bill. Even in governments, he who pays the piper calls the tune.

I am going to repeat something I have already said to the press of St. John's. I am convinced that Lord Addison and the United Kingdom government have dealt with us in good faith. They have given direct answers to the questions asked. The answers are clear, concise, unmistakable. We may not like those answers. We may find some of them to be hard answers. But they are answers that call a spade a spade. And they are straight from the horse's mouth. And we know now where we stand. Yesterday Major Cashin made another one of those speeches. He said some things with which I agreed. Those were the things that had reference to the actual facts in the case of the London mission. He said some other things with which I did not agree. Those had to do with his constructions, interpretations and opinions. Indeed, he said so many things with which I disagree as would take a considerable period of time for me to go into in detail — something which I have no intention of doing. I am going to content myself with a blanket disavowal. As far as I am concerned all the opinions, interpretations, conclusions and so forth voiced by Major Cashin yesterday, were entirely his own.

Finally, I have a word to say to the people of this island. All my life I have been close to the common man of this land. All my life I have lived on the wrong side of the tracks. All my life my associations have been with the labour and co-operative movements. I have done what I could in my time to help the little fellow the better to make both ends meet. And all over this land today there are some ordinary people who will at this time of decision hear my voice and believe it. To them — to the woodsman filing his bucksaw for a day in the woods tomorrow, to the man mending his herring nets or lathing his lobster traps, to the miner resting after a hard day in the mines — to all the little people all over this land, struggling away for their three square meals a day, and a decent suit of clothes on the back, and a tight roof over the head — to all you, and not forgetting my last forgotten fisherman on the bill of Cape St. George — to all of you, I say that this time you are going to get a square deal. The British government is not going to try to sell you up the St. Lawrence. It is not going to try to railroad you