

is a mistake to say a man *must* be here every day.

Mr. Jackman What I mean is this — and I thought I made it clear — I did not say he must attend, that is not possible, for example, he may be sick. The point is that out of respect to the Chair and the whole assembly, if a delegate finds it impossible to attend, he could at least telephone the Secretary, and if we are going to have all the proceedings published, which is quite right, I say let the reports be complete....

Mr. Brown On Saturday evening's train I left to accompany my wife home. I came to you, Mr. Chairman, when the committee rose, and asked if it would be all right to go and said I would be back on Monday's train.

Mr. Chairman Quite so.

Mr. Brown When I am not here present in my chair, I do not care what people say. They can say I am gone to Timbuctoo. They can say I am drunk. I am not worrying about that. I do say let the rules of this Convention stand without having anything to do with them.

Mr. Fudge I note the chair of Mr. Ryan of Placentia West is vacant. He has a severe cold and asked me to tell you that, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman It is neither practical nor possible, nor is it expected that on every day of meeting every member must be here. There are bound to be circumstances over which we have no control, and whilst we shall all endeavour to assemble here and perform our duties, there are occasions when we cannot be here. Then again a member may have to leave. It is a matter of duty for the members to be here and members will perform that, but it has to be recognised that there are circumstances which may require a member to absent himself, he will certainly be excused.

Mr. Brown The only time the papers should report absentees is in the event of no quorum.

Mr. Jackman If it is going to be reported, I am of the opinion the names should be published.

Mr. Butt I move that the question be now put.

Mr. Brown I second that.

Mr. Jackman I move that the names of the members attending every day be put in the record.

Mr. Chairman You must consider that would be unfair, even to absent members, who might by some misconstruction be written down as delinquents. In the old days there were occasions when we did not have a full membership of the House present but we did not inquire into their

reasons.... It might form the occasion for some unwarranted slander being cast on a member to have his name posted. I do not think any member who has of necessity the confidence of his district which elected him need fear that confidence is going to be altered.... Perhaps you might pardon me, Mr. Jackman, if I suggest that maybe you are becoming alarmed unnecessarily. No one has any wish to cast a slur upon any member, but you will appreciate what is an undeniable fact, that we cannot be here on all occasions. Perhaps you would let it remain as a subject of good sense.

Mr. Butt I respectfully move that the question be now put.

Mr. Smallwood Perhaps now that Mr. Jackman has made his point and it has undoubtedly been reported, he would be happy to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Jackman I am prepared to withdraw my motion, but I still think the Secretary should be notified in the event of absenteeism....

Mr. Vardy I think we are making a mountain out of a molehill.

Mr. Chairman It has been moved that the report of the committee be adopted as read, put in and amended.

[The motion carried unanimously]

Mr. Chairman Before the committee rises, I most gratefully acknowledge the altogether generous references which you made to me. You make me feel most humble but withal most appreciative of what you said. I regard it as a very great privilege and a lasting distinction, than which I can imagine no greater, to be permitted to serve you, as I hope you will permit me to do. *[The committee rose and reported progress, and the Convention adopted the rules and procedures as approved]*

Mr. Ashbourne In the terms of reference for this National Convention, it is particularly stated that it shall be the function and duty of the elected representatives to consider and discuss the changes that have taken place in the financial and economic system of this island since 1934, and to examine the position of the country. It seems to my mind that in the person of the Honourable Ira Wild we have one who can give us, I hope, a picture of the financial position of our country, together with a review of his term of office and of the problems with which he has been confronted since he came to Newfoundland.