

reasonable conditions a continuation of the industry can be reasonably assured." I put it to you Mr. Chairman, that that statement is just as conservative and just as discreet as the report of Lord Amulree or the report of Chadwick and Jones.... Well, Mr. Chairman, I think I have full right to refer to a report of Chadwick and Jones.

Mr. Chairman On what authority.

Mr. Miller On the authority, sir...

Mr. Smallwood The Chadwick-Jones Report is a report that was compiled by the British government for this Convention.

Mr. Chairman I beg your pardon. I stand corrected.

Mr. Miller I'll read a passage to you, Mr. Chairman. Paragraph 3. "It was also proposed that His Majesty's Government should prepare and make available for the Convention when it meets a factual and objective statement on our economic situation. This would analyse development in revenue and expenditures since 1934, the particulars of maintaining the various public and social services, review the country's import and export trade, and the main branches of its economic activity, and survey the principle lines of policy followed by Commission of Government and their financial implications." I read that for you because as I see it, financial implications are subject to change with change of policy, as we are asked to consider policy. Therefore if we cannot deal with possible changes in policy, which must necessarily come with possible changes in form of government, well, I think that those who compiled the Chadwick-Jones Report were a little bit astray or I am afraid we are astray. But I do feel that I have every right to refer to Chadwick and Jones.

Mr. Chairman I do know that the Chadwick and Jones Report had been prepared for the benefit of this Convention, I did not know your intentions, but you are perfectly in order. I was wrong.

Mr. Miller I have no business, no intention of trying to make your road any harder to travel than it purports to be.... Mercantile marine.... Now what does Lord Amulree say. I'll quote again, "We have already indicated the serious loss which the country generally, and St. John's in particular, suffers through the absence of a local

mercantile marine. It is, to say the least, highly anomalous that in a maritime country, proud of its seafaring traditions, with an extensive European and South American trade, use should be made of foreign vessels to carry its products to market. It is still more anomalous that the foreign vessels generally employed for this purpose should be those of a nation which is one of Newfoundland's chief competitors in the codfish markets of the world."¹ Lord Amulree concludes, "We content ourselves with recording the facts and suggesting that a special enquiry should be instituted, with a view to the elaboration of a practical scheme for encouraging the formation of a local carrying fleet."² I am satisfied that the Economic Report has been constructive in their suggestions. Agriculture. As I foresee the future of agriculture in Newfoundland in its different phases ... I would say that its possibilities are unlimited.... I base my conclusions on the progress made over the last 15 years. And if I must, I give credit for it to the reconstruction programme of Commission of Government. Our people have become farm conscious. We have started an era of commercial farming. True, we are late, as some speaker remarked a few days ago, we come in a period when pioneering is a forgotten word and competition from farm mechanisation confronts us. Despite all this we are progressing. We are equal to the task, and nothing can more effectively cushion a national setback in any country than the products of the land. It's as symbolic as the action of a man who throws himself on the ground when an explosion passes over him. But these prosperous years have not tended to continuity of purpose. Money came easy of late. Further, the high values for cattle encouraged people to sell perhaps a little too much. Add to this the meager supply of cattle feeds, and there a new phase of farm life must be tackled, the cultivation of seeds. This may take half a century to climatise growth, but it can be done and will be done. The greater purchasing power of our people and the greater distribution of money has created demand. Our farmer is watching as keenly as he watches the farm life, the plant life he fosters. Again I am satisfied to think that the economic committee has been correct.

¹*Newfoundland Royal Commission, 1933 Report* (Cmd. 4480, 1933), p. 139.

²*Ibid.*, p. 139.