

we can produce. In other words, millions of dollars are yearly leaving this country without one dollar returning in remuneration. Mr. Job has already attempted to emphasise to you that the largest and most sought-after market in the world is ours for the asking. Is our economy such that someone else is needed to do the asking for us? Why fritter away our precious dollars, which belong as much to the humblest fisherman in Bonavista Bay or any other bay as to the country at large, on a dead market? Summarising, Mr. Chairman, the whole affair is a one-sided gain. That side does not happen to be ours.

As far as the agricultural aspect of our economy is concerned, this report itself showed all too clearly that much in this country is to be decided in this respect. Encouragement of veterans into agriculture but a year ago, and today these same veterans have practically everything they have grown still on their hands, while foreign produce pours into this country — no economy of any country will stand this lack of planning and foresight. Granted, this island a mere 200 years ago was a barren waste; but these 200 years have witnessed considerable advance. With the institution of a good marketing system and the promise of a sale for goods produced, farming will substitute another answer to the unnecessary outside expenditure on goods which are here on our doorstep. I would remind certain members that three meals a day are more easily acquired by even the poorest, when two or more of those meals are to be found in the back garden.

Mr. Chairman, a depression is forecast by our members; just when, even the most pessimistic souls are not able to state. I wish to ask the member for Bonavista Centre if he considers that from the whole world, this small island of ours is to be singled out for starvation? Any fool knows that the economy of any country fluctuates from time to time. In the event of international crisis, is manna to drop from heaven in every country but Newfoundland? If there are to be soup and bread lines as before, are other countries to be spared them? Mr. Butt put forward what I consider to be a concrete fact when he stated that in economic spheres, material possessions may have more bearing on a country's prosperity than existent dollars. The value of the materials Newfoundland possesses has increased beyond doubt; not alone because of the war which ended two

years ago, but because this war inevitably exhausted supplies and in some cases even the sources of those supplies for all time. Now the occasion is opportune to release to a world hungry for raw materials such as we possess of the natural resources at our command.

Any member in this Convention who expresses no faith in his country infers only lack of faith in himself; and who with such a line of thought can ever hope to gain for Newfoundland international respect? May I remind the member from St. George's that the hope and charity theme accentuated in his eloquent delivery of yesterday, fails to make sense when one perceives that he ignores that equally important factor of "faith".

I shall make no attempt to wrangle with the figures so ably provided by Major Cashin and his Committee. I, for one, am certain that fooling is implied only in our discussions with outsiders. After much thought and with deep sincerity, I am satisfied that our beloved country is self-supporting at the present time and will be for as far into the future as any human being is able to foresee. I wish to take this opportunity of congratulating Major Cashin and his Committee on their fine work. With faith in my country and its people — may God bless them — I submit my wholehearted support to this report.

**Mr. Chairman** Order, please.

**Mr. Fudge** Mr. Chairman, before recess there was a point or two on which I felt that I should comment, and that is in connection with our fish. Our trouble with fish is caused by our customers in Europe who trade in sterling, and the inability of Great Britain to convert the sterling into dollars. This of course applies also to the woods situation. As far as the woods are concerned, I regret that the cut for this year is very near completed, but I think it is only fair that I should explain as best I can why it is that the cut is up so soon. It is because of the fact that due to a poor fishery we have had such a flow of men to the woods as we have not had for years and years, with the result that two weeks ago, in one week's cutting, Bowaters had 27,000 cords of wood cut and piled. The like was never known before in their history. It must be understood that the forests cannot stand that...

I remember in the days before the war that our earning power was not very good, and therefore the economic position of Newfoundland was