

the Convention.

**Mr. Higgins** Our Mining Report is not finished.

**Mr. Chairman** Moved and seconded that the committee rise, and report having considered the matter to them referred, made some progress and ask leave to sit again tomorrow.

**Mr. Smallwood** Do you mean tomorrow literally, or formally?

**Mr. Chairman** Tomorrow next month, probably.

*[The motion carried]*

**Mr. Chairman** Now gentlemen, with the assent of the whole House, and in view of the fact that I have been handed a resolution which refers to these mining matters, we might proceed with that resolution before taking up the remaining orders of the day. I know it is a bit irregular, but it will probably be more convenient. Is there any objection to adopting that course?

**Mr. Hollett** Mr. Chairman, the remarks which I intended to make in introducing this resolution I have already made, and I just want to make one further remark, that this resolution is introduced merely for the purpose of drawing the 1944 act, the Labrador Mining and Exploration Company Act of 1944, to the attention of the Commission of Government, and also drawing it to the attention of the Dominions Office.

Whereas in the Labrador Mining and Exploration Company Ltd. Act of 1944 the Commission of Government amended the said Labrador Mining and Exploration Company, Ltd. Act of 1938, and thereby cancelled the provision under which in the said 1938 act the Company would pay a tax of 10 cents per ton of iron ore exported from Labrador and substituted therefore a provision that 5% of the net profits of the said company should be paid to the Newfoundland government as a royalty;

And whereas under both acts the company may apply to the Newfoundland government for a grant to use the Grand Falls water-power paying only in the neighbourhood of 15 cents per horsepower;

And Whereas the company is understood to be presently applying to the aforementioned Newfoundland government for the right to export power from the Grand Falls out of Newfoundland territory in connection with their mining operations;

Therefore be it resolved that the National Convention desires to express its strong conviction that as part of the consideration of permitting such exploitation of power, the Commission of Government should provide for a tax of \$1 per horsepower installed, and should further make provision that any town erected in connection with the exploitation of iron ore in Newfoundland-Labrador should be built on Newfoundland soil;

And Be It Further Resolved that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the Commission of Government and through the proper channels to the Secretary of State for Dominions Affairs.

**Mr. Higgins** I would suggest that for purposes of being sure that we say the act no. 47 of 1944, and no. 41 of 1938. That distinctly clarifies the wording.

**Mr. Hollett** I do move that motion, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Harrington** It gives me a great deal of pleasure to second this resolution. I had some comments to make on that section of the Mining Report while it was in committee, but when I learned that a resolution of this nature was coming up for discussion I resolved to keep what I had to say for the debate on that.

It seems to be generally agreed that it is the same old story, we have come off on the wrong end. I don't understand myself why the government should have taken the attitude that it was a question of "or else" — either we gave the concessions to the Labrador Mining Co. the way they wanted them, or they would go elsewhere. Surely they must have known, as we know, and as has been pointed out here, that the world's iron ore supplies are almost exhausted in certain areas, and that the companies concerned would certainly be looking for other deposits. Another point which has not been brought out a great deal in this debate is the amount of land in the concession area which has been given this company. In Quebec it is something like 4,000 square miles, but in Newfoundland it is something like 20,000 square miles, which is almost one-fifth of the entire area, and we have no idea what other mineral resources may be tucked away in that great parcel of land. I don't see why it should be so sweeping. Surely an area proportionate with the Quebec area would have been in order. Then