

when we were discussing the question of these bases.

**Mr. Cashin** And this base question was at our first meeting, and there was no stenographic report as far as I'm concerned. It came up later in the second meeting, when one of our delegates took the matter up. I think he's going to say something right now, by the look of him over there.

**Mr. Chairman** There was a stenographic report at the first meeting. They have it.

**Mr. Fudge** I drew to Lord Addison's attention that in this house two members had asked regarding discussions with the United States, and the late Chairman of that time gave the answer, "Yes, it was a matter that could be discussed." And Professor Wheare concurred. I think I brought out that in my opinion there were more people in this country interested in talks with United States than in confederation with Canada. That is what I said, and I'm prepared to defend it. I am somewhat surprised at my friend across the row there, Mr. Keough.... I'm not looking for a hand-out. I never had always a silver spoon and I don't know if I ever had either one, but I have had good and I've had bad. People call us poor, and plenty over there, but that's more than the British people got over there. They haven't got food in plenty — far from it. Now ... I'm of the opinion that when the matter was referred to in connection with bases, because of the fact that Great Britain was depending largely upon loans from the United States, Lord Addison did say that...

**Mr. Chairman** Mr. Fudge, I have to draw your attention to the fact that you have no right to repeat anything that Lord Addison said.

**Mr. Fudge** What right did he have to repeat what we said before we got here to the Convention?

**Mr. Chairman** I am not aware that he has repeated anything that you said. If he has done so, then he is guilty of a breach of confidence.

**Mr. Fudge** ....That's the information that was given in the House of Commons before the delegation arrived here.

**Mr. Chairman** That was a pronouncement as to the results of the conferences by Lord Addison which he had a perfect right to make.

**Mr. Fudge** I am of the opinion, Mr. Chairman, that the information or the discussions that took place over in that House is the property of the

people of Newfoundland, they should have it. It shouldn't be hidden from them.

**Mr. Hollett** I can't go as far as Mr. Fudge has gone as to whether or not the conversations which took place between the delegates and the Dominions Office officials should be made public or not. I am of the opinion that this Convention elected a delegation to go to England, and they expected that delegation to bring back to them the fullest report possible. I have no recollection whatsoever of any agreement on keeping things which happened in the Convention room or delegates' rooms from them. No agreement whatsoever. I do think that we were the servants of this Convention. There are things brought out in the conversation which this Convention should know. I agree entirely if Mr. Fudge will confine his statement to the fact that this Convention should know exactly the results — the stenographic report which was made by our reporter during these conversations — because I maintain there are things in these statements made by officials over there which you must have if you are to get a real true perspective of the report which is now being submitted and laid on the table.

**Mr. Chairman** The two alternatives, either a free discussion or a formal discussion, were presented to all present. And Lord Addison made the statement that he assumed if we agreed to conduct our negotiations or our conversations, whichever you like to call them, freely, it would be essential that all statements made by individual members should be regarded as completely confidential. I agreed. No one so far as I know dissented. Consequently, Lord Addison was justified in assuming that everything that was said would be kept confidential. Now, if there's any particular statement that was made by anyone present, that any member of that delegation thinks should be laid before this Convention, there is a way for him to get it. And that is obtain the permission of Lord Addison to disclose it. But until that is done, no member of that delegation has any right to disclose a single statement made by Lord Addison or by anyone else during those conferences.

**Mr. Bailey** Mr. Chairman, I think it's up to this National Convention to know what should be done or shouldn't be done. I cannot see why the six or the seven men that went across to Britain