

seemed to me that a foreign influence was loose: the spirit of Trotsky, the virulent harangue of the soapbox orator playing on the discontent of an unthinking and innocent people. If patriotism, it has been said, is the last refuge of a scoundrel, then it seems to me to be equally true that the setting of class against class is the last refuge of the political demagogue. When all else fails, when his case can't be won on its merits, there is always available the red banner with the words inscribed upon it, "Down with the rich."

Political history shows that there is only one worse thing, and that is the setting of creed against creed. Let us hope that such a foul thing will never be allowed, as I am sure it will not be, to raise its ugly head in this country. The people of Newfoundland, in spite of Mr. Smallwood's words, were always ready to put their trust in our businessmen. It has always been so in the past and it is just as true today, for have we not here in this very chamber many of them — prominent and well-known businessmen, some of them even representing Mr. Smallwood's hated corporations? These men were selected by the people to represent them and to protect their interests, and I know, and our people themselves know, that these men will do their jobs as best they know how. Certainly, I admit that our businessmen and our Newfoundland corporations have made money, just as similar businessmen all over the North American continent have made money, and this applies, as I will show later on, even in that place of perfection, the Dominion of Canada. Many Newfoundlanders are well aware of that because we send them each year some \$40 million. But let us be fair about this matter. Let us see if our wealthy men are the evil characters that Mr. Smallwood would have us believe. Is it not to these same individuals that a great portion of our people must look for wages? Union wages, sir, based on a mutual agreement between the worker and employer. Must we not also give them credit for keeping money in this country, circulating amongst our people instead of it being drained off by foreign corporations?

I admit that in some cases the prices charged our people are too high, but whose fault is that? Is it not the fault of the present Commission of Government which, in order to get higher taxes, refused to put any ceiling prices on during the war years, and who incidentally, in order to increase

the amount they could bleed from our business people and the people generally, passed a law practically forcing businessmen to charge higher prices than they wished to charge? Mr. Smallwood seems to forget that every single, solitary thing which he says about our local businessmen also applies, even to a greater extent, to the businessmen in his beloved Canada, and even further, he is throwing these charges, he is launching these slurs upon the very men who are sitting in his own confederate camp. To this extent he is fouling his own nest. Let us take a glance, sir, for a moment, at some of the things he said. He went to great pains, and probably thought he was scoring a point, when he said that in 1945, 105 business concerns in Newfoundland made a total profit of \$15 million (and I think paid taxation of \$5 million out of that), but did he also tell you, this Convention and the country, that of these concerns by far and away the greatest individual profits were made by the local branches of Canadian corporations and other foreign corporations, and that it follows that the greater part of these profits were shipped out of the country to Canada and other places? And did he tell you, or did he conveniently forget to tell us, that in that same year of 1945, 29 companies doing business in Canada — 29 — made a total profit of what? \$250 million.

Canada cannot afford to dissipate her revenues much longer. I have already told you that Canada is in an unhealthy financial position, and that the time is not too far distant when a general cutting down of expenditures will take place if Canada hopes to remain solvent and continue its ambitious march to nationhood. Then again, did not Mr. Crummey, who was a member of the delegation to Ottawa, tell us in winding up the debate on this confederation issue, in committee of the whole, that the delegation was told in effect that it should not have gone to Ottawa when it did, that it was interfering, so to speak, with the political mood of the Canadian government at that time, and that it had been intimated that the delegation should return to Newfoundland and come back to Ottawa again in September? What does this indicate? It conveyed to me that it might be part of the plan of Dominions Office to stave off, as it staved off successfully the holding of our national referendum last August; so that the United Kingdom government, through its local