

as read. Motion carried.

**Mr. Higgins** We have one more page on the La Manche mine. I don't know if you wish to have that now, or if you wish to adjourn. With your consent I was going to ask that we adjourn until

tomorrow, rather than have another session.

*[The Secretary read the section on La Manche. The committee rose and reported progress, and the Convention adjourned]*

#### April 11, 1947

**Mr. Chairman** Orders of the day. Mr. Jackman to move the following resolution:

Whereas it is desirable that the National Convention and the people of Newfoundland should be fully informed, so far as possible, of all the facts having any bearing upon forms of government that might be submitted to the people in a national referendum.

Therefore be it resolved that the appropriate authorities be advised that the Convention desires to inform the Government of the United States of America of the Convention's wish to learn that government's attitude on the question of the federal union of Newfoundland with the United States of America: and further wishes to ascertain the terms and conditions on the basis of which the Government of the United States of America consider that such federal union might be effected, for which purpose this Convention desires to send a delegation to Washington, D.C.

Be it further resolved that the delegation shall have no authority whatsoever to negotiate or conclude any agreement or in any manner to bind the Convention or the people of Newfoundland.

**Mr. Jackman** Mr. Chairman, in rising to move this resolution I do not do so with any undue enthusiasm. I feel very sad about the whole situation. I am a Newfoundlander and I am very proud of my birth. I lost in the first world war the only brother in the world I could have as a companion, who laid down his life at Beaumont Hamel in 1916, for the rights of all people to choose their own way of living. But I do recognise, sir, a certain subtle line of propaganda which we fell for in 1933, and which we are beginning to fall for again today. Mr. Chairman, I have your last speech that you gave in this House when you were the Leader of the Opposition. I have it home on file, I have kept it for years. I just want to note one part of it, when you said that the government was making serfs of the people of Newfoundland.

Now Mr. Chairman, my idea in moving this resolution is only to satisfy a number of my constituents who are in favour of this. I have listened to a number of people apart from my constituency talking about the same thing. Personally, whilst I move this, I do not agree with it. It sounds inconsistent but nevertheless I cannot help it. I believe that if we as a people want to get down to brass tacks, that there is only one way we can do it, and that is by standing on our own feet. I do not believe in getting everything from a government. As John Stuart Mill says, "The worth of a nation is the worth of the individual." We have been subjected, not only lately, but for a number of years, to this line of propaganda: "Give me your mind, and I will give you something to eat." I think it is appropriate to recall a warning from one of the greatest philosophers of modern times — by the way he was a German — Hegel. He told the German people over 100 years ago, "Men are not free when they are not thinking." Of course the logical follow-up is this: there is only one way to bring it into action, and that is by the ballot, a secret weapon which all of us fought for, and it is sad to think that the battle of Runnymede, which was fought so long ago, should have been sabotaged in 1933. I do not wish to hold up the investigations of this Convention, in fact I am very anxious to get it concluded as quickly as possible, because as I have said before, it is the common people who are paying for it and I don't want to take anything off of anyone. Now at this time I think it would be very appropriate to quote a reference from the Bible, very appropriate. This is it: "For verily I say unto you that whosoever shall say unto this mountain: 'Be thou removed and be thou cast into the sea' and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass, he shall have whatsoever he saith."

Shakespeare says, "Our doubts are traitors, and make us lose the good we oft might win by fearing to attempt." Mr. Chairman, in moving this resolution I do it in this way: I have faith in