

wherewithal to purchase clothing and thus help in that child's education, cannot be termed immoral....

Mr. Cashin You cut the educational vote in your provincial budget.

Mr. Vincent Is it immoral because it must be paid for out of some other form of taxation? Then, by the same yardstick of measurement, the Gander airport must be termed a very immoral business, since tens of thousands of our countrymen who have never gotten five hours work, contribute every year their pennyworth of taxes to help defray the operational deficit. The same can be said of the Railway. All Newfoundlanders contribute to the liquidation of its big deficits, but not all Newfoundlanders travel by, or directly benefit from its services.

Like Mr. Fogwill, the Major stressed the many taxes on ordinary commodities. He talked of 26 taxes on a pair of shoes. He didn't quote the prices in Canada and St. John's, Newfoundland....

Mr. Cashin I could have bought shoes here \$3 cheaper.

Mr. Vincent Somebody told of 52 taxes on a 20 ounce loaf of bread, but failed to add that with the 52 taxes included, that same loaf of bread could be bought 6 cents cheaper in Canada than it can be here at the moment. I am not going to stress any of the points so lucidly explained by Mr. Higgins. Like a learned professor of history, he took us through a very interesting homily, and he used very few political catchphrases as did his well-versed associate, the worthy Major. It was not difficult, however, to disentangle the perception of the lawyer from the prejudices of the politician, for both ultimately arrived at the same conclusions.

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I repeat with Mr. Higgins that the Canadian terms are fair, and I earnestly recommend them to the intelligence of every fellow Newfoundlander.

Mr. Butt Last year I voted against sending a delegation on to Ottawa. I did that, sir, because after a number of months in this Convention, I became convinced we were not properly constituted to do a job of that kind. I say now — not prompted by any person in or out of this house — that in my opinion, the debate during the last three or four weeks has shown to my own satisfaction that I am correct and I was justified in reaching that conclusion. All through this debate, in spite

of the fact that I felt myself thoroughly incompetent to deal with a number of matters, I kept notes of things as they were said both for and against the proposed arrangements for the entry of Newfoundland into confederation. I looked at those notes a few days ago, and if I were to make a comment of one minute on every one, I should certainly be talking from now until the closure motion. I do not propose to do that because a great deal of what has been said has already been referred to by other speakers for and against.

There are one or two things to which I would like specifically to refer, and it will be in the main connected with my feelings that Newfoundland should not entrust negotiations of this kind to a body such as the National Convention. Before I do that, however, and so that I will not be irrelevant and immaterial, I would like to read the first clause in the proposed arrangements: "1. Newfoundland will have, as from the date of union, the status of a province of Canada with all the rights, powers, privileges and responsibilities of a province." It is a plain statement of fact. Since this debate on confederation and for a time before it, I have heard that clause turned inside out and given to me in reverse by a whole series of derogatory statements destined to loosen the morale of this country, so that we will be able to contemplate easily, quietly and very deceitfully the loss of dominion status, the loss of a political entity of our own, and easily slide into that of the baby province of the Dominion of Canada.

I find it very difficult and a bit embarrassing to refer to these things, but I must give expression to the faith that is in me, regardless of its unpopularity in many quarters. It seems very fashionable today in these quarters to play down national pride, and I ask members here and anyone listening in, to remember the last 16 months both in and out of this house. Newfoundlanders, as Major Cashin said the other day, have always been prone to be overcritical of themselves. This, I think, is a result of a long series of incidents in the history of Newfoundland which has given us the attitude that we must, in some way, be an inferior people. If you were to meet the ordinary American, he will approach you in such a way that you will feel that he is bragging. Nothing is further from the truth. The real truth of the matter is that he has known what it is to be free.... We have never allowed