

Mr. Chairman In that case, Mr. Secretary, will you make it a point to see that that portion of the transcription to which my attention has been

drawn will be taken off with all possible speed?....

**Report of the Ottawa Delegation
Proposed Arrangements for the Entry of Newfoundland into Confederation
Committee of the Whole**

Mr. Cashin Mr. Chairman, when I concluded my remarks yesterday afternoon I was about to begin the breaking down of Mr. Smallwood's proposed budget. But this afternoon, before I go into it any further I must crave the indulgence of the House and go back a little, and I don't think it will be tedious repetition, but additional information. I now refer to the general sales tax which the Canadian government says they will collect in amount of \$4 million in Newfoundland should we become a province.

I think I showed yesterday conclusively that, by the application of a method which they themselves applied here the other day in answer to a question, instead of \$4 million they would collect \$8 million. The simple reason is that in 1946-47 the Canadian federal government collected \$328 million in general sales tax, that is 8%, and working it out on a per capita basis it means \$25 a head for every man, woman and child in Canada; applying the same yardstick in Newfoundland, it would mean \$8 million here. Now, sir, in speaking of these taxes, my attention has been drawn to a small pamphlet which probably contains all the information that is in the Black Book and only costs 25 cents, whilst our two Black Books and the Grey Book cost nearly \$30,000. If you will turn to page 16 of this book you will find "Quick Canadian Facts", and under the section "Hidden Taxes" you will see this:

In addition to personal income tax, Canadians pay a number of indirect or 'hidden' taxes in their normal purchases of consumer goods. A pair of shoes, for example, carries 126 taxes, a gallon of gasoline, from the crust of the earth until it reaches the car, carries 205 different taxes. Medicines are heavily taxed — some under as many as 328 headings — and the common milk of magnesia bears 178 separate taxes.

Other ordinary goods under multiple taxation are: a farmer's wire fence, 191 taxes; a loaf of bread, 52 taxes; a bar of soap, 154 taxes; overalls, 148 taxes; a cotton dress, 125

taxes; a suit of clothes, 105 taxes.

On men's and women's clothing, the 105 taxes are made up as follows: the rancher who raises the sheep (and they have a few ranches still in Alberta) pays ten taxes, from country through to gasoline impost; transportation companies hand over 16 separate taxes; raw materials handlers, ten; textile mills, 15; the manufacturers of the garment, 12; wholesaler, 16; and the retailer another 14. In addition, extra taxes borne by most of the preceding number 11, and on top of it all, the sales tax paid by the consumer — ie 8%.

Now we were told that we would have no taxes if we went into confederation.

Mr. Smallwood Who said that?

Mr. Cashin You did. You said it would not be more than \$75 per head, and I am going to tell you that it will be \$210 to \$220 or \$230 a head. Now other taxes. Moving pictures — 25% on admissions. I understand there is a gentleman here in the moving picture business, or considering going into it. If a man or woman or child wants to go to a movie, in addition to the 30 or 40 cents they pay the man who operates that house, they have to pay a 25% amusement tax.

Mr. Starkes You should help your country.

Mr. Cashin I agree with you. You had an opportunity to do it, and what did you do about it?

Mr. Chairman If you don't mind, let's get the position clear. Major Cashin has the floor and...

Mr. Cashin Yes, and I don't want to be interrupted.

Mr. Chairman Unless and until a member is rising to a point of order or privilege, I don't want any interruptions, please.

Mr. Cashin Well, you understand here and now that when a gentleman slaps it at me about helping my country I am not taking it.

Mr. Chairman Well, I want no slaps at any member, or any interruptions.

Mr. Cashin ...tax on cheques. And Mr. Starkes, who is a gentleman who no doubt writes many over \$100, he puts 5 cents on them. Telegrams —