

out of turn.

Speaking of Quebec, both Mr. Duplessis and Mr. Godbout now wish to contest the Privy Council award of 1927 with reference to Newfoundland-Labrador. They both want our Labrador. Said Mr. Godbout in the Legislative Assembly of Quebec on January 21 of this year, "Newfoundland, logically speaking, should be annexed to Canada. We would be the first to bite our fingers if Newfoundland, with its possibilities of vast natural wealth and natural resources, especially in its Labrador section, one day passed into the hands of the USA."

Mr. Cashin I suggest that we adjourn until 8 o'clock.

Mr. Chairman Yes, it is 6 o'clock, Mr. Hollett. I will leave the Chair until eight.

[The Convention adjourned until 8 pm]

Mr. Hollett When we broke off for the day, I think I was saying something about Quebec. I would point out that any graciousness shown by Ottawa, Mr. Chairman, in the matter of confederation, has been with Quebec's interest paramount. I have it on first-hand authority that Quebec has been endeavouring to force Ottawa's hand. Mr. Chairman, it is my considered opinion that union with Canada under these terms would lose us all control over these resources in Labrador, and all control over where we may ship our products, and it would be only a matter of time before we would be reduced to the status of the Canadian Indians.

Believing this as I surely do, can I conscientiously vote to do anything which would help to put this country into confederation? If I were the only man in this country, sir, who was against confederation and believed as I do, I should vote against the motion. The same evening paper I referred to before, sir, states that we men of the Convention were not required to advise upon any one cause or the other. It definitely states that. I refer to this, because a good many people are lately thinking the same thing. I believe you will agree that section 3 of the act is quite clear on that point. I believe it states clearly that we are to make recommendations. How else can we make recommendations in an assembly of 45 men, other than by the vote? I will admit that London does not necessarily have to accept our recommendations. But I will submit that London would be creating a very serious situation did she ignore

any recommendations which this assembly did make. We are a constituent assembly, elected by the people of Newfoundland to make recommendations on their behalf. We would not be worth our salt if we did not act on our own convictions, apart altogether as to whether or not these convictions were in accord with those held in the sanctum sanctorum of some newspaper. My blood boils when I see such editorials.

Mr. Smallwood may feel aggrieved that he finds himself in the minority. God knows he used every effort to gain a majority. That is democracy at work.

Mr. Smallwood Yes, I did.

Mr. Hollett We just have to accept that fact. If the dictatorial power at No. 9 Downing Street sees fit to ignore our recommendations, then, sir, we shall have to accept that too. For you see, as yet we are but the slaves of that dictatorial power, and we shall be the slaves of that dictatorial power just so long as we are governed under a regime like we are today.

I know of no other way to decide this issue here in this Convention than by the vote. How else can we do it? Suppose there were ten different motions brought in here, for as many different forms of government; obviously we could not recommend the ten of them. How then shall we eliminate what we consider the undesirables? How else than by the vote? That is exactly what we are doing now, and our whole desire is to point out the necessity for the restoration of our political liberties and the regaining of our self-respect.

I do not intend to take any more time, except a moment. We have been here 16 months. In my opinion we could have finished this job in four months but for certain things which happened. The country knows what happened. I am quite sure we could have finished the job in four months instead of dragging it on for 16 months. It just goes to show, one never knows.

We have in Newfoundland today a position of prosperity; and I say that having due regard to the numbers of people who today in this country find it impossible to make a living. We all know that is something that is present in every other country in the world today, and without reference to Europe or Asia, without reference to these parts of the world, I say it is true of this side of the Atlantic Ocean. Why, even in the Maritime Provinces 3,000 wage earners had to leave their