

since we have nearly twice as much territory to service, is the Nova Scotia provincial budget \$30,018,000? Now the municipal budget of Nova Scotia I believe is \$9,941,000. I think that works out at around \$18 a head. That's just for roads and schools, and I can't seem to be reconciled to the fact that this provincial parliament we are going to have, to give the people what we are getting now, can be operated on \$15 million. I think there was a strong plea put forward as to our backwardness, and I know if we are going to have services in this country we have got to pay for them, and the only way I know that you can pay for them is by raising taxes, and when you raise taxes you get revenue, and can do the work. I think the strong plea to send a delegation to Ottawa ... was that we could get a better way of life if we went into confederation with Canada, or if we negotiated to see how much better that life is going to be. But I have been struck very forcibly, and I have done a little deliberating, that the estimates of municipal taxes and everything has been kept off our desks. I hold that one of the first things that the members of this National Convention should have had was all pertaining not only to the federal government of Canada, but if the people vote to demand confederation they should know the other side of the business. You have got nine different provincial governments in Canada, and since I have been in this Convention I have got to hear the first word yet as to how John Doe in a fishing village in Nova Scotia, or north New Brunswick, or the Magdalen Islands, or the Gaspé Coast, how he fares, and how he raised his taxes. The only way we can get that is by getting their estimates to see how they operate and work, and I find it is being kept away from us as far as possible. Nobody in this country, not only in the government, not even the Trade Commissioner, can give me any idea of where one book can be found of how the provincial governments of Canada are being governed. So I would like Mr. Smallwood to answer this question: how can he say that this country can be operated on \$15 million when we want new roads, we want schools, and the things that the Nova Scotians have got, and the New Brunswickers and the Prince Edward Islanders are supposed to have, and the other provinces throughout Canada? I know how they get them, by lifting themselves by the straps of their boots. I think we have to go

down to this confederation business. I don't know how much the Canadian government is going to put into Newfoundland, and I am sure nobody under heaven knows how much they are going to take out. We have been paying quite a lot of their taxes in the last 100 years since they went into confederation. But now, I want the people of Newfoundland to know what John Doe is doing, how he is governed, how he is taxed, how he lives and the rest. I know it because I spent a lifetime among those people. I made six voyages to the Gaspé Coast, and I know just what it is; and I know north New Brunswick and how these people live; but I want the fishermen, before this is put to the vote of the people of Newfoundland, for them to know how the provinces are governed; and I would like Mr. Smallwood to tell me how Newfoundland and its dependency, Labrador, is going to be governed on \$15 million when it has taken \$30 million for the Province of Nova Scotia where they have good roads, well set up after nearly 100 years of municipal care, and we have nothing at all.

I take it we are going to have a royal commission come down here in eight years time, and you know the promise. I am not going to read it, you have heard it, and I want to know what they are going to do when they put us on a par with themselves, what we are going to have to pay. I know by cities and towns and villages in Nova Scotia the amount, and I know by cities and towns in the other parts of Canada just what confederation means.

Mr. Hollett Are we going to have another recess, sir? If not I would like to say a few words.

Mr. Chairman If you don't mind, Mr. Hollett, in a minute or two. Mr. Bailey has addressed a question to Mr. Smallwood, and he may want to answer it.

Mr. Smallwood I don't know that there is anything particular I have to say in reply to Mr. Bailey, who has been having very considerable enjoyment and interest I suppose in boning up, or studying the systems of taxation in some of the provinces of Canada. To me, all learning is never a burden, it is grand to know things, and a grand thing to study; but in relation to Newfoundland I don't see very much point in knowing what kinds of taxes they have in any particular provinces or municipalities in Canada. It has no bearing on us, sir. They have their system of taxation, and we