

almost as bad as I am. He made many hundreds of statements, but amongst them all there's really only one statement that deserves attention, for that one statement stands out above all the rest of his speech — I quote his exact words: "I like Canada, she's a great country." Now, sir, why shouldn't he like Canada? Why shouldn't he think she's a great country? He worked in Canada. He travelled right across Canada. He fought in the Canadian army. He's an ex-officer of the army of Canada, retired with the rank of major from the Canadian army. For the past eight or nine years he has made Canada his home, although within that period he has managed to visit us here in Newfoundland a few times. His home is in Canada now, in Montreal. When the Christmas recess came a year ago, and again this year, when we all trooped off to our homes, Major Cashin did the same thing. He went to his home in Montreal. Evidently Major Cashin is not so scared of all those terrible Canadian taxes that he's been telling us about. He can't be so very scared of them when he has his very home in Montreal at this very minute. I sometimes wonder to myself, I sometimes wonder what would have happened if Major Cashin had been the first to think of advocating confederation instead of myself. I sometimes wonder if he isn't just a bit sorry that he didn't come out for confederation in the first place. What a fine champion he would have made for the great cause of confederation. In his heart he must know that confederation would be the best thing that could happen for the great mass of our Newfoundland people. But he started by boosting responsible government and now he's stuck with it. He's stuck with it, and finds that he can't very well change before the referendum. But I wonder, I wonder if there will be a happier man in all Newfoundland when the votes are counted in the referendum this spring and he finds that confederation has won with a thundering great majority? Will there be a happier man in Newfoundland? I leave Major Cashin for the time being. I leave him, sir, with an invitation to come over with us, an invitation to become a confederate right out in the open — drop this nonsense about responsible government. The people are not going to vote for it anyway, so what's the use of wasting time over it? Let Major Cashin join up, let him enlist, let him enrol right now in

the great and growing army of confederation in Newfoundland.

I turn, sir, to Mr. Higgins. There are really only three or four points in his speech that seem to call for attention. Mr. Higgins told us that a lawyer often takes on a case that he doesn't especially like and sometimes acts for a client that he isn't a bit fond of. But he takes it, he takes the case and he does his best. I know that's true, and Mr. Higgins has demonstrated that truth very well in this Convention. When Major Cashin made that early speech of his, a few days after the Convention opened, Mr. Higgins got up and attacked what Major Cashin had said, and in very trenchant language told Major Cashin that he disagreed absolutely and completely with him. We all remember Mr. Higgins' speech on that occasion. It was eloquent, logical and persuasive. Then two or three months later Mr. Higgins got up and took it all back, apologised to Major Cashin and in effect said that he now agreed with him. We all remember another occasion when Mr. Higgins delivered a trenchant and eloquent speech, the best speech that he has delivered in this chamber, when Mr. Jackman introduced his motion to send a delegation to the United States to discuss Newfoundland's pulling down the Union Jack and running up the Stars and Stripes to become a part of the USA. Mr. Higgins spared no words. He hit that motion and he hit it hard, and he told us we weren't going to be like rats deserting a sinking ship. His speech made an excellent impression at the time. But now he gets up and tells us he's changed his mind again. Now he thinks, after reading about the expanding American imperialism that he told us about in his speech, that Mr. Jackman's motion wasn't so bad after all.

Mr. Chairman Well Mr. Smallwood, lawyers have a right to do that.

Mr. Smallwood Yes, sir, that's what I'm finding out. Now, now Mr. Higgins has attacked confederation. But I wonder what will happen a few weeks or a few months from now — will he be out supporting confederation? "While the light holds out to burn, The vilest sinner may return." Sir, the people, the people...

Mr. Chairman Well, if you don't mind Mr. Smallwood, since we all occupy the same state as Mr. Higgins...

Mr. Smallwood The people of Newfoundland may be prepared to listen to advice from some of