

ing into Newfoundland. That is precisely the thing that we ought not to be. That's what we have been. You have five corporations in this country today. First, Bell Island. The story, if that's ever written, of the taxes they have paid and have not paid, would raise anybody's hair in this country. Some of it has been told, and men have almost gone to gaol over it, but they have never been treated as in almost any other country, except perhaps some oriental country where it is graft from the top to the bottom. This country has been treating these foreign corporations in the most gingerly way, and letting them off from the paying of taxes. Bell Island, the AND Co., Bowaters, Buchans and St. Lawrence — here are five companies. They did not put any minerals, timber or water-power in the country, but they have been taking them out and using them up and never paying to the government of Newfoundland a just share of the cost of running the country, a fair share of the government's revenue, and when I say "just" I am thinking of the standard that's laid down in USA and Canada for taxes for such corporations. Compare our taxes with the tax that they get in Canada and the United States. A little later we will have the report on the Labrador Mining and Development Co. I am looking forward eagerly to what the government has decided they should pay in taxes. I don't want to anticipate this part of the report, but by all accounts we are on the very trembling edge of one of the greatest mines of the earth. Are you going to have someone standing up 40 or 50 years from now talking about the short-sightedness and lack of imagination of the Government of Newfoundland in the 1940s in giving away one of the great resources that God gave us? We are glad of the labour they have given and the wages they have paid, though I am not glad of what they gave us on the Railway, I regret we lost money on that. If we had refused to let them use the Railway they would have had to build a railway of their own. Instead of telling them to build their own railway we say, "Oh no, we will haul your concentrate for you at a loss", and that's what we have been doing instead of letting them build their own railway, or letting them pay the cost. I like Buchans, I have gone in there on train, airplane, speeder; everything but walk in there. I like the company and the people, and I am not grumbling with them for not paying more taxes than they are supposed to

pay, but I am grumbling against the law and the attitude Mr. Hollett just expressed. There may be other companies come in and I would not approach them in the way he has. I would stop it right now, and any other companies, paper companies, water-power or anything that uses our natural resources, I'd make them pay for it. You have to tax them or tax the fishermen. We tax the fishermen so high that we can't sell the fish in competition with other countries, and in comes a big firm that's making \$18 million, and what do we hook off them? A little paltry \$1 million. We ought to be ashamed.

Mr. Hollett I am not ashamed of anything whatever. I would let companies bring in all the machinery they wanted duty free, but I would plank on a big income tax. If you are going to put a prohibitive tax on machinery, who is going to come in here? You say God put the ore in the ground, well who put the fish in the sea?

Mr. Higgins If we don't give these people fair treatment, they won't come here at all.

Mr. Smallwood I agree with the fair treatment, but I say we should treat ourselves fairly.

Mr. Higgins It might be as well if we left that angle over until the whole report is in.

Mr. Penney I don't think it is fair for one delegate to take up so much time on one subject as the delegate from Bonavista has this afternoon. He is surely giving the Buchans Mining Co. a hard time of it, and he told us that God put the mineral in the ground, and I suppose it is a natural inference that the Devil took it out, but when we look at it right, they give some 700 men \$2,000 a year; and I think it would be a good thing, instead of knocking these concerns, if we gave them praise for what they have been doing, and we could spend our time in a better way, I think, to pray that Almighty God would give us direction to find out more holes in the ground, with the help of our friends Mr. Howse and Dr. Snelgrove, to tell us where they are so that we could find them.

Mr. Reddy I am inclined to agree with Mr. Smallwood and Mr. Ashbourne. I don't think the country has got enough out of these companies. They are using our natural resources and I think they should pay for them.

Mr. Hollett We all think that.

Mr. Chairman Is the committee ready for the question? The motion is that this section do pass