

express themselves, because before, when they have been called upon to vote upon certain issues, it has been tangled up with politics. I think that the people should have an opportunity to express themselves on the form of government that they want for this country.

Now, as far as the terms are concerned, the terms laid down in this Grey Book that has been so much talked of, I find myself agreeing with my colleague from the Ottawa delegation, Mr. Higgins, when he says that they are the best possible terms that Canada could offer. Of course, he qualified it by saying "under the conditions." I can put in that qualification also but I do not consider the circumstances as unfavourable as Mr. Higgins does. It is true that we did not have a battery of experts with us in Ottawa, it is true we were not experts ourselves, it is true we did not have any of the civil servants which we tried to obtain before we went, but were denied. If we had had these civil servants with us, I feel sure that we would not have spent three months in Ottawa. But while we weren't experts ourselves, and while we didn't have civil servants with us, make no mistake about it gentlemen, we had the facts about this country. Members of this delegation who don't like confederation can say a lot of things to deny that, but I want to tell you that we had facts, the facts about this country; and we had men on that delegation who could present these facts. We had men who were very capable of presenting the facts. I don't claim to be one of them. I took a small part, as faithfully as I could. And what is just as important, we had men of goodwill. We had men with a good spirit backing them, and men who gained the respect of the federal government officials in Ottawa. With that, with the facts before us, and with goodwill, we made what I consider to be the right and proper approach. We laid the facts before them. And together, in an atmosphere of respect for one another, and in an atmosphere of trust and sincerity, we worked out a plan whereby Newfoundland might fit into the federal system of government and operate as the tenth province.

Now it's been said that we didn't get good terms; we didn't get the financial end of it very generous. But in my estimation, take it for what it's worth, we got just as good terms as we could possibly get, recognising the fact that the federal system is made up of different provinces that

have their claims; they came into the union, and they were brought in on certain terms, and we had to come in on certain terms, and if we had been given more generous terms.... It wouldn't be fair for the federal government to go too far to give us special services, special concessions when they have to consider that there are other members of the family who have to live within the family. To go in at all, we must go in on equal terms, and we are going to need to go in with these terms. I'm not convinced that, these are not generous terms under the circumstances. I think they are generous terms; what is worrying me is whether the Parliament of Canada will ratify these terms or not. And I wonder if they do not feel that they are so generous that perhaps they will not be ratified. But I feel that they will, they are generous, and I would pay a lot of attention to the arguments that Mr. Butt made here so ably this afternoon. If I were thinking that Newfoundland under federal union to be an ideal place, one which will have after union unlimited prosperity, I would pay a lot of attention to the arguments being made. But I don't see that it can be an ideal state, or that we will have unlimited prosperity. I don't see the road ahead of us as too straight, with too many roses. I feel that we have a hard uphill climb to make. We have got a hard country to live in. We haven't got the natural resources that other countries have, don't let us kid ourselves. We're not too generously supplied with natural resources, and the means of making them a good living. It's going to be a hard job for us to do it. But I am of the opinion that we can do it better within the federal system of Canada, than we can do it on our own. I agree with Mr. Butt, when he raised his voice in the interest of the morale of our people and all that, but there's a limit to it. And our people will have the morale and the spirit, and respect for themselves, when they find that they're getting somewhere. I feel that we'll get somewhere under confederation, and our people's respect for themselves will be forthcoming when they see that. That's all I have to say on that line. I would like to reply, though, to my friend Major Cashin's contention that we went representing a subservient people, begging for help — Major, you know that statement, something like that.

**Mr. Cashin** You appeared to be.

**Mr. Burry** Appeared to be. Well, if you made