

ourselves to look upon ourselves as true Newfoundlanders; we are ashamed to tell the cock-eyed world we are Newfoundlanders; that we are equal to any people inside or outside the house. We are as good as any other people, no better, no worse. The world today is struggling to get a government which will be effective in stopping the excesses of nationalism which led to blood and tears, but that is no reason why the drive and morale caused by love of country should be lost sight of, and treated by many people as a thing to be scorned and looked upon almost with contempt. This error is, to my mind, one (and this is a hard thing for me to say) for which we have to thank, in large measure, the intellectuals of this country — this talk about the intellectual and historic processes driving this country into political union with another country! We are told by many people that we have no right to expect to stand on our own feet because we are only a small group of 300,000 people, as if character and brains and resources were developed only by bigness in the world. The whole negative attitude that I have heard on many occasions, I now repudiate and deny. There should be a pride in the things done well in this country, and we have done them well. If we were not so prone to tell our young politicians that they have been used, when they stand to a question of principle; if we had not been so prone to tell our teachers that they cannot teach as well as people in other countries, that our education is not as good and as firmly rooted as the education system of other countries; if we had not been so prone to go outside and get experts, you would have a better country and more morale than you have today. The negative approach I repudiate and deny, as it is one of sure inertia, and also one of eventual death. There were some scornful remarks made when I happened to raise the question of faith in speaking of the Economic Report. Faith should be an ingredient. People may sneer, but faith is the most important thing you can have, whether in an organisation, a family, a country or any unit. You call it faith in one instance and morale in another....

I want to give you another example. When we were discussing the problems of Newfoundland in England, I did a lot of study and had hoped I would have been able to show, in my own personal way, the aspirations of Newfoundlanders,

if at all possible. I know many of my colleagues felt the same way. The dead hand of officialdom did not allow it. Once we got outside officialdom in England, I found they could not understand why we in this country had such little faith in ourselves; why we were not taking a bolder hand in our own affairs than we are taking. I found it in the printing presses we went to see. I talked to the printers. I found it outside, in places we went looking for information. I found it from ex-officials of the British government. I found it with the people with whom I lived. I came back to Newfoundland and the first thing I had to face as a Newfoundlander was the dead hand of so many in this country: "Newfoundlanders cannot do this. We have no faith in ourselves. We are too small. We must tie up with some other country. We must become the tail-end of a kite before we can go anywhere on our own." I feel deeply about this. I have felt for many years that the problem of this country is more morale than it is material, and I am not neglecting the importance of material things in this world. I am not thinking in terms merely of baby bonuses or unemployment insurance. I am thinking in terms of that drive which can make us work together as a unit to bring about a decent standard of living for every man, woman and child in this country. Call it vague talk; sneer, call it unreal, if you like — I have heard it said, "It is sheer idealism to talk that way." As far as I am concerned, let him who wants to sneer, sneer. But I cannot leave either this subject or this Convention without giving expression to that one thing which I feel, and feel very deeply, is important to us when we face this issue either of confederation or return to responsible government, or any other form of government. If you were to turn up the *World Report* of December, 1947, you will find there an expression of what Canadians are saying on union with another country. It is one man's opinion, I will willingly admit; but in their present difficulties it is being suggested in many quarters that political union with the United States would be the easiest way out of the trade difficulties of Canada in her present situation. If you would care to look up the *World Report* you will know what I mean. You will know also that opposition to this kind of union has been and is widespread in Canada. The answer to it is the Canadian citizenship law. A quotation from that report shows they are afraid