

grave error concerning the infant mortality rate in Canada.

Mr. Bailey I wonder if we could know what the medical services are in those sections where the infant mortality rate is so high.

Mr. Smallwood I am not going to mention the places where the rates are high — where it is 210 the medical service is not good, not too plentiful. Now the other one — 145 — the rate is high but the medical services are good, and where it is 141 the medical services are excellent. On the other hand there is one part where the rate is the lowest in the country and I don't believe there is a doctor there.... It is not only the medical services, the doctors and nurses, there are a lot of other factors.

Mr. Miller In view of that correction, the following sentence: "Newfoundland is 300-400% worse off in her rate of infant mortality than the countries shown", we have to accept that with some reservation. That conclusion is definitely based on the comparison submitted, and if we can't feel they are really correct I don't see how we can accept those conclusions. There is another point, the report is signed by the full Committee, and I would like to ask what liberty any one person has to make alterations and add more thereto. It seems queer no one knows whether these figures are at random or correct or what. I don't think that's thorough enough for our work.

Mr. Newell It seems to me that when errors are discovered and corrected in other reports, and the report has been adopted as amended, there has been darn little said about it. It seems today there is an attempt being made, because of these errors, to sort of throw dust over the rest of the reports. I wonder why?

Mr. Ashbourne I suggest the report be amended and even though I signed the Report as other members did, believing that those figures were right, I for one am prepared to have them corrected, and I believe I can speak for the other members....

Mr. Newell I don't know if this discussion, which seems to be rather aimless, may be to make some other country a little worse or our own country a little better. I suggest that if we don't know our own country well enough to know the condition of public health it is time we got around to finding out.

Mr. Vardy No individual tampered with the

report after it was signed. These changes were made beforehand, it is only a minor matter, and we should get on with the report. There were changes made in every section of every report brought before this Convention. There were many times, over the welfare section, when the guts and almost the ribs were taken out, but I did not complain. All these 11 men had to agree practically unanimously. If there were minor details we disagreed over we still signed the report, and generally speaking we agreed with the report.... There was no juggling of figures by anyone.

Mr. Reddy I agree with Mr. Miller. There is a grave error here according to Mr. Hollett's year book, and it is too bad to try and make Newfoundland any worse than she is.

Mr. Ashbourne Mr. Reddy, there was nothing in my mind as regards to trying to do anything in Canada's favour.... I assure you there is nothing in my mind about trying to bias the thing in favour of any other country or show Newfoundland in anything other than the true light.

Mr. Banfield I think Mr. Reddy made a very harsh statement in saying that we are trying to build up a record for Canada.

Mr. Hillier I am quite satisfied that the Committee placed on that report the facts as received. If their source of information was in any way incorrect no blame is attached.

Mr. Vardy I would like to make a motion that the next paragraph on Newfoundland be deleted.

Mr. Smallwood I second that.

Mr. Chairman The motion is that these words be deleted: "Newfoundland is 300-400% worse off ... countries shown". Are these the words you mean?

Mr. Vardy That is my motion.

Mr. Chairman Moved and seconded that these words be stricken out — motion carried.

Mr. Newell I wish that the high infant mortality rate we have in this country could be stricken out just as easily. I notice nobody has questioned the figure of 93.5 for 1943. That's what I am concerned with, not what it is somewhere else — ours is still 93.5.

Mr. Bailey I agree with Mr. Newell. I am not worried about other countries, but I believe one of the first things that should have been done is to see that the medical service as regards our mothers of the past and future are being looked