

its steamship services, employees of the Newfoundland Railway system would be offered employment with the Canadian National Railway with the rights and privileges with respect to continuity of employment accorded to employees of the Canadian National Railway.

Could words be plainer? If we enter confederation, our railroaders will be offered employment by the CNR, not some of them, not nearly all of them, but all of them. Not only will they all be employed, but employed with all the same rights and privileges of permanent or continued employment of other employees of the CNR. Mr. Chairman, it will take some twisting to change the meaning of that. There's no crowd of men who will gain more from confederation than our railroaders.... Their unions are all connected with the railroad unions of Canada, and under confederation the Canadian National will stretch all the way from St. John's to Vancouver. And they'll have the satisfaction of seeing passenger rates, freight rates and express rates in Newfoundland brought down to the same rates as in Canada. They'll have the satisfaction of seeing the wages of some of them brought up to the Canadian level. Above all, their professional pride in the railway will be pleased by a great program of improvement and rehabilitation of their railway system by the CNR, for we're told by the CNR experts that \$17 million will have to be spent by Canada in the first ten years to put our transportation system in satisfactory shape.

Sir, as we have only one stenographer, I think the thought was that we might rise till tomorrow. In that case sir, I move the adjournment of the debate and that the committee rise, report progress and beg leave to sit again on tomorrow. *[The committee rose and reported progress]*

Mr. Smallwood Mr. Chairman, speaking to your motion to adjourn, I wonder in view of the fact that the sands of time are running out not only for the Convention in general but in particular for this debate, would it not be possible to have a night session tomorrow?...

Mr. ChairmanI think that if the Convention desires to continue tomorrow evening, I'll be perfectly willing to sit if I get a quorum....

Mr. Smallwood Sir, having told us that, I would like to say it's not my idea that I should occupy all the remaining time of this debate in my reply.

There's no reason that I know of why any member desiring to speak to this debate shouldn't do so after I have completed. There's no thought in my part of using up all the remaining time in this debate. I believe there are a number of members who do wish to speak.... I have no intention whatever of replying to any member who speaks after I have finished. I don't guarantee that I won't. I'm quite sincere about it. To the best of my knowledge and belief, I will not speak any more after I have finished this speech that I began tonight. But if something outrageous comes up, something that I think I absolutely must answer, well then, I can't guarantee that I won't answer it. But honestly sir, I have no intention of making another speech beyond the one I'm making now.

Mr. Chairman Before I put the motion to adjourn the actual position is that the order paper tomorrow will of necessity contain a closure motion. I've intimated already to the House and I reaffirm that ruling now, that I have a discretion as to when that motion should be put. Unfortunately, a number of members have seen fit to quite improperly telephone me or communicate with me in my private offices and at my home, to make sure that I could guarantee them that they'd be able to speak. Of course I can give no such guarantee to any members, and I think Major Cashin with his very wide parliamentary experience can quite sympathise and agree with me in this. I have to give the floor according to the rules to any man that occupies the floor at any given time. But in view of the fact that there is a closure motion coming up, and in view of the fact that some members have not been able to address themselves on this matter and desire to address themselves on the matter, I will have to consider when that closure motion is to be put. In doing so, I naturally want to facilitate members who have not been able to address themselves on this question, because I'd be very reluctant by prematurely putting a closure motion to abridge or take away the rights to speak that they would otherwise have had. Therefore the actual position is simply this. While this closure motion is coming up tomorrow, I may conceivably not put it tomorrow. Not saying when, I'll have to be guided by the temperament and the assistance of the House in trying to determine the time at which that closure motion should be put. But meanwhile, to facilitate the House and in particular members