



**PROVINCE OF NEWFOUNDLAND**

**THIRTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF  
NEWFOUNDLAND**

---

Volume 3

3rd. Session

Number 38

---

**VERBATIM REPORT**

**MONDAY, APRIL 1, 1974**

**SPEAKER: THE HONOURABLE JAMES M. RUSSELL**

APRIL 1, 1974

SPECIAL SESSION

TO MARK THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

OF

NEWFOUNDLAND'S ENTRY INTO CONFEDERATION WITH CANADA

Held at the House of Assembly, Colonial Building,

Military Road

St. John's, Newfoundland

The House met at 3:00 P.M., at the House of Assembly, Colonial Building.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

HON. W. W. MARSHALL (MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO): Mr. Speaker, I move that the Orders of the Day be not read.

Motion, that the Orders of the Day be not read, carried:

MR. MARSHALL: Motion III, Mr. Speaker:

On motion of the Hon. the Minister of Tourism, a bill, "An Act Respecting The Colonial Building, " read a first time, ordered read a second time now, by leave.

MR. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister of Tourism.

HON. T. M. DOYLE (MINISTER OF TOURISM): Mr. Speaker, I have much pleasure in moving the second reading of this bill. It is deemed that the Colonial Building, of such historic significance, be declared a Provincial Historic Site for purposes in the future of restoring it to its period condition. It is our hope that this will be done within three or four years time when hopefully the province will have a new Museum-Archives Complex.

At that time, as I have said, this building will be restored further to its original condition and will be used as an historic site in the same manner as the Cable Station at Heart's Content will be used following this year and the Commissariat House on King's Bridge Road, as a tourist attraction.

It is deemed to be very fitting that this bill be brought before this honourable House today, in this very historic building. The passage of the Bill will afford the building and the grounds surrounding it the protection which is needed to have it declared and kept as a Provincial Historic Site.

It therefore gives me a great deal of pleasure to move the second reading of this bill.

MR. SPEAKER: The Hon. the Premier.

HON. F. D. MOORES (PREMIER): Mr. Speaker, first of all I would like, on behalf I am sure of the members of this House, on this very historic occasion, to welcome into the House the Hon. Robert Stanfield, the

Leader of the Opposition at Ottawa; the Hon. Don Jamieson, Minister of the Department of Regional and Economic Expansion; His Honour the Chief Justice; the Members of Parliament; representatives of the Clergy; distinguished Senators and Members of the Diplomatic Corp.

It is indeed an august event for our province, not just to see that we are meeting here but that these distinguished gentlemen are with us today.

Mr. Speaker, it is on the occasion of the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of Newfoundland's entry into the Canadian Confederation that we have chosen to come here to hold a symbolic meeting in this House of Assembly. So much of our tradition is rooted in this building. Its walls embody our heritage, our right to a degree of independence and jurisdiction while being part of a larger political and geographical entity.

Today when I came into this building, Mr. Gill showed me a document which I had not seen before, which I am sure is of interest to certain members, the sitting members of this House. This is the original Terms of Union with the original signatures on it. It is indeed an historic document, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of Canada; Mr. Bert Claxton and the Honourable Louis R. St. Laurent; on behalf of Newfoundland; Albert J. Walsh, Harold Bradley, Philip Grouchy, John McEvoy, Joseph R. Smallwood and G. Winter. It is a very historic document and one, of course, which we are here really to celebrate today in this House.

The very floor, Mr. Speaker, of this historic Chamber has rung with voices over the past, in anger and with emotion but always with cause. It was on January 28, 1850, that the building vibrated from the artillery fire of a grand salute as His Excellency the Governor, Major-General Sir John G. LeMarchant, made his way through the crowds out of Military Road to officially dedicate the edifice itself.

Less than a month later the first session of the Legislature opened in this room. Seated here to the left and right of the Governor were the President of the Council, the Hon. Lieutenant Colonel Law, the Hon. Charles Fox Bennett and the Clerk of the House of the day, one Mr. Christopher Ayre.

Surrounding the Throne were crowds of military officers and members of the official staffs. All wore black arm bands on particular occasion in mourning and in honour of the memory of the Late Queen Adelaide. The Lord Bishop, Dr. Field, led an assemblage, on clergymen, into the Chambers and the Chief Justice Brady headed an assemblage of magistrates and other civil dignitaries.

The "Weekly Herald" of Harbour Grace records that ladies were conspicuous in the chambers and mentions specifically the presence of Lady LeMarchant. I think on that auspicious occasion we were one ahead of what we are today. There is one lady here taking dictation this afternoon or recording the actual event but at that time I think probably Women's Liberation has advanced further than it is right at the moment.

The galleries and space outside of the Bar were filled with members of the Bar, as opposed to the occasion today, Mr. Speaker, were most of the Members of the Bar seem to be members of the House. Merchants and other professional people were here as well and all remaining space was filled to capacity with the general public.

Except for the regular sittings of the Legislature, the first bit of excitement in the Colonial Building came late in the first year when the Colonial Treasurer's Office safe was robbed of some \$413. "The Royal Gazette" of March 18, 1851, reports the robbers were caught and most of the money recovered. I hope the Minister of Finance has taken note of that, Sir.

The first really important social event to be held at the Colonial Building was a public ball for the Vice-Admiral, Sir George Seymour, in these Chambers, on July 25, 1852. Dancing was held in the Legislative Council Chamber and supper was served in the Assembly Room. I think probably, Mr. Speaker, in the present House of Assembly and in the present mood of its members, we could do with something of the same, not to be fed to each other, but to eat together.

A local newspaper reported that all ladies and gentlemen of the Garrison were there and that dancing began at eight o'clock.

Admiral Seymour and Governor LeMarchant entered about ten o'clock, and that the whole affair was considered the highlight of the year.

The coming of Responsible Government, in 1855, was marked with the opening of a new Assembly in this building, on May 24, 1855.

At two o'clock in the afternoon, Governor Darling presided over the members of the Assembly, who had been summoned and then waited while the Assembly retired to the Assembly Room. It was moved by Mr. Little and seconded by Mr. Kent that Mr. Shea, the Member for the Western District of St. John's, should be elected Speaker of the House.

A resolution was moved and seconded, that the Imperial Government be asked to invite Mr. Little, also the Member for St. John's West, to form an administration. St. John's West, Mr. Speaker, in those days was obviously even more in vogue than it is today - we have had two members as opposed to the one.

A division was taken and the resolution passed by sixteen to eleven. The first session closed on August 4, 1855, and the first parliament under Responsible Government was elected later in the year.

The colourful history of our Province is told in any description of the life of this building. A ball was held here to commemorate the laying of the first Trans-Atlantic cable and perhaps the greatest social event of its existence was the great ball in honour of the visiting Edward, Prince of Wales.

Certainly the blackest day in the building's history was the riot of 1861, when a violent mob surrounded the building and attempted to force its way inside.

The Riot Act was read by Chief Magistrate Carter and the situation was handed over to the military. The crowds partially broke up and moved to Water Street where some damage to property began.

sadly the attempts to disburse these crowds failed as did the personal intervention of Colonel Grant. A volley of shots was fired by garrison soldiers. Seven bullets reached their mark and three of the wounded died.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that we do not take up where we left off so to speak as I go through these various remarks. In the end the crowd was persuaded to retire to their homes, by the several priests who had risked their own lives to try and save the others. Today the political events that led to that riot are unthinkable and hopefully impossible. As in all history, if they had not happened, nothing would have been learned and the threat of this happening a first time still might be with us.

Another riot occurred in 1886 but for different reasons and of much less severity.

One of the most momentous sittings here was held on September 3, 1914. Bills relating to the preparation of war were passed.

The third and last riot at Colonial Building was in 1932. Although there was little damage to the humans who took part, the building was all but torn down. Furnishings were removed and destroyed and every sheet of glass and window frame in the building was smashed. My witness of the day said the building looked as if it had been the victim of a very heavy internal explosion. Damage was estimated at that time at \$10,000, which was indeed a large amount.

The remaining great events to occur at colonial building are perhaps too recent to be gone over again. The last sitting of the Assembly under Responsible Government, the inauguration of Commission of Government, the opening and closing of the National Convention and the first session of the Provincial Parliament are the closing acts in the parliamentary life of this building. Today it has been partially restored to the physical greatness it held for the residents of our province when it was new.

On June 29, 1960, the old chamber was last used for a special parliamentary sitting. From that time on all sittings of the legislature have been held in the Confederation Building. It is an indication of the great changes that can be wrought over a very short period of just fourteen years when you consider that of the thirteen men who spoke the last day of closing, none are presently in the House today with the exception of the

member from Fogo, Capt. Earl Winsor, who I think demonstrates that possibly, Mr. Speaker, gentlemen last longer in politics than do others.

There is one aspect of the history of the building which I want to mention before closing. One that is not only the most lasting and vibrant part of it but also one of the most interesting I believe. I am speaking of the decorations of the building, the ceiling itself and the decorations herein. They were added, actually in 1880. There must be a message in this part of these notes somewhere, Mr. Speaker, because they were done by a Polish painter, Mr. Alexander Pindikowski who had passed bad checks in St. John's and had been sentenced to fifteen months in jail with the added penalty that he be deported immediately after his sentence was served.

However, the governor of the day in his wisdom having heard of his skills, and in return for taking one month off his sentence and removing the order of deportation, the painter agreed to decorate the ceilings of this building, the main ceilings of government house and other edifices around the city of St. John's. Pindikowski lived in the penitentiary by night and on the stagings of this building by day and these well-preserved designs of his and impressions are the result. There is no record of whatever happened to him immediately he completed the job.

In preparation for these remarks I thought it might be interesting to find out precisely also, Mr. Speaker, what happened in this chamber exactly one hundred years ago to this hour. I was disappointed to find out that unlike recent sittings that nothing happened. The House was closed.

For example one hundred years ago yesterday at 2:00 P.M., the House opened to debate a supply bill and a Mr. Parsons spoke continuously for five hours. At seven o'clock the House was adjourned until April 8. Mr. Speaker, I would venture to say that things have not really changed all that much.

In closing I want to express on behalf of my colleagues in government the pride and satisfaction we feel on the attainment of twenty-five years in Confederation and the humility we feel on being seated here in these halls where the very beginnings of our parliamentary traditions were first



experienced.

MR. E. ROBERTS (LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION): Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I wish to support this bill and we do so with a very deep sense of pleasure and we do so in the believe and in the knowledge that this bill now before the House is a very fitting way to commemorate the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of Newfoundland becoming part of Canda, the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of our Confederation.

To us, Sir, the significance of the bill is not the mere fact that it declares this building and the grounds surrounding it to be a provincial historic site. We stand today, Sir, in the presence of a very real if intangible presence of the giants of Newfoundland's history. This bill, which I hope and understand will become law this day, pays tribute to those men, those men and the one lady, Lady Squires, who sat here before us, to the debates which preceded this day in this chamber, the deeds which were done here, to the laws which were made here. As a colony, as a dominion and as a province, the House of Assembly in the Colonial Building, Sir, this was the heart.

As the Premier said, it is a most beautiful building. Then granted, it is going to be restored as close to its original condition as possible. It is an unusual building in many ways, not only in that it was decorated by a forger on a ticket-of-leave or in the fact that the assembly moved to here from a tavern. The first assembly of Newfoundland met in a tavern and was in fact evicted for not paying its rent. The Mace I believe was seized by the bailiff. But, also, Sir, this House has given to the parliamentary world what I believe to be one of the too unique examples where the Loyal Opposition sits to Mr. Speaker's right and not to Mr. Speaker's left.

The reason for it, Sir, is very obvious to any who sit in this chamber this day. Our deputy speaker and the gentleman from St. George's are sitting in front of a fireplace. The only fireplaces in this building were against the inner walls, Sir, of this chamber and the identical chamber, which is to the east of us, where the Upper House met. In those days, Mr. Speaker, being out in the opposition literally meant being out in the cold.

Sir, it was here in this chamber that the first thirty-one General Assemblies of the Province of Newfoundland and before it the Dominion and before that the Colony met. It was here that our rights were asserted. It is here that they were secured and defended and preserved. I think it is most fitting and proper that we should remember those men today, such men as Patrick Morris and Dr. Carson, the men who fought for Representative Government for this country, the first Prime Minister, who happened to be a Liberal, by the way, Philip Francis Little, such men as Sir Frederick Carter and Sir Ambrose Shea. Indeed there is a descendant of Sir Frederick Carter sitting this day in this House, the gentleman from St. John's North. Sir Frederick Carter and Sir Ambrose Shea were the first Confederationists, Sir.

Sir William Whiteway, the man who first brought the railway to Newfoundland, Sir Robert Bond, the man who not only pledged his personal credit to satisfy the demands of the province, a precedent which I hope the present Finance Minister will take to heart if the time should come. Sir Robert Bond is a man who sponsored the legislation to put the paper mill at Grand Falls. Sir Michael Cashin; Sir Edward Morris, later Lord Morris; Sir William Coaker, Sir Richard Squires, all these men sat in this House, were members of this House, debated in this House, Sir, and fought for what they believed in this House.

In our own time, Major Cashin, the fighting major, Peter Cashin, the gentleman, the very independent gentleman from Ferryland and of course Joey Smallwood who sat in this House from 1949 until 1960, sat in it as Premier, where the present Premier sits. Not the same desk - I believe Mr. Smallwood was presented with the desk he used in this House and it is presumably in his personal collections now. Of course, Joey Smallwood is part, very much part of the history of this chamber.

It was in this chamber, Sir, that we as Newfoundlanders fought for our political sovereignty, because it did not come easily to us.

Morris and Carson, not in this House but in this Chamber, Sir, fought for Representative Government and then in the Colonial Building that Representative Government in 1850, was first used in this building. In 1855 we were granted Responsible Government and the first assembly of thirty men gathered here to carry on the business of the colony.

Interesting enough, Sir, that first assembly (Like the Premier, I have been reading my history these past few days) asserted its sovereignty, a very important thing in these days, passing a resolution condemning any attempt by Great Britain to alienate any portion of the fisheries of Newfoundland or the soil of Newfoundland to any foreign power without the prior consent of the House of Assembly, our own Legislature.

That first Assembly sent a delegation to London and secured from the United Kingdom Government, the Government of England, a concession to withdraw the Convention it had signed with France, the Convention which had extended the fishermen jurisdictional rights to the French, to the French Shore.

The fisheries, Sir, featured in many debates in this House in the 110 years the Assembly sat here but so did other subjects.

Sir William Whiteway's Administration's agreement with the Newfoundland Railway Company to build a railway from St. John's to Halls Bay in 1880.

The fisheries again: It was in this very House that Sir William Coaker, in 1919 and 1920, the leader of the Fishermen's Protective Union, brought in his Coaker Plan, the plan which only today we are seeing in operation, the plan under which the fisheries are controlled by the fishermen and by the Government of this Province.

This House, Mr. Speaker, has seen unusual events in constitutional history.

It was here in this very Chamber that the tie-election of 1908 came to legislative form.

It was here in this very Chamber, the only precedent in the British History, British Constitutional History, after the first war, when the

Government fell on a motion of non-confidence, put by the Minister of Finance and seconded by the Premier.

It was here in this building that the twenty-eight men who were elected in 1932, Sir, (None of them, I believe, is now alive) voted to suspend Representative Government and to ask the Government of the United Kingdom to put us under commission, in 1933.

I think it is a very wise thing that the actual abdication of our rights as a sovereign people did not take place in this Chamber; it was done at the Newfoundland Hotel. I think that is something from which we can draw consolation today.

Sir, it was here in this building too that the decisions were taken, not only to build a railway and the Grand Falls Mill but to put the "hum" on the Humber.

Throughout all these debates, Sir, there was one ever-present theme and that was the theme of Confederation between Newfoundland and Canada. Sir Frederick Carter and Sir Ambrose Shea represented the Dominion, the Colony of Newfoundland, at the conference in 1866, the Quebec Conference, which led to the initial confederation of the four colonies, Nova Scotia, of which Mr. Stanfield was Premier for twelve years; New Brunswick and the old colonies of Upper Canada and Lower Canada, United Canada, as they were; now Ontario and Quebec. That was put to the test, Sir, that decision, in 1869, when the Confederate Party went down to defeat at the hands of the electorate and Philip Francis Little was elected Premier.

Again, in 1894-95, Sir, Confederation was discussed in this Chamber. Finally there was an attempt, only now coming to light, towards the end of the first decade of this century, Sir, when the Governor-General of Canada, Lord Grey, I believe, of Grey Cup fame attempted to use his influence to prompt the Confederate movement involving Lord Morris, or Sir Edward Morris as he then was, and Sir Robert Bond. That came to nothing, Sir.

It was only in the late 1940's that Confederation came to be and it was here in this Chamber. The debates were not those of the House of Assembly, because our House had been suspended, but of the National Convention

which met in this very room. That Chair, Sir, in which you are sitting, and this is not a precedent I devoutly pray, witnessed the death of a Speaker, Mr. Speaker Fox, collapsed and died while presiding at the National Assembly, Sir.

It was in this Chamber that all the great debates, and the microphones were here then, in a break with precedent but a very real and a very meaningful break with tradition that allowed all the people of Newfoundland, because the debates were recorded, Sir, and they were broadcasted each evening and all over Newfoundland people listened and so were able to take part in a very real way, in a much more real way than every before or since in determining the fate of their country.

I do want to note particularly the presence here of Miss Murphy, the lady whom the Premier referred to, the dictation typist. Miss Murphy recorded most of those debates in the same way as she today records this debate here now, and I think that is a nice touch.

As you know, Sir, the irony of the debates of the National Convention was that they decided by vote not to put Confederation on the ballot. That decision to put Confederation on the ballot paper was taken outside this House, was taken elsewhere, but it was in this Chamber that Joey Smallwood delivered what may well have been his greatest speech, an impassioned and convincing speech which was broadcasted throughout Newfoundland and did much to insure the eventual victory in the referendum, the victory for the Confederate cause.

Sir, it was in this very Chamber that the Confederation dream began and it was here that it first began, to be made into reality in July of 1949, when the first post-Confederation session met in this House, although fourteen years after that, fourteen years ago, Sir, the House moved to the new Chambers at Confederation Building which have witnessed spirited debate but do not have the historic air of this great room.

Sir, although we have moved, it is in this Colonial Building, this building which will remain as a memorial to the struggles of those men who came before us, who served Newfoundland so well and who deserve to be remembered so well by all of us who try to carry on today. Sir, they

have provided for us a glorious heritage and made it possible for us to have an even more glorious future. It is a heritage of which we are proud Sir, and we stand today in their presence and for my part, Sir, I do so humbly and with a very real sense of pride and honour, being given this opportunity. Sir, we shall support the bill.

MR. EARL W. WINSOR: Mr. Speaker, today brings back many happy memories to me. Having sat on the benches now where the Government members sat for four years, today offers me the privilege of sitting to the right of our Speaker. So, I have had the opportunity, honour and privilege of sitting in this Chamber as a member of the Government in power and today as a member of the Opposition, which I still hold in the Confederation Building. I want to thank the Hon. the Premier for his kind remarks and I do not know if it always pays to be too much of a gentleman in this particular field. However, the fact that I am still here and representing a district accounts that I was not too, I suppose, argumentative or whatever it takes to be a good politician.

Mr. Speaker, this building was first attracted to me or my attention was brought to bear when quite a young lad growing up in Wesleyville. One day in April, in 1932, we went to the Post Office to read the public news and the public news of that afternoon said that there was a riot taking place outside of the Colonial Building and the policemen were here in full force on horseback and what have you. The warship was called in from outside to restore law and order. Now, that was very exciting news as a young boy growing up in Wesleyville where there were few radios and we had to go to the post office to read the public news.

Then again, I became interested in this building in the great National Convention, in the winters of 1946-47, when there was nothing or very little else to do. My buddy and myself used to come down here and sit in the visitors gallery and watch those great debates which took place here and which were formulated to this need of this island Province.

Then, of course, in 1956, I became an elected member. Much to my amazement and surprise, Mr. Speaker, the other day when you mentioned the fact that we would be having a sitting here in this Chamber,

CAPT. WINSOR: I found I was the only sitting member still around who had served in this honourable Chamber. Now I am not the "Only Father of Confederation" but I was quite surprised to realize that I am the only sitting member of the legislature today who had served any time here. Mr. Speaker, it is not because of age I am a comparatively young man but it goes to show how short, and I would warn the Premier of this, how short a politician's life can be.

MR. MOORES: The length of his will do me, Sir.

CAPT. WINSOR: I am the only survivor and I suppose one must take credit for the fact that the fittest survived, the survival of the fittest. It was just brought to my attention that I share this honour with the former member, Major Peter Cashin. Now as I look around and recall those eventful days and exciting days I notice that Miss Murphy was here every minute of the day during the sitting and I think the honourable member for Placentia East was also sitting at the Clerk's desk here. Am I right? Yes, as a law clerk. So there are still three of us who had taken some part in this great historical Chamber still around.

During those days, Mr. Speaker, we used to recess every afternoon at four o'clock for a coffee break and we would all gather, enemies and friends and foes, out in the room adjoining this chamber. Even though in the heat of debate, five minutes after the adjournment or recess you would find Joey Smallwood and W. J. Browne, for example, out sitting down chatting to each other. A very friendly atmosphere was always created. It is too bad, and I would suggest to the Premier, perhaps we should get back to that style and have a coffee break and recess, then I do not think we would get as much of this animosity among members as we seem to be getting today.

Mr. Speaker, it is very exciting and an honour and a privilege for me today, in my own quiet way to reminisce of all the exciting days that one witnessed here in the four years that I sat here. I, like

my leader, take great pleasure in supporting this Bill. I think it is very befitting that this historical building should be now classed as a provincial historic site.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Labrador South.

MR. MARTIN: Mr. Speaker, it is a particular great pleasure today to have the honour of addressing this Assembly in this particular spot, for several reasons. We do not have very much of an understanding in my district of the kind of things that the honourable gentlemen suitably spoke of. We were never given the opportunity of standing in the Assembly as spectators and we were not given much of an opportunity to understand not only what went on here but the reasons for it.

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to know that I was sent here to speak on behalf of a uniquely Labradorian group of people. It gives me much pleasure to come here as the first elected native born Labradorian. To have one last chance of being able to stand here in this very historic chamber is a most unique pleasure in itself.

In respect of the Bill which is before us, I cannot think of a better way of preserving not only a historic object but the whole heritage and history that is associated with it. I hope that because of what is happening here today that the people of my district and the people of the adjoining districts in Labrador will have a better understanding and will have more opportunities to understand their government and the people on this side of the Straits of Belle Isle who are their brother citizens of this province.

Twenty-five years ago I was a lad of eleven years of age and not at all unaware of the very bleak prospects that were facing me going into young manhood in a place like the Labrador Coast. I was not at all unaware that my choices were very, very limited and I was not at all unaware of the opportunities that were being opened for us by the Canadian Nation and our unity with that great nation. I perhaps took a small part in trying to get the idea across to some of our elders who did not have quite as much of an understanding as we had being school students.



From the floors of this Chamber issued forth the legislation and regulations that determined the destiny of the Territory of Labrador up to the time of Confederation and for many years beyond. It was from this Chamber that there issued the legislation or regulations which saw Labrador passed from Newfoundland to Quebec back to Newfoundland to Quebec again and finally back again. It was from this Chamber that the order went out to discourage settlement on the Labrador Coast and it was from this Chamber that subsequently an order went out to encourage the settlement of the Labrador Coast.

All this, Sir, without any representation whatsoever from the people who inhabited that part of the country. It was not until after Confederation that we were given the opportunity to participate in representative government. So what we are celebrating in Labrador in this year of 1974 is twenty-five years of representative government.

We are very much aware of what we owe to the great Canadian Nation. We are very much aware what we owe to the people who made Confederation possible.

I would like to say in supporting this Bill that we will be eternally grateful to Canada and her people for opening up that opportunity to us. Thank you.

HON. J. C. CROSBIE, MINISTER OF FINANCE: Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to occupy much time in this Chamber today but it is a sentimental occasion and I do not think that I should let it pass without saying a few words about my father who was a member of the National Convention and sat in this Chamber and who was a member of the delegation who went to Ottawa to negotiate the Terms of Union with Canada but who refused to sign the Terms of Union because he felt they were inadequate and did not give proper protection to the province.

The specific term of course which he felt was inadequate was Term 29 which dealt with the financial terms and conditions of union and subsequent events certainly showed that his judgement at that time, as to what the effect of Term 29 was, was a well thought out one because

April 1, 1974

Tape No. 1002

NM - 4 .

everyone remembers the difficulty that occurred when Term 29 was interpreted and that became controversial in 1959 and 1960.

My only point in rising, Mr. Speaker, is that this is a sentimental occasion. I think I would be remiss in the respect I have for him if I did not mention him here today in this Chamber and his part in the Confederation with Canada. He led, of course, the movement known as the Economic Union with the United States Movement, which advocated that Responsible Government should be achieved first and then we should negotiate with Canada and the United States to see with whom we could have the best deal. That course of action was not adopted by the majority of the people. He was then appointed a member of the delegation to negotiate the Terms of the Union and I have already stated what position he took. He was always an independent man who formed his own judgement. He was not a politician, he was not an orator, he never took part in active politics after that but he was a great Newfoundlander and I am, therefore, delighted to have this opportunity to mention him here today.

MR. DOYLE: Mr. Speaker, I simply want to bring the debate to a close by mentioning a touch of irony which really had not occurred to me until I sat here this afternoon and that is that back in the 1950's, I was at the time a part-time reporter for the "Gerald S. Doyle News Bulletin" and as such on a few occasions, I can recall sitting at the Press Table in this House and, therefore, I find it very ironic and a very appropriate personal touch that I happen to be in the position today to be the sponsor of this bill. I, therefore, have great pleasure in moving second reading.

On motion a bill, "An Act Respecting The Colonial Building, read a second time, ordered referred to a Committee of the Whole House now, by leave.

On motion that the House go into Committee of the Whole on a bill, "An Act Respecting The Colonial Building," Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

A bill, "An Act Respecting The Colonial Building."

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, just before the bill is carried, my colleague, the gentleman from Fogo, who referred to the tradition of the tea break in the House or the coffee break, overlooked one other great, old tradition of this House, (the gentleman whom I am not allowed to mention, officially he is not here, CJON Mr. Daniels ) the "Glory Hole," which is a circular staircase that descends to the rooms to which the opposition were consigned. Legend has it that in the days of the 1920's when the hanger-down opposition was here - if the Premier thinks that today the opposition, Mr. Chairman, are somewhat worthy, as I know he does at times, he should recall the days when Sir John Bennett; Sir John Crosbie, the Finance Minister's grandfather; Coaker and a group of them were here on this side and they hung her down for five or six months. The "Glory Hole" led not only to glory but also to a never-ending game of forty-fives and a never-ending supply of screech. I think that that is a tradition, Sir, that we might encourage just as much.

Mr. Chairman, I say now that our whip, the gentleman from Bell Island, stands ready to take on all on the other side, Sir, over a game of forty-fives or anything else tonight.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Chairman, just very briefly, we do not want to get on the subject of forty-fives with the Member for Bell Island, if we can avoid it.

Looking through the Terms of Union, I think it is worthy of mentioning, seeing as we are in this House today, that the corrections and the initiallings of all those that signed, and as the Member for Burin, Burgeo is here, the sentence that was just casually crossed off and initialled, that after it described the Fortune Bay, the South Coast and so on, it also said: "Together with the Coast of Labrador and all the islands adjacent therein." I am awfully glad that they did scratch that part out.

Motion that the committee report having passed the bill without amendment, carried.

On motion that the committee rise and report having passed a bill, "An Act Respecting The Colonial Building," without amendment, and ask leave to sit again, Mr. Speaker returned to the Chair.

MR. STAGG: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of the Whole have considered the matters to them referred and have directed me to report having passed a bill, "An Act Respecting The Colonial Building," without amendment and ask leave to sit again.

On motion report received and adopted.

On motion bill ordered read a third time now, by leave.

On motion, a bill, "An Act Respecting The Colonial Building," read a third time, ordered passed and title be as on the Order Paper.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, I move that the House at its rising do adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday at 3:00 P.M. and that this House do now adjourn.

MR. SPEAKER: This House stands adjourned until tomorrow Tuesday, at 3:00 P.M.