

can say for this country these days. We were in the black and we brought with us resources.

If you are looking for a third reason, Mr. Speaker, as to why we received some equalization, we brought with us resources, the resources of the continental shelf that we keep talking about in this Chamber. The fish, the marine resources, are part of Canada today because they were brought into Canada by the marriage of Newfoundland and Canada in 1949. That is why Canada has fish off its east coast and that is the only reason it has fish. The fish were the resource of Newfoundland brought into Canada.

Why do the steel mills in Hamilton, Ontario operate these days? Because they get their iron from Newfoundland, from Labrador, the largest exporter of iron ore of any province in this country. The smelters to process that iron further and to make steel out of it ought to be in Labrador, ought to be in Newfoundland. However, we drive the stuff half way across the continent so we can process it in Hamilton, Ontario.

**An hon. member:** What is wrong with Hamilton?

**Mr. Simmons:** The member asks: "What is wrong with Hamilton?" The only thing I can think that is wrong with Hamilton is that it is not in Newfoundland. He comes late to the debate, but that is not unusual for him. He missed the context of what I was saying, but I enjoy his interventions from time to time however uninformed they might be. There is nothing particularly wrong with Hamilton. The member misrepresents what I was attempting to say. There is nothing wrong with Hamilton. That is not the issue. It is not a matter of playing one part of the country against another. That is a zero sum game. Nobody wins in the end. That is not the issue. I was responding to his colleague from Carleton—Charlotte who had inadvertently, I am sure, misrepresented a couple of issues in this House. In the process I was attempting to tell the House why it is that the equalization is not some crumbs from the table that we accept shamefully in Newfoundland.

Equalization was part of a deal that we made in 1949, a deal which required us to give up a fair amount, including the processing of our raw materials in so far as iron was concerned, including the manufacturing sector that I mentioned before, including in particular the processing of saltfish—

### *Government Orders*

**Mr. Thompson:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. In passing I have taken notice that the member mentioned my riding of Carleton—Charlotte. I am not sure if he did that in the sense of not understanding the issue or not identifying the riding properly, but I am not sure of what point he is alluding to in my speech or remarks in the last couple of days. If he could clarify that, I will certainly respond to those remarks.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** We are not in question or comment period. We are on debate.

**Mr. Simmons:** I thank my friend from Carleton—Charlotte for returning to the Chamber on this, but did I understand that I said his riding improperly?

**Mr. Thompson:** No.

**Mr. Simmons:** I am very sure to what I have alluded and I am glad I have the right member. He is the member for Carleton—Charlotte. In responding to the NDP member who had spoken previous to my taking the floor, the gentleman from Carleton—Charlotte made some reference to three provinces making payments to seven provinces.

Simply what I said to the House was that I believe the member for Carleton—Charlotte must have been thinking about the equalization program, because it is under that program, not under the EPF program which we are now debating, that kind of payment takes place. It is the equalization that has seven provincial treasuries access funds and in effect they come from the other three provinces.

I was saying that in that respect he had inadvertently, and I used that term several times, not purposely, misrepresented the issue. I use that occasion not to point the finger at my friend from Carleton—Charlotte but to show that Newfoundland is one of the seven provinces he mentions. Not only that, I hope I use the occasion to demonstrate that Newfoundland and Labrador receive equalization payments not in shame or not with heads bowed. We receive it because it is part of a bargain, a deal that was made and consummated in 1949, a deal that we locked ourselves into as a province of Canada at some price.

I used three specific examples in the area of the further processing of iron ore, in the business of manufacturing generally and in the processing of fish in the