CHAPTER 4

Topic 4.1– 4.2
Diversification and the Railway
Changes in the Fishery

- As population increased, money earned in fishery decrease
- Two Reasons
  - More people involved in fishery, less for each person
  - Rate of cod reproduction dropped

- More people catching fewer fish
The Need to Diversify

- Most lived a subsistence lifestyle
  - Using the land to meet basic human needs (hunting, fishing, etc.)
- Some goods still needed to be bought
  - Flour, tea, rum, tobacco, salt, medicine
- Costs of these imports was often larger than the value of fish exports
- In 1878...
  - William Whiteway was elected premier
    - Wanted to create employment through natural resources
      - Mining, forestry
    - Felt that building a railway was essential in opening up the interior of the island to develop these industries
A Golden Age

- There were agricultural, forest and mineral resources in the island’s interior
  - Railway would help access these resources

- Time between 1900–1914 was considered a “Golden Age”
  - Railway was built
  - Prices and demand of fish increased again
  - Forestry and mining industries were growing