

1 and the professions oriented to business, comparatively
2 late in our history. So we have our own share of responsi-
3 bility in that respect.

4 But the fact is that the business in Quebec was
5 largely -- and still is largely -- under the control of an
6 English speaking population.

7 MEMBER OF THE PRESS: Mr. Minister, how much of a
8 device, in the issue, is Quebec's separatism, politically,
9 in the rest of Canada -- in Greater Canada?

10 MINISTER LALONDE: How much of a device "inside"--
11 or amongst--the Canadians?

12 MEMBER OF THE PRESS: Amongst the English-
13 speaking Canadians.

14 MINISTER LALONDE: In the sense that many would
15 say, "Well, let them go"?

16 MEMBER OF THE PRESS: Or whatever! "Well, let
17 them go", and translate that into **critical** terms, if
18 you can, of relations between the parties.

19 MINISTER LALONDE: Well, I think the surveys
20 indicate, again, that the vast majority of English speaking
21 Canadians would like Quebec to stay. But you also have a
22 high proportion -- I think about 30%, maybe, if I remember
23 well -- who say, you know, "If Quebec were to decide to go,
24 we should not hold them by force. Even more than that!

25 Maybe Canadian correspondents here could