

Foreword

On December 11, 1948, representatives of Canada and Newfoundland, in an historic ceremony in the Senate Chamber at Ottawa, signed final Terms of Union between the two countries. On March 31, after the Terms had been ratified by the Canadian Parliament, the Newfoundland Commission of Government and the Parliament of the United Kingdom, Newfoundland formally entered Confederation as the tenth province. Thus the noble dream of the Fathers of Confederation, of a "Union strong and great" stretching from sea to sea, was at last fully realized, eighty-four years after the meeting in 1864.

The year 1949 is thus a notable year for both countries. By the decision of a free electorate, the people of Newfoundland have thrown in their lot with the Canadian people and, without losing their unique identity, have become fellow citizens of a larger union. To Canada they have added, in the physical sense, 150,000 square miles of territory. But more important, their entry into Confederation has meant the enrichment of Canada by the addition of 325,000 hardy sea-faring people of kindred stock and similar cultural traditions.

It is hoped that this booklet will serve to acquaint Canadians more closely with the history and geography, the economic, human and natural resources of Newfoundland, and enable them better to know their fellow Canadians. To readers outside the country the booklet will serve as an introduction to Canada's newest province.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Louis St. Laurent". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the page.

JANUARY 1, 1950.