

But we have not ceased working for an ever-brighter future, with increased well-being and security for our people. In Confederation, the people of Newfoundland will share all the advantages now enjoyed by the rest of the Canadian people of whom they will then form a part.

Je tiens à dire un mot du caractère essentiel de la nation canadienne. Et pour mieux souligner ce caractère essentiel, je m'exprime maintenant en français. Notre nation, dont vous êtes à la veille de faire partie, repose sur l'association, sur un pied d'égalité, des deux grandes races qui sont si intimement mêlées à l'histoire de Terre-Neuve aussi bien qu'à celle du Canada. Notre pays a deux langues officielles et deux cultures qui, bien que parentes, sont distinctes, ont des affinités étroites. Mais nous ne formons qu'un seul peuple. Nous sommes heureux de vous recevoir, vous de Terre-Neuve, dans cette nation. Nous sommes convaincus que vous travaillerez avec nous à maintenir ce caractère distinctif de la nation canadienne, dont sir John A. Macdonald disait, peu avant la fin de sa vie, il y a près de soixante ans: "Tous avons maintenant une constitution qui place tous les sujets britanniques sur un pied d'égalité absolue, qui leur reconnaît des droits égaux dans tous les domaines: langue, religion, propriété et personne. Il n'existe pas de race supérieure dans ce pays; il n'existe pas non plus de race vaincue."

Aujourd'hui, nous sommes plus enclins à parler de citoyens canadiens que de sujets britanniques, mais l'idéal reste le même. La tolérance mutuelle et l'égalité des associés sont et demeureront les fondements de notre nation.

With the signing of the agreement by which Newfoundland is to become a province of the Canadian nation, we have concluded that part of our labours, and concluded them successfully. In another and in a much more important respect, our common task is only beginning. No nation can ever stand still. The fact that we are here is evidence of that. Newfoundland has felt the change of the times and the development of new factors in its political and economic life. Canada too has felt the force of change and development. Sir Frederick Carter, one of the original Fathers of Confederation from Newfoundland, said of Canada, on one occasion, "as you advance we must advance". With Newfoundland entering Confederation, I believe the advance towards greater unity and prosperity on the northern half of this continent will be steadier and surer.

Gentlemen, I am confident of our united future. My colleagues in the Government and I are happy and proud to have had this opportunity of working with you. We, with the people of Canada, look forward to the last great step in Confederation. We believe that, with you, we have had the privilege of completing the structure of a "Union strong and great".

Mr. Walsh's Speech

Mr. Prime Minister and Members of the Committee of the Government of Canada:

For over two months the representatives of Newfoundland have been meeting with you to discuss the many problems - financial, economic, administrative and constitutional - which are involved in the union of Newfoundland with Canada or will arise as a result of that union. Together we have been endeavouring to work out an arrangement between