THE REFERENDUM

on behalf of the Canadian Government, or to receive representations to the Government but would be glad to hear their views.

6. Have been invited out for the evening to meet some of the confederates.

7. Had discussions this morning with the Governor and Commissioners Walsh and Pottle and have arranged to see them again tomorrow.

8. This telegram should be understood in the main as preliminary impression. I shall send you further appreciation tomorrow. Ends.

645.

2828-40

St. John's, July 26, 1948

Le haut commissaire par intérim à Terre-Neuve au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures Acting High Commissioner in Newfoundland to

Secretary of State for External Affairs

Telegram 143

IMPORTANT. Following for Pearson from MacKay, Begins: Following is text of editorial which appeared in St. John's Sunday Herald yesterday under the caption "The Decision Is Made, Now What?" "The people have made their decision for their form of Government and whilst decision is far from unanimous, and consequently many thousands will be deeply disappointed, perhaps some bitterly so, and although we do not subscribe to the belief that 'the voice of the people is the will of God,' the fact remains the voice of the majority is generally accepted by the minority, and both majority and minority groups co-operate and work together for the common good. Let us hope, that for some little time at least, we will have a surcease from political confusion and turmoil, and concentrate on matters that are now of equal import to the welfare of our people generally and we hope the betterment of Newfoundland. Let us appreciate anew the fact that we are still Newfoundlanders, that this is our homeland, come what may, nothing can change that fact, we will succeed only insofar as we ourselves are determined in thought and action, prepared to shoulder our responsibilities, and unite our efforts to assert our rights and improve the lot of ourselves and fellow citizens, this is our task, our common task which behoves us to acquit ourselves as a strong and proud people, with pride in ourselves and abiding faith in this Newfoundland of ours. If we think that now by joining Canada we need only sit back and let the money roll in then we are indeed going to be a sorry lot of disappointed people. The old saying that 'God helps those who help themselves' is still true even under Confederation." Ends

646.

10300-E-40

Le haut commissaire en Grande-Bretagne au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures

High Commissioner in Great Britain to Secretary of State for External Affairs 963