

in providing social services but on the whole there was no serious dissent to March 31st.

Notable omissions from the discussions were questions of jurisdiction over divorce or the clause on education.

[ANNEXE 3 À LA PIÈCE JOINTE/SUB-ENCLOSURE 3]

SECRET

July 27, 1948

TALK WITH RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT LEAGUE

Present: Cheeseman, Vice-President, Collins, Secretary, and Hollett.

No note of details is being made here. The main point about these people is that they revealed a determination on the part of at least some people in their group, which at the moment at least is a very small one, to fight the Confederation issue as long as there is any point in this. It is difficult to say how far they intend to go but Mr. Hollett stated they would "fight this to the last ditch," and "we will go to the United Nations if necessary" and suggested that in spite of the best will in the world on the part of the League it might be difficult to prevent trouble. Whether these remarks were indicative of real intentions or merely threats it is difficult to say. The League bases its case chiefly on the constitutional point and on the claim that the terms are unnegotiated. Cheeseman talked quite well about the necessity of doing something about the fisheries set-up. I gathered the impression that he would settle for this and that he thought Confederation was going through. The whole tone of the discussion was friendly, not belligerent except for one or two truculent remarks by Hollett; we kept it on a rather innocuous footing as much as we could.

[ANNEXE 4 À LA PIÈCE JOINTE/SUB-ENCLOSURE 4]

SECRET

July 26, 1948

FIRST CONVERSATION WITH SIR EDWARD EMERSON
(WITH MR. BRIDLE ALONE)

The Avalon Peninsula is parasitic and the productive industries of Newfoundland are centred outside of it.

Newfoundland has been treated rather poorly by Britain and Canada and as a result, if Confederation is effected now, it would be regarded by history as another move in the game of power politics. (Compare with this Dr. Pottle's considered opinion that historically it is about time Canada accepted Newfoundland. In 1867-9 Confederation was expected to take place but filibustering tactics were introduced in Newfoundland by the Conservative party and eventually the people voted utterly against it. This could happen again. In telling me this Dr. Pottle emphasized that he has to live here and therefore he takes into consideration both sides of the question pretty carefully. He also told me that he has heard from widely different geographical sources that there are many people who voted for Responsible Government although their heart was in Confederation. They are