

of any terms which might be negotiated. He also expressed doubt that such continuation is legally possible. Bradley devoted major part of his speech to fisheries question and contended that Canadian Government has no intention of disturbing Fisheries Board or any similar agency which is of benefit to Newfoundland economy. He said the delegation had been assured of this in Ottawa last summer. He declared that Board's power could be continued by what Mr. McEvoy has called conjoint legislation.

He also spoke of advantage of Confederation to Newfoundland and declared resumption of control by Newfoundland politicians would endanger fisheries.

4. When unveiling the Bowring Memorial Tuesday, the Governor merely eulogized Sir [Edgar] Bowring and praised public-spirited men.

631.

2828-40

*Le haut commissaire par intérim à Terre-Neuve au
secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*⁷³

*Acting High Commissioner in Newfoundland to
Secretary of State for External Affairs*⁷³

TELEGRAM 137

St. John's, July 23, 1948

IMMEDIATE. Standing in national referendum as announced by Chief Electoral [Officer] at 1:10 a.m. this morning was as follows:

Confederation with Canada, 64,160; Responsible Government 64,890. It appears on basis of returns announced so far and in the light of distribution of votes at first polls, that Confederation will secure a slim majority.

2. Complete returns have been received from 7 of 25 districts and it appears most votes have now been counted in 11 other districts. No returns have as yet been received from Labrador.

3. It looks as though Confederation will have a majority in 16 districts, Responsible Government in 7, with 2 uncertain.

4. It is probable that outcome will be known later today. It will not be possible, however, accurately to determine size of majority until returns from Labrador are reasonably complete. This may take a few days.

5. It will be appreciated that most returns now being received are transmitted by telegraph and are subject to written confirmation by returning officers.

6. I will send a fuller report and a more complete analysis of voting later today.

632.

2828-40

*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*

⁷³Ce télégramme fut signalé au Premier ministre.

⁷³This telegram was referred to the Prime Minister.