

educated in their own official language will be assured. Each and every premier, in Montreal in 1978, committed himself to the principle that "each child of the French-speaking or English-speaking minority is entitled to an education in his or her language in the primary or secondary school in each province wherever numbers warrant". We will put that agreement of the provinces, the agreement of the premiers into the Constitution.

The third element of the resolution will be to enshrine the principle of equalization — the principle of sharing across this land — which is the very essence of our country.

Parliament will be expected to satisfy itself that the resolution has fully met the wishes of the Canadian people. But Parliament will also be asked to take action without undue delay. The reason is simple: Canadians gave their word.

This past spring, when Quebecers were urged by their provincial government to separate from Canada, people in all parts of the country confirmed the bargain, the social contract, which made Confederation possible: the promise that all can share fully in Canada's heritage.

Government's commitment

The Canadian government's commitment was clear. So was the commitment of all national party leaders and of each of the premiers. Hundreds of thousands of individual Canadians signed petitions; schools, churches, and city councils declared themselves.

It was more than a commitment to Quebecers, even though the Quebec referendum was the immediate reason for it. The commitment was from each Canadian to every other Canadian to change our country for the better.

The people, through Parliament, can now redeem that pledge. Freed of the paralysis of the past, with our Constitution home, with our full independence beyond question, with our rights and freedoms guaranteed, the process of reform and renewal can truly proceed. Our government is willing, indeed it is anxious, to resume discussions on the Constitution with the provinces, once the way has been provided to make progress.

In this complex and turbulent world, Canadians can no longer afford to have fundamental aspects concerning the nature of our country left unresolved and

Approved resolution to Britain

If the proposed resolution is endorsed by the House of Commons and the Senate, the government of Canada will submit the joint address to the Queen, requesting that the British Parliament enact the provisions contained in the resolution, and transfer to Canada authority over all the provisions contained in British constitutional statutes relating to Canada.

uncertain, to feed confrontation, division and disunity. We are summoned to a great act of national will: we must take unto ourselves and for our children, the ultimate responsibility for the preservation of our country.

We as a people can meet this challenge. In doing so, we will clear the way for the generation now rising to better express and pursue the amity by which we live, the new deal for Westerners and Quebecers, for Ontarians and Atlantic Canadians, for Northerners and native peoples....

Air service agreement

Canada and Britain agreed September 19 on a new arrangement for air services between the two countries. The successful conclusion followed four rounds of talks held between the two governments during the past year.

The new agreement provides British Airways with the opportunity to start direct services to western Canada across the Atlantic from Britain and for a yet to be designated British airline to start services to western Canada from Hong Kong. At the same time, Canadian airlines will be permitted to expand their services through points in Britain. Air Canada will be able to develop and extend its services for both passengers and cargo on routes through London to a range of destinations in Europe, Africa and Asia, while CP Air will be able to extend its services for both passengers and cargo on routes through Hong Kong to Southeast Asia.

It is expected that the new range of air services offered by the British carriers to western Canadian travellers will be introduced as early as next spring.

Peat an energy alternative

A preliminary study prepared for the federal government suggests that it would be technically and economically feasible to construct a peat-fired steam-electric generating station in northeastern New Brunswick.

Prepared by Montreal Engineering Company Limited, the study was funded by the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, the Department of Regional Economic Expansion and the government of New Brunswick.

Data on the peat-bog resources of northeastern New Brunswick was supplied by the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources.

The study indicates that, as has already been the experience in Ireland and Finland, peat could be an economical alternative to oil in this country, and could create significant numbers of permanent jobs. The preliminary findings will be evaluated by the federal and provincial governments and the New Brunswick Electric Power Commission to determine whether there is a basis for proceeding with pre-engineering and detailed design studies.

The study found that:

- peat-mining and peat-combustion technologies already proven in Europe can be adapted to Canadian conditions, and it would be possible to manufacture peat-handling equipment and plant components in Canada;
- peat bogs located near Shippegan, New Brunswick are adequate to support a 40-megawatt power station for 30 years at baseload operation;
- subject to more detailed study, it appears the project would not have a detrimental environmental impact, and would be compatible with the established horticultural-peat industry of the area; and
- electricity generated by a peat-fired unit would be less costly than the output of an oil-fired unit of the same size. It would also compare favourably to a coal-fired unit if account is made for the cost of pollution-control measures for the combustion of high-sulphur New Brunswick coal.

The study recommended that the proposed project be considered as a demonstration unit that "could prove valuable for the design and operation of other peat-fired stations in New Brunswick as well as other provinces".