

two countries may be, and however much our two peoples may have in common, union is not a course to be undertaken lightly by either side. It would involve for both Newfoundland and Canada far-reaching administrative and economic changes. For each of our peoples it would involve some alteration in their traditional outlook. I do not suggest that these and other problems which may arise are obstacles to union, but rather that they merit serious and unhurried examination by both sides. The matter of union can only be rightly approached from the broad standpoint of whether, for Newfoundland and for Canada alike, union would be mutually advantageous. This, of course, does not exclude careful consideration, as well, of the position of both our countries as members of the British Commonwealth.

Let me in conclusion repeat what I have already said to our parliament, namely that the question of Newfoundland's future form of government is ~~of course~~ one for the people of Newfoundland themselves to decide. It is not a matter in which either the people of Canada or the Government of Canada would wish to interfere. Should the question become a matter of referendum, whatever the decision might be, it would be received by

*the Government*