

## NEWFOUNDLAND DELEGATES WELCOMED

A delegation from Newfoundland, appointed to negotiate the precise terms of the entry of Newfoundland into Confederation was formally welcomed in the Senate Chamber, Ottawa, on October 6.

The Newfoundland delegation consists of the Honourable A.J. Walsh, K.C. (chairman) and Messrs. F.G. Bradley, J.R. Smallwood, J.B. McEvoy, Philip Grouchy, G.A. Winter and Chesley A. Crosbie. Detained by illness, Mr. Crosbie was unable to be present at the formal opening.

The following members of the Canadian Government have been designated, with the Acting Prime Minister, Mr. St. Laurent, to meet with the delegation from Newfoundland: the Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Howe; the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton; the Minister of Finance, Mr. Abbott; the Minister of National Revenue, Dr. McCann; the Minister of Veterans Affairs, Mr. Gregg; the Minister of Fisheries, Mr. Mayhew; the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Pearson.

Other members of the Cabinet will participate in the discussions whenever it may appear to be desirable.

Rt. Hon. Louis St. Laurent, Acting Prime Minister, in his address of welcome said:

Mr. Walsh and members of the delegation from Newfoundland:

Today it is my pleasant duty to welcome you, the delegation from Newfoundland, appointed to negotiate the precise terms of the entry of Newfoundland into Confederation. We welcome you as representatives of a people who share with us great traditions and who with us occupy half a continent. We welcome you with a warm heart and with every good wish for an early and favourable outcome to these negotiations.

We are gathered in this Chamber on an historic occasion. I think it is not too

much to say "historic", whether we are thinking of the future or of the past. The linking of the fortunes of two countries in a common destiny must always be an act of faith in the future. I need not,

dream and did what they could to see it realized. These men are honoured by Canadians as two of the Fathers of Confederation. Again there was the conference of 1895 that ended in a second unsuccessful at-



THE NEWFOUNDLAND DELEGATION

The Rt. Hon. L.S. St. Laurent, Acting Prime Minister of Canada, greets the Hon. A.J. Walsh and members of the Newfoundland delegation in the Senate chamber, Ottawa, October 6. Left to right: Mr. J.R. Smallwood, Mr. F.G. Bradley, Mr. Philip Grouchy, Rt. Hon. L.S. St. Laurent, Mr. G.A. Winter, Hon. A.J. Walsh and Mr. J.B. McEvoy. (N.F.B. Photo)

moreover, emphasize the uncertainties and dangers in the world at large of present times. It is our earnest hope that union will better assure the future safety and welfare of both peoples.

Twice before Newfoundland has stood on the threshold of Confederation. The Chairman of the delegation that came to Ottawa from the National Convention in June, 1947, spoke of the great dream of the founders of Confederation of a nation stretching from Victoria to St. John's, and he named two from among the people of Newfoundland - Sir Frederick Carter and Sir Ambrose Shea - who shared that

tempt to bring about the entry of Newfoundland into Confederation. The union, the terms of which we now hope to settle, will be the realization of an old dream. Union will be based on more than a dream. Newfoundland and Canada have been closely associated not only during years of peace but also in two gigantic struggles for the preservation of a common heritage.

### BASIS OF UNION

To turn to very recent events, the most recent approach to Confederation began when the National Convention of Newfoundland decided to explore the possibilities of