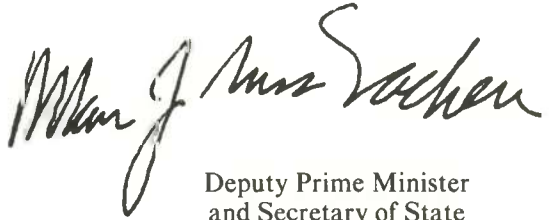


FOREWORD

Thirty-five years ago, a delegation from Newfoundland arrived in Ottawa to negotiate the Terms of Union of Newfoundland with Canada. At the concluding plenary session of the negotiations, the Chairman of the Newfoundland Delegation stated: "The people of Newfoundland will undoubtedly obtain many benefits from this Union; they will also make a great contribution to the further development of Canada." The years since Union have certainly demonstrated the veracity of this statement.

Much has already been written about the Union of Newfoundland with Canada and the events which led up to it. However, the files of the Department of External Affairs contain documents which offer a unique perspective on these events. Our High Commissioner in Newfoundland was in a privileged position to observe and report on the discussions on the possible future forms of Government. Other departmental officials played key roles in the negotiations with the representatives of Newfoundland and, along with officials from other departments, co-ordinated the measures to bring Union into effect. The Department of External Affairs is therefore pleased to publish these documents along with previously published material in order to provide in a convenient package the documentary basis for the study of the process which brought about the Union of Newfoundland with Canada.

I trust that this volume, which was undertaken to honour Newfoundland and its people, will not only fulfil its objective but will also enable Canadians to gain a better understanding of their history.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael J. Anscombe". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "M".

Deputy Prime Minister
and Secretary of State
for External Affairs

Ottawa,
October 1983