THE REFERENDUM

Paragraph 5. Delete second sentence "The union" to "many years." Place remaining sentence as final sentence of preceding paragraph.

Paragraph 6. (old) Add new sentence after second sentence ending "transmitted with it" as follows: "I am sure that at these negotiations any special problems which may arise in connection with the entry of Newfoundland into Confederation will receive careful and sympathetic consideration; and it is my hope that the arrangements to be agreed will, in the interests of both countries, ensure that Newfoundland and its people will be able to take their place happily in this Federation."

664.

2828-40

St. John's, July 30, 1948

Le haut commissaire par intérim à Terre-Neuve au gouverneur de Terre-Neuve

Acting High Commissioner in Newfoundland to Governor of Newfoundland

No. 13

SECRET

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your note dated July 30th with which you enclosed certain suggested amendments to the text of the proposed statement to be made by the Prime Minister of Canada regarding the result of the Newfoundland national referendum.

The Canadian Government has considered the amendments suggested in your note and I have been instructed to say that the amendment proposed for paragraph 2 has already been effected.

The suggested amendment for paragraph 3 has also, I think, been taken care of by inserting in place of the words in brackets the following: "Out of a total registered vote of about 176,000, the vote for Confederation is 77,869 and for Responsible Government 71,464. The total majority to date is thus over 6,400. It is estimated that about 500 votes are still to be counted but this would not materially alter the result. It would also appear that close to 85% of the eligible voters exercised their right to vote."

The suggested amendment for paragraph 4 is concurred in, that is, the second sentence commencing "It will also" and ending "with Canada" has been deleted.

At the end of the first sentence in paragraph 5, the following has been inserted: "We have ascertained that, for its part, the United Kingdom Government which at present is responsible for the administration of Newfoundland under the United Kingdom-Newfoundland Act 1933, in view of the result of the referendum is in agreement with the entry of Newfoundland into Confederation." The last sentence in the same paragraph commencing "The union" and ending "many years" has not been deleted but it has been modified to read as follows: "The union when effected will seal in constitutional terms a close and fraternal association that has existed, in war and in peace, between the two countries over many years."