

952.

Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures au Haut commissaire
Secretary of State for External Affairs to High Commissioner

TELEGRAM 80

Ottawa, June 19, 1933

Following for Prime Minister. Begins. Magrath telegraphs from St. John's. Begins. Please advise Mr. Bennett if plan mine second instant should be considered believe finance and control should rest altogether with British Government to avoid any misunderstanding at end three year period especially if Canadian Government then conclude unwise take any responsibility. The more I hear about deplorable condition along coast more convinced I am Canadian Government should avoid any responsibility until have complete survey. Ends.

953.

Le Premier ministre au président de la Commission mixte
Prime Minister to Chairman of International Joint Commission

London, July 20, 1933

Dear Mr. Magrath,

I read your letter regarding Newfoundland with great interest.

I have discussed the question with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, as well as with Mr. Thomas. The Government of the United Kingdom consider that it is absolutely essential at this time that a British Dominion should not default and, as you know, took the necessary action to provide the money to pay the last half-year's interest, but they are concerned about the future and are anxiously awaiting the report of Lord Amulree.¹ I explained our case to them with great care and I think they quite appreciate the fact that we are not in a position to render the assistance we did last January. Champlain was here, I understand, but I believe he has gone back now. I told my Secretary to advise him that I saw no good purpose in his remaining in London for I did not propose to express any opinion about the acquisition of Labrador under existing conditions. Certainly, I do not think that any Canadian Government would ever consider paying \$100,000,000 to extinguish the title of Newfoundland in Labrador.

I hope to see you before long.

Yours faithfully,

R. B. BENNETT

¹A la suite du rapport Amulree, Terre-Neuve renonça à son statut de gouvernement autonome et la Grande-Bretagne, en assumant la responsabilité pour les finances, désigna une commission pour gouverner.

¹Following the Amulree Report, Newfoundland gave up its self-governing status and Britain, assuming responsibility for the finances of Newfoundland, appointed a Commission of Government.