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1 who have met him know. He surely sees these hazards in
2 the way of a clear cut choice.

3 How do you think he will behave in that respect?

4 MINISTER LALONDE: Since this is being filmed,
5 I will not be off the record.

6 He said he was planning to have a referendum--
7 at the earliest by Spring of next year, and they are going
8 to try and phrase the question in such a way as to get
9 the largest possible number of votes they can get and,
10 if possible, a majority. But the danger, obviously, is
11 that it becomes so vague that it will be considered
12 meaningless by us--or by those who are "opposed" to Separatism.

13 You know, surveys have been carried, for
14 instance, asking: Would you give a mandate to
15 negotiate a Sovereignty Association?

16 According to one survey, there would be a
17 majority of Quebeckers who would give a mandate.

18 This is almost like a Union--I think-- asking
19 for "a mandate to strike". It is not very, very significant
20 until you decide to call a strike.

21 So, how he is going to play it? I think he will
22 try to phrase it in the best possible way for their
23 objectives; and they have been playing around with
24 certain formulations but, again, it is a double-edged thing!
25 If it is too vague, it loses credibility.