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French Quebeckers?

MINISTER LALONDE: Well, the surveys indicate that the overwhelming view is against it but, at the same time, the majority of the people are of the view that if the people of Quebec were, in a democratic way, to decide to leave, we should not use force to keep them with Canada.

MEMBER OF THE PRESS: Which would leave us where?

MINISTER LALONDE: It leaves us in the situation where I am convinced that-both in Quebec and outside of Quebec-the people are going to hope to stay together.

MEMBER OF THE PRESS: You cannot have just one State -- one of the ten States -- just indefinite --

MR. FEICHTLBAUER: Is there any danger that other Provinces might say, "All right. Let's be independent. Let's go our own way. Let's break up."

MINISTER LALONDE: "Let's go our own way?"

No. There is no serious threat of that.

MR. FEICHTLBAUER: Will the Maritime areas be able to survive like Alaska?

MINISTER LALONDE: That is a good comparison!

I only wish they would strike oil like Alaska. That would help!

But the Maritime areas have been striking fish lately. There is a good future in the Fishing Industry there--