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*Extrait de The Mackenzie King Record*⁷¹
*Extract from The Mackenzie King Record*⁷¹

...

A second referendum was scheduled for July 22. Two days earlier Mackenzie King had discussed the situation with St. Laurent. "He personally feels, and I agree, that unless there is something more than a poor majority, we should not take the Province into Confederation. I said it was necessary to look ahead and see what would come if we had a poor majority. The estimate the Department [of External Affairs] have is that Confederation will carry, but with a very small majority."

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*Mémorandum du sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
 au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*
*Memorandum from Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs
 to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

Ottawa, July 21, 1948

SECOND REFERENDUM IN NEWFOUNDLAND

Several despatches covering the present political campaign in Newfoundland have been received during the last two days from our Acting High Commissioner in St. John's. Since these communications are rather lengthy, it was thought that it would be an unnecessary burden on you to have to read them.

2. These despatches are mainly concerned with the support which has of late been given to the cause of Confederation by certain leading business and professional men in Newfoundland.

3. All the heads of the leading fresh fish exporters, for instance, (except one who was born in Canada and does not wish to be quoted) are now asserted to be heartily in favour of Confederation. This would tend to demonstrate that a definite split has now taken place among at least some members of the so-called "Water St. Group."

4. The only person of any importance who has only recently decided to side with the Responsible Government Group is Mr. Raymond Gushue, C.B.E., LL.B., Chairman of the Newfoundland Fisheries Board, "who has expressed profound disquietude over the effect Confederation would have on Newfoundland's fisheries."⁷²

⁷¹Volume 4, p. 344. Les crochets étaient dans l'original.

⁷¹Volume 4, p. 344. The square brackets were in the original.