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SOCIAL SECURITY AND THE LIBERAL PARTY

A Radio Address

by the
Hon. Paul Martin
Minister of National Health and Welfare

9 p.m. N.D.T. Wednesday, May 18th, 1949 by Station C.B.A.

1. WELCOME TO CANADA'S NEW PROVINCE

It is a privilege to have this opportunity of speaking to the people of Newfoundland. I should like to say a few words on my own account before I speak about the Liberal Party and all that it has done and plans to do for Canada.

I am proud indeed to be the guest of Premier Smallwood and to have a few days in which to do two things to which I have looked forward: to meet you and to tell you about the party to which I belong and the Government of which I am a member. As you know, I am a colleague of the Hon. Gordon F. Bradley in the Cabinet of the Liberal Government under the direction of Prime Minister St. Laurent.

No one was more pleased than I to see the position of Secretary of State conferred on this distinguished citizen of Newfoundland. I had the honour a few years ago of holding the same high office. To me, it was particularly fitting that Mr. Bradley should be chosen for this honour for in my term of service I piloted through Parliament the Canadian Citizenship Act. With the entry of Newfoundland into Confederation the term "Canadian Citizen" takes on added stature and wider significance.

One of the first privileges of citizenship is to exercise the right to vote by secret ballot -- a right long ago secured in Newfoundland by a Liberal government. In a democracy to vote is to have a hand in the direction of our national affairs. In these difficult days, no country is more fortunate than Canada. It is shortly to be your responsibility to select governments that will keep this province and this nation securely on the paths of prosperity and social reform.

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