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Farewell new year's message from Governor-General Michener

Mr. Roland Michener's last new year's message as Governor General was broadcast to the nation on January 1. Mr. Michener who is retiring from office after almost seven years, will be replaced by Mr. Jules Léger on January 14 in an official ceremony at Government House.

The following is the text of Mr. Michener's message.

Once again my wife and I wish to you all, and to all who are close to you "A Happy and Healthy New Year".

Thanks to the magic of radio and television and, of course, thanks to your own interest, this privilege of a yearly chat with you has been mine since I was nominated by the Canadian Prime Minister and appointed by our Canadian Queen to be your Governor General.

That was almost seven years ago, when we were just embarking on the stirring celebration of our centennial. Today I am about to make my last appearance, not as Sarah Bernhardt used to say — so often — and so positively — but *really* my last appearance. It might be in order, therefore, to speak of some events of the interval.

I recall that, at my installation, just ten days before the official opening of Expo 67, I took comfort in the thought that, under Vincent Massey and Georges Vanier, my Canadian predecessors, the Governor General had become more truly the representative of the Canadian people as a whole.

A living symbol of Canada

In addition to his necessary and important constitutional function of representing the Crown in our Canadian parliamentary democracy — and this can be very important in times of minority governments — the Governor General had become a living symbol in Canada, of the stability and continuity of our national institutions, and



Governor-General Roland Michener and Mrs. Michener.

Cavouk