

TORIES WIN BY-ELECTIONS

The Progressive Conservatives have won fresh triumphs. The traditional Conservative stronghold of Grenville-Dundas was won in September 29th's by-election by Mrs. Jean Casselman, 38, widow of the late A. Clair Casselman, M.P. for Grenville-Dundas, and daughter of the Hon. Earl Rowe of Dufferin-Simcoe. She becomes the third woman member of the present House.

Louis Fortin, 37, a Quebec City lawyer, captured Montmagny-l'Islet on his second try, snatching a seat that had been Liberal since its formation 25 years ago.

The voting restored the Government's record 208 Commons seats gained in the March 31 general election. The standing now is: Conservative 208, Liberal 48, CCF 8, vacant 1, total 265. Manitoba Springfield was left vacant by the death last week of the Progressive Conservative member, Val Yacula.

COLOMBO PLAN TRAINEE

The 1,000th person to receive technical training in Canada under the Colombo Plan, Mr. Mohammad Saeed, arrived in Ottawa on September 29, by air from Pakistan. The Acting Prime Minister presented him with a scroll commemorating the occasion.

Canada accepted its first Colombo Plan trainees in 1951. From a small beginning the programme has grown until now over 200 people are trained here each year. In addition to training facilities offered through the Colombo Plan, Canada has just started parallel programmes for Ghana and the West Indies and accepts people sponsored by United Nations and other international agencies and by other governments. Altogether, a total of about 1,700 trainees have come to Canada. These people have studied in a wide range of fields, most of them associated with the economic and technical development of their own countries.

TRADE MISSION

Mr. Gordon Churchill, Minister of Trade and Commerce headed a grain mission to the United Kingdom and Europe where he will meet members of the grain trade and milling interests, and discuss the possibilities of increasing sales in the countries concerned.

Mr. Churchill expected to be in London on October 7 and 8; in the Hague and Rotterdam on October 9; in Brussels on October 10, 11 and 12; in Bonn on October 13 and 14; in Hamburg on October 15; and on October 16 he will go to Geneva for three days to attend sessions of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. He hoped to meet members of the grain trade in Switzerland.

"This mission to Europe is a further indication of the Government's determination to increase exports of Canadian grain and flour", said Mr. Churchill. "Our aim is to regain our fair share of world trade in wheat and flour, and Europe accounts for a high percentage of that trade".

CANADA HOUSE OPENED

The simultaneous hoisting of the Stars and Stripes and the Canadian Red Ensign, and Mayor Wagner's official proclamation of October 1 as "Canada Welcome Day" marked the formal opening of Canada House at 680 Fifth Avenue, in New York City.

The 26-story building houses the Canadian Consulate General, the National Film Board, Trans-Canada Air Lines, and the Canadian Government Travel Bureau, as well as private organizations both Canadian and otherwise. Nearly 75 per cent of the building is already rented.

SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN DAM

The recent signing of the agreement between the provincial and federal governments to construct the South Saskatchewan dam brings to fulfilment dreams which have been held since the first explorations of the western prairies, according to the "Saskatchewan News".

Early explorers envisaged a dam on the South Saskatchewan River to divert its waters down the Qu'Appelle Valley, thereby creating a navigable waterway west from Winnipeg. The pioneers and their descendants saw it as a means of stabilizing the agriculture of the region by preventing the disastrous droughts which have afflicted the area from time to time. Through the years studies made by engineers and economists have indicated that the construction of a dam will provide enough water to irrigate some half a million acres of land, enabling it to produce such cash crops as alfalfa and a wide variety of vegetables, and to support large herds of cattle. The dam will also generate hydro-electric power which will have a profound effect on the further industrialization of the settled area of the province.

TWO DAMS

The South Saskatchewan project centers around the construction of two dams. The main dam, 205 feet high and 16,700 feet across, will be located approximately where Coteau Creek enters the South Saskatchewan, about 18 miles upstream from the Town of Outlook. The second dam, called Summit Dam, will be located across the Qu'Appelle Valley about 12 miles southeast of Elbow. Its purpose is to control the diversion of the water down the Qu'Appelle