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PLANS FOR CANADA COUNCIL

Prime Minister L.S. St. Laurent made three important announcements in the spheres of education and culture in an address November 13 at Ottawa to the National Conference on Higher Education.

These were:

(1) The Cabinet is prepared to recommend to Parliament that annual federal grants to universities, now provided on the basis of 50 cents per capita per province, be doubled, and that the money be given to the National Conference of Canadian universities for allocation.

(2) In order that the scope and functions of the National Museum may be broadened, two museums will be created in the near future--the "Canadian Museum of Natural History" and the "Canadian Museum of Human History".

(3) Cabinet will recommend to Parliament the creation of the Canada Council for the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences to foster Canadian development in the cultural field.

Pertinent excerpts from the Prime Minister's address follow:

"You will probably recall that the Massey Commission had recommended that the several existing functions of the National Museum be separated and expanded, and that an historical museum be established.

"The government examined this matter and concluded that the scope and functions of the National Museum should be broadened in order to strengthen our national life. As a result, two Museums will be created in the near future.

One will be called the "Canadian Museum of Natural History". It will take over and expand research into the natural sciences and the natural science exhibitions of the existing Museum. The second one--to be called in English the "Canadian Museum of Human History" and in French, "Le Musée de l'Homme du Canada"--will portray the development, history and activities of man in the Canadian environment. This Museum will also embrace the National War Museum. Both new Museums will have a challenging role; it will be to portray the natural and human resources of the whole Canadian nation as it develops and moves forward. The public will be able to see these portrayals in central museums and by exhibits travelling across the country; in this way our people may get a better understanding of the factors which affect materially and spiritually the development of every sector of the nation.

"The Royal Commission also recommended that annual grants be offered to support the work of the universities on the basis of the population of each of the provinces and, within each province, to each university in proportion to the student enrolment. These grants were provided by Parliament in 1951 and each year since on the basis of 50 cents per capita.

"I have already explained why the Federal Government had the right to offer such assistance. I feel that it is not only its right but its duty to do so. It is now widely known that

(Over)

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