

*Civil Service Conditions of  
Emp<sup>1932</sup>*  
COPY  
*Holidays - National Holidays #110*  
1938

Ottawa, May 14th, 1938.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRIME MINISTER:

Re: Victoria Day and Ascension Day; Caucus

With Victoria Day falling on Tuesday, May the 24th, and Ascension Day, Thursday the 26th, there may be early inquiry as to whether the House will observe either or both these holidays.

Prior to 1930 the general practice was for the House not to sit on Victoria Day. From the years 1930 to 1933, inclusive, the House sat on the holiday. In the years 1934, 1935 and 1936, the House was in session at the time but did not sit on the holiday itself. Last year Parliament had prorogued.

In the period from the beginning of the war, up to and including 1929, the House was either not in session or did not sit on Ascension Day. In 1930 the House sat in an effort to expedite prorogation before the elections, and again in 1931, but under protest. In 1933 the House sat to enable the Prime Minister to attend the World Economic Conference. In 1932, 4, 5 and 6, the House did not sit on Ascension Day, and in 1937 Parliament was not in session at the time.

Caucus ordinarily would meet on Wednesday, May the 18th. A change is necessitated because of the meeting of the Federation on that day. The following Wednesday, May the 25th, falling between Victoria Day and Ascension Day, may not be a particularly good time for Caucus, regardless of whether the House sits, or not, on those days. Has the Prime Minister any instructions as to the date of the next meeting of Caucus?

E. A. P.

W.L.M. First Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939  
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