

MR. MAURICE L. DUPLESSIS

The Prime Minister, Mr. J.G. Diefenbaker, has issued the following statement on the death of Mr. Maurice L. Duplessis, Premier of the Province of Quebec, which occurred on September 7 at Shefferville, Quebec.

"Maurice Duplessis, in the devoted service which he gave throughout his life to the maintenance of the rights and traditions of his people, became one of the most colourful characters in the public life of Canada in this half-century. He loved Canada. He recognized the federal system as the only basis for a united Canada. He died in harness, and amid the development in Northern Quebec in which he had played so large a part.

"Many things that he did resulted in controversy, but whether in agreement or not, I think his place in history will be that of a born leader of men in his day and generation, with recognition given to the fact that the courses which he followed were the product of his devotion to the principles in which he believed, rather than being the dictates of expediency.

"I extend, both personally and on behalf of the Government of Canada, my heartfelt sympathy to his sisters, to his colleagues in the Cabinet and Legislature, and to the people of the Province of Quebec."

Funeral services for Mr. Duplessis were held on September 10, at Three Rivers, Quebec, where the late Premier was born on April 20, 1890.

NEW PREMIER OF QUEBEC

Mr. Paul Sauvé was sworn in a Premier of Quebec on September 11, succeeding the late Premier Maurice Duplessis.

Mr. Sauvé, the senior Member of the Quebec Legislature in years of service, was first elected to the Legislature at the age of 23 and entered the Cabinet at 39.

The new Premier has named a 20-member Cabinet, largely unchanged from that which served under his predecessor. Mr. Maurice Bellemare, Union National Member for Champlain, has been named Minister without Portfolio. Mr. Antoine Rivard, Minister of Transport, has been given in addition the Attorney-General's portfolio which Mr. Duplessis had held personally. Mr. Sauvé himself will retain for the present the Youth and Welfare portfolio which he held under Mr. Duplessis.

VISIT OF PRESIDENT OF MEXICO

Prime Minister Diefenbaker has announced that His Excellency the President of Mexico and Mrs. Adolfo Lopez Mateos will pay an official visit to Ottawa on October 15 and 16. They will be accompanied by the Foreign Minister and Mrs. Tello.

"A warm welcome awaits the distinguished Head of a friendly North American state with which Canada is developing increasingly close relations and with which, as a result of modern travel facilities, more and more Canadians are becoming familiar every year," Mr. Diefenbaker said.

DELEGATION TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Howard Green, has announced the composition of the Canadian Delegation to the fourteenth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, which opens in New York on September 15. The Delegation is as follows: - Representatives: - Mr. Howard Green, Q.C., P.C., M.P., Secretary of State for External Affairs, (Chairman of the Delegation), Mr. Wallace Nesbitt, Q.C., M.P. (Vice-Chairman of the Delegation), Mr. Gustave Monette, Q.C., LL.D. Senator, Dr. Percy Vivian, M.P., Mr. C.S.A. Ritchie, Canadian Permanent Representative to the United Nations, New York; Alternate Representatives: - Mrs. Elaine Holt, Alderman, City of Peterborough, Mr. Heath N. Macquarrie, M.P., Professor Maxwell Cohen, B.A., LL.B., LL.M., Mr. Morley Scott, Department of External Affairs, Mr. Arthur Irwin, Department of External Affairs.

The following parliamentary observers will accompany the Delegation: - from the Progressive Conservative Party -- Mr. Robert J. McCleave, M.P., Mr. Nicholas Mandziuk, M.P., to be succeeded by Mr. Robert Lafreniere, M.P., Mr. Arthur R. Smith, M.P.; from the Liberal Party -- Mr. Samuel Boulanger, M.P., to be succeeded by Mr. Gabriel Roberge, M.P., from the C.C.F. Party -- Mr. Erhart Regier, M.P., to be succeeded by Mr. W. Arnold Peters, M.P.

Advisers for the Delegation will be drawn from the Department of External Affairs, other government departments and the Canadian Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York.

SCHOOLS WEEK AT STRATFORD

Fourteen thousand pupils from Ontario's secondary schools are filling the Stratford Shakespearean Festival theatre this week to bring the Festival's seventh season to a close. Coming from as far away as Sault Ste. Marie and as close as St. Mary's, the young theatre-goers, all of whom have been given a special students' rate of admission, will see "As You Like It" in which Irene Worth plays Rosalind, William Sylvester is seen as Orlando and Douglas Campbell, Frances Hyland, Douglas Rain and Kate Reid are Touchstone, Phebe, Silvius and Celia, respectively. The play, which will be performed every afternoon at two o'clock and on Thursday evening at 7.30 will be presented uncut, exactly as it has been played all season.