

Dr. Mackenzie will step down as President of the National Research Council April 1. The N.R.C. job he has held for 12 years will be taken over by Dr. E.W.R. Steacie, 51, native of Westmount, one of three N.R.C. Vice Presidents and a chemist of world-wide reputation.

Speculation Concerning Mr. Pearson: Dealing with news reports that the Secretary of State for External Affairs was being prominently mentioned in European capitals as the outstanding possibility for the full-time job of Director or Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization under a new set-up, the Canadian Press, under an Ottawa date-line this morning writes, in part, as follows:

"One strong indication that he won't take it is that he at last is really ready to run for one of the other international jobs for which he has been mentioned.

"Canada has informed other members of the United Nations that Mr. Pearson is willing to run for the Presidency of the U.N. General Assembly at the session slated to start next September.

"This was reported from Paris several weeks ago, and is confirmed by Mr. Pearson's office here. The information was passed along to other countries at a time when it was known the NATO job was coming up.

"In that U.N. job, he would be in New York for a few months, but would be able to commute to Ottawa fairly often. He would continue as Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Seaway Board Named: Ottawa, February 13 -- Appointment of a five-man Board of Engineers for the all-Canadian Seaway project is announced today by the Minister of Transport, Mr. Lionel Chevrier. Three members of the Board of Engineers are appointed by the Government of Canada and one each by the Governments of Ontario and Quebec.

The Board of Engineers consists of R.A.C. Henry, of Montreal, Executive Vice President and Director of Marine Industries Ltd. who will be Chairman; Guy A. Lindsay, of Ottawa, Director of Special Projects Branch of the Department of Transport; Norman Marr, of Ottawa, Chief of Water Resources Division of the Department of Resources and Development; R.L. Hearn, of Toronto, General Manager and Chief Engineer of the Ontario-Hydro Commission; and René Dupuis, of Montreal, Commissioner of the Quebec Hydro Commission.

The duties of the newly appointed Board of Engineers are to "co-ordinate the preparation of an application by the Province of Ontario for submission to the International Joint Commission for an Order of Approval of construction of certain works to develop the power resources of the International Rapids section of the St. Lawrence River." This construction would be undertaken by the Province of Ontario "concurrently with the construction of complementary works by an appropriate authority in the United States."

Across Canada: The Prime Minister, Mr. St. Laurent, yesterday appointed Postmaster General G. Edouard Rinfret to the Quebec Court of Queen's Bench and replaced him in the federal Cabinet by Mr. Alcide Côté, 48-year-old Liberal member of Parliament from the Quebec riding of St. Johns-Iberville-Napierville.... Senator Sir Allen Bristol Aylesworth, whose career influenced notable phases of Canada's history, died in Toronto on February 13, at the age of 97. He was the last surviving member of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's Cabinet and the last titled member and dean of the Senate.... Prospects for an agreement between Ford of Canada and the United Auto Workers (CIO-CCL) that would avert a strike set for Sunday appeared bright last night as company and union negotiators neared the end of a five-hour session.... More than 2,000 Japanese have returned to Vancouver since lifting of the wartime ban that prohibited them from living on the coast, according to an estimate by a spokesman for the Vancouver branch of the Japanese-Canadian Citizens' Association.