

TOP SECRET

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Sir Robert Borden; erection of statue
on Parliament Hill

8. The Prime Minister, referring to discussion at the meeting of March 12th, reported that the Director of the National Gallery had informed the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration that, in the former's view, pencil sketches would not be a satisfactory basis on which to make a selection of the sculptor who would cast the bronze statue of Sir Robert Borden to be placed on Parliament Hill. If the competition was to be open, Dr. McCurry was of opinion that it would be desirable to grant six awards of \$300 each as an inducement to potential competitors. The \$300 grants would cover the cost of the models and would go to the six best other than the winning competitor.

(Letter, March 16, 1953, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration to Prime Minister and enclosure).

9. In the course of the discussion, it was suggested that the competition should probably not be restricted to Canadian citizens but might be restricted to persons normally resident in Canada.

10. The Cabinet, after discussion, agreed that, in connection with the proposed erection of a statue of Sir Robert Borden on Parliament Hill, the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration arrange with the Director of the National Gallery to organize a competition along the following general lines:

(a) the competition to be for a statue and pedestal in accordance with specifications recommended by the Director and the Board of Trustees of the National Gallery;

(b) the competition to be open to persons normally resident in Canada; and,

(c) six cash prizes of \$300 each to be awarded the sculptors submitting the models judged best other than that of the winner.

Justice; amnesty in connection with Coronation

11. The Minister of Justice said he had had under consideration a proposal that an amnesty be extended to inmates of Canadian penal institutions in connection with the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth on June 2nd. It had been ascertained that no such general amnesty was contemplated in the United Kingdom. U.K. authorities had indicated that they would not be embarrassed by a Canadian amnesty.

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