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GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS

As the Weekly Bulletin went to press last week there was no clear indication of the composition or leadership of the Government in the 23rd Parliament. The June 10 general election saw the Progressive Conservative Party led by Mr. John Diefenbaker emerge as the largest single group in the House of Commons, electing 110 members, a dramatic gain over its showing in the 1953 election, when 51 PC's were elected, but failing to gain an overall majority over the other three major parties in the lists.

The Liberal Party, which had been in power for 22 years, met with a sharp reverse, as its elected members dropped from 170 in the 1953 election to 103 in this year's contest. Nine members of the Cabinet met defeat in their home ridings.

The positions of the CCF and the Social Credit did not change materially, but as holders of the balance of power between the Liberals and Progressive Conservatives these two parties were expected to have positions of strategic importance in the new Parliament. CCF members numbered 25, compared to the 23 they elected in 1953, and 19 Social Crediters were successful as against 15 five years ago.

Leaders of the four major parties were re-elected--Mr. L.S. St-Laurent, Liberal, in Quebec East, Mr. Diefenbaker in Prince Albert, Sask., Mr. Coldwell, CCF, in Rosetown-Biggan, Sask., and Mr. Solon Low, Social Credit, in Peace River, Alberta.

Cabinet Ministers who failed in their bids for re-election were Mr. C.D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce and Defence Production; Mr. W.E. Harris, Minister of Finance; Mr. J.J. McCann, Minister of National Revenue; Mr. Stuart Garson, Minister of Justice; Mr. Milton Gregg, VC., Minister of Labour; Mr. Robert Winters, Minister of Public Works; Mr. Hughes Lapointe, Minister of Veterans Affairs; Mr. Ralph Campney, Minister of National Defence; Mr. Paul Hellyer, Associate Minister of National Defence.

Party standing as of 1.15 p.m., June 11 was as follows:

	1957	1953
Progressive Conservative	110	51
Liberal	103	170
CCF	25	23
Social Credit	19	15
Independent Liberal	2	2
Independent	2	3
Liberal-Labour	1	1
Independent P.C.	1	
Not decided (Yukon)	1	
* Deferred	1	
	<u>265</u>	<u>265</u>

* The death of the Liberal candidate in one Ontario riding shortly before the election resulted in the deferral of the voting until July 15.

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