M A Y



[CUT KNIFE HILL]

3 The Indian Chief Poundmaker, an ally of Louis Riel, led his rebelling braves to victory over the Canadian militia at Cut Knife Hill, Manitoba, in 1885. He won the battle but he and Riel, the Indians and the Métis, lost the war.

[TORIES]

4 In 1783 the first refugees from the American Revolution arrived in the

Maritimes, carrying many of their worldly possessions with them. They would form a social elite and would henceforth be known as the United Empire Loyalists.

[SIEGE]

5 Wolfe began the siege of Québec in 1759.

[SKI JUMP]

6 Helicopter skiing began in British Columbia's Cariboos in 1963. The choppers fly in a limit of 27 skiers a week, between February and April. The highest peak, Mt. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, is 11,750 feet. The country is heavily glaciated and provides a great variety of terrain.

[THE POLE]

9 Two tourists, Admiral Byrd and Floyd Bennett, flew over the North Pole in 1926.

[NO SIR]

22 The House of Commons passed a bill in 1919 prohibiting titles for Canadians. Otherwise Mr. Diefenbaker might be Sir John and Mr. Trudeau, Sir Pierre.

[GIDDYAP]

23 The North West Mounted Police was established on this day, 102 years ago. It was very nearly called the Mounted Rifles but as Sir John Macdonald was making it official he scratched out the word Rifles and wrote in Police. The commanding officer was called Commissioner and the semi-military force accepted recruits between the ages of 18 and 40, of good character, who were competent horsemen, for three year enlistments.

[VANILLA]

24 Nathan Louis Nathanson was born in 1886. He would introduce the ice cream cone to Toronto and, in time, establish the Famous Players theatre chain which would help make Gladys Smith America's Sweetheart.

[SEALED]

26 Canada got its Great Seal. (Not a mammal).

Canada adopted the secret ballot in 1874, making it somewhat more difficult to buy or sell votes.

[FIVE OF A KIND]

28 The Dionne quintuplets, the most celebrated babies of the Twentieth Century, were born near North Bay, Ontario, in 1934. The attending physician, Dr. Defoe, would become an international father figure and Papa and Mrs. Dionne would find that a life of constant publicity has its drawbacks.

[LONG PASSAGE]

29 Seventy-seven years and six days after the founding of the Mounted Police, the RCMP ship St. Roch arrived at Halifax, the first ship ever to sail the Northwest Passage across the top of the Continent. If it hadn't been for all that ice she would have made it in time for the anniversary.

Old Age Pensions were approved in 1926.



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