



CANADA

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HONOURS SYSTEM FOR CANADA

A system of national honours and awards in recognition of meritorious service or courage will be established in Canada during the centennial year, probably on July 1, the hundredth anniversary of Confederation.

Prime Minister Pearson announced in the House Commons on April 17 that, on the recommendation of the Government, the Queen had approved the issue of letters patent constituting the Order of Canada, which provides for the creation of Companions of the Order. Fifty Companions of the Order may be appointed during the centennial year but not more than 25 in any following year, the maximum never to exceed 150.

Mr. Pearson said that the awards would be "distinctly Canadian" and would not include any titles or special privileges.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Principal Companion of the Order, the Chancellor, will be the Governor General, to whom nominations will be made by an Advisory Council composed of the Chief Justice of Canada (chairman), the Clerk of the Privy Council, the Under-Secretary of State, the Chairman of the Canada Council, the President of the Royal Society of Canada, and the President of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada. The selections will be made on the basis of "merit, especially service to Canada or to humanity at large".

MEDAL OF COURAGE

The constitution of the Order of Canada will also recognize acts of outstanding valour by the award of

a Medal of Courage for an act of "conspicuous courage in circumstances of great danger". There will be no limit on the number of awards in this category.

MEDAL OF SERVICE

Meritorious service will be recognized by the award of a Medal of Service. This will be given for services of a type somewhat different from those for which Companions of the Order will be appointed, and this medal will be awarded in larger numbers. Not more than 50 Medals of Service will be awarded in any one year.

NOMINATIONS

Nominations may be made by any person or organization for any person whom they consider worthy of receiving any of the awards. Particulars of the merits and accomplishments of the person nominated will be submitted directly to the Secretary to the Governor General, who will act as secretary to the Advisory Council.

DESCRIPTION AND DESIGNATIONS

The ribbon of the Order of Canada will be a quarter red, a half white and a quarter red - the same proportions used in the flag. The jewel of the Order will be one red maple leaf on a white background.

A Companion of the Order of Canada will be entitled to have the letters "C.C." placed after his name; a person to whom a Medal of Courage is awarded will be entitled to "C.M."; and a recipient of the Medal of Service will be entitled to "S.M."