

Canada mourns John Diefenbaker (Continued from P. 2)

public servant, he was unwavering in his loyalty to his country and the Crown.

"The Duke of Edinburgh joins me in asking you to pass our deep sympathy to his family."

The Governor General sent the following message of condolence to Mr. Diefenbaker's family:

"I have just learned the news of the passing away of the Right Honourable John Diefenbaker. His death will bring a sense of loss and grief not only to his family and to his friends, but also to the community.

"For almost 50 years of very active life, John Diefenbaker devoted his great qualities of mind and heart to the service of his country and of the people of Canada that he served so well in the course of his long life in public affairs. For this, John Diefenbaker will retain a special place in our hearts and memories.

"To his family, to his friends, I offer on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen and all Canadians, as well as my wife and myself, our sympathy and our prayers."

Prime Minister Clark joined in the tributes to the former prime minister in the following statement:

"I mourn the death of the Right Honourable John Diefenbaker. He was a great human force, who changed the history of our country, and became a symbol of the resilient strength of the Canadian individual.

"He has come to be known as a formidable parliamentarian, and he was always that. But he was also our first populist prime minister, who reached out to the underprivileged and the ignored. His government changed the focus of national policy to develop all the Canadian regions, and to extend social justice to Canadians in need. He opened our

political system and made it competitive. Internationally, he was a spokesman for the rights of the individual, whether in the Soviet Union, or in Africa, or at home.

"He was a national figure, yet all of us have personal memories of the man. I am of the generation whose interest in Canada he awakened with his vision of what our country could become. Millions of Canadians of ancestry other than English

or French knew him as a symbol of the equal opportunity of Canada. No one who met him forgot him.

"We have lost a rare man. His imprint on his nation is permanent, and all of us who were privileged to work with him know that we will never see his like again. On behalf of his colleagues in Parliament, and all the citizens of the country he did so much to form and build, I extend our most sincere condolences to his family."

News briefs

Prime Minister Joe Clark has given Cabinet ministers, their wives, children and senior staff members until September 25 to disclose publicly their financial holdings under new conflict-of-interest guides. The guides require ministers and their families either to sell all publicly traded shares and speculative investments or to place them in a blind trust over which they have no control. For the first time, a \$10,000-limit is placed on holdings of foreign currency. Any deposits in foreign banks over this amount must go into the blind trust. The guides do not have the force of law but are a condition of employment, a Government spokesman said.

Air Canada reports income for the first half of 1979 was \$24.2 million, an increase of about 1 per cent from \$23.9 million in the corresponding period last year. Revenue passenger miles increased 14 per cent to 6.73 billion while the passenger mile yield remained unchanged at 9.18 cents.

Saskatchewan's minimum wage will increase by 25 cents an hour, effective October 1, bringing the rate to \$3.50 an hour with a further 15-cent-an-hour increase scheduled for May 1, 1980. This makes Saskatchewan's minimum wage the highest in Canada. At present the Quebec minimum wage of \$3.47 an hour is the highest, followed by Alberta with \$3.30 an hour.

The Canadian economy should do relatively well despite a downturn in the U.S. and most economic analysts anticipate that Canada will outpace its southern neighbour this year, according to a world trade forecast by *Business America Magazine*. Although imports from the U.S. will continue to increase, there will be "difficulty in maintaining the 18.1 per cent rise in value attained last year", says the magazine.

Stone and Webster Canada Limited of Toronto has been awarded a contract by Farmers Grain and Fuel Products Incorporated of Liberal, Kansas, for preliminary engineering of a proposed plant to produce fuel-grade alcohol from grain. A Stone and Webster spokesman estimated the plant construction cost at \$12 million to \$15 million (U.S.). If built, the plant would probably be the first commercial facility in North America to produce fuel from grain the spokesman said.

Canadian grain exports declined in the most recent crop year, the Canadian Wheat Board has announced. The board said exports would total slightly more than 18 million tonnes for the crop year, two million tonnes lower than the figure of the previous crop year. R. L. Kristjanson, assistant chief commissioner of the board, said a better performance by the railways, increased prairie storage, terminal improvements and rising prices should result in higher exports by the end of next July.

Canadian refineries' output of petroleum products totalled 57.6 million barrels in May, up 15.9 per cent from 49.7 million barrels a year earlier, Statistics Canada reports. Refined petroleum product sales totalled 51.3 million barrels, up 8.7 per cent from 47.2 million a year earlier.

A 12-year-old boy was swept off his feet recently and carried on a perilous one-kilometre trip through a Calgary storm sewer during a furious downpour. "I didn't panic," a battered and bruised Mike Dedyluk said. The water was up to Mike's neck when he managed to push open a manhole cover and save himself just as rescue workers were beginning a search. The boy was swept into the unprotected opening of a storm sewer about 2.4 metres high and 1.5 metres wide. Mike said he was probably in the sewer about five minutes, "but it seemed like an hour".

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