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## WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

**MR. PEARSON ON "CO-EXISTENCE":** Hope for closer European co-operation is not by any means destroyed by the decision of the French Parliament not to ratify EDC, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. L. B. Pearson, said in an address to the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities at Windsor, Ont., on August 30.

He said that "a strange new word" had lately been insistently and cleverly pushed by the Communists - "co-existence." He said he thought it was the "thinnest" word he had ever heard. It might be appropriate enough to its source, which was the Kremlin, "but it is unimpressive if you set it in any other context."

Mr. Pearson continued, in part, as follows:

"We know that France and Germany can, of course, 'co-exist,' even if the problem of their association together in EDC or in NATO is left unsolved. But it might be co-existence without confidence, where controversy and competition might easily replace collaboration. It might delay and even prejudice both European co-operation and growing unity and the development of the Atlantic coalition. The opportunity to write a shining new chapter in history would, for the time being, at least, be lost."

"One cannot help but feel deep anxiety at the possible failure to exploit this great opportunity for peace that may not soon or

easily recur. But one can also hope that this anxiety will be removed by the action of those in Western Europe who would be the first to suffer from the consequences of failure.

"That hope is not by any means destroyed, so far as I am concerned, by the decision today of the French Parliament not to ratify EDC. One method of solving this problem, a method originally proposed by the French Government itself, has now been discarded. That may be disappointing but it is certainly not any reason for despair. The free nations of Western Europe, including Germany, will I am sure, now wish to reach their objective of closer co-operation by some other method. The other members of the North Atlantic coalition including Canada, will, I am certain, wish to do what they can to assist in this process, and the best way to do that, in my view, would be to look at the whole problem in an Atlantic context."

"Perhaps it is not surprising that this appealing but ambiguous slogan, 'co-existence', should have been launched by the men who have inherited and maintain the device known as the 'iron curtain', that complex of ingenious barriers, physical and psychological, designed, organized and administered to deny and prevent normal relations and friendly intercourse between men and nations, and incidentally, to poison the free and frank relationship between