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WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

PARLIAMENT PROROGUES: The fourth session of Canada's 20th Parliament ended Wednesday night, June 30, at 11.50 p.m. Chief Justice Rinfret, Deputy Governor General, proclaimed prorogation after reading the Speech from the Throne. The session had commenced on December 5 last.

"Instead of the closer cooperation which had been hoped for between all nations," the Speech from the Throne read in part, "the cleavage between certain nations of Eastern Europe and nations of the western world has become increasingly marked."

The Prime Minister, Mr. King, was given an ovation by the House of Commons and galleries as he performed his last official act in the chamber as Prime Minister and leader of the Government. He delivered a valedictory address in which he said in part:-

"... I have felt that the time has come when someone else should take over the duties and the office of leader of the party and of Prime Minister. I have made it quite clear that I have received the leadership of the party from the party itself and I intend to ask them to allow me to return to them the trust they have placed in my hands and which I have held for 29 years when the convention takes place on August 5, 6 and 7. I shall still remain in the office of Prime Minister.

"When I will give up the office of Prime Minister will depend upon the circumstances that may exist at that time and in the immediate future. It will depend upon other things

and upon the wishes in some part of whoever may be chosen to succeed me in the leadership of the party.

"I have made it quite clear right along that while this would be the last session in which I would appear in this house as leader of the Government, I did not necessarily mean to give up the leadership of the Government the moment I gave up the leadership of the party."

"A few weeks ago I made a statement in the presence of the press (Press Gallery dinner) that it might be two or three months after the convention before I would be giving up the position of leader of the Government. I mentioned one or two things that I had in mind. I made it quite clear right along that I might hold the position of Prime Minister a little longer. The obligation is one that I owe to the Crown and how long I shall continue to exercise it will depend as I have said, upon circumstances which I shall have to consider.

"This will help to determine the advice I can give the Crown as to whom my successor shall be. That, of course, as I have said, will depend upon who may be the choice of the convention as leader of the party and his wishes in the matter, and will depend upon the circumstances that may be existing in other parts of the world as well as our own and in relation to great matters of state which no prime minister dare shirk in times like the present.

"I make it quite clear that I shall not be appearing in this House as leader of the Government at the next session of Parliament."