

### Senator Martin appointed to London

The Prime Minister has announced the appointment of Senator Paul Martin as Canadian High Commissioner to Britain, effective December.

Mr. Martin, who will be leaving Parliament after 39 years' service in the House of Commons and Senate, succeeds J.H. Warren, who has been in London since 1971.

In making the announcement, the Prime Minister said that Canada was sending to London one of its most senior, experienced and respected public men.

The appointment underlined the importance of the London post and the special relations that exist between Canada and Britain, said Mr. Trudeau.

Mr. Martin served as a Cabinet minister for 23 years, under four prime ministers. He was Minister of National Health and Welfare from 1946 to 1957, Secretary of State for External Affairs from 1963 to 1968, and more recently Leader of the Government in the Senate.



*Senator Paul Martin, recently appointed Canadian High Commissioner in London, was a former Secretary of State for External Affairs.*

### Restraint not cutbacks seen as the answer to inflation

In a speech on October 8 to the Club Richelieu in Trois-Rivières, Quebec, Jean Chrétien, President of the Treasury Board, said that properly directed and controlled Federal Government spending was a major factor in fighting inflation.

Mr. Chrétien made a distinction between the need to restrain growth and a cutback in government spending. "It would be very dangerous to apply the brakes too quickly or too heavily, because that could cause a recession and lead to serious unemployment, particularly in those regions where the economy is not over-heated. So we have to be selective about the way in which the Federal Government applies restraint."

Mr. Chrétien noted that more than 60 per cent of Federal Government spending was required to meet statutory or contractual obligations. As a result, the Government doesn't always have the flexibility to satisfy all the demands of the public. "I am always surprised when people urge the Government to pass laws and start new pro-

grams and then complain about Government spending."

A large part of the additional Government expenditures in the current fiscal year is due to measures which directly help Canadians to fight inflation. "We are proposing that well over \$1 billion be spent to subsidize consumer prices on petroleum products in Eastern Canada. That means a difference of about 15 cents per gallon on gasoline and heating oil. We don't think it is inflationary to keep down these prices," said Mr. Chrétien.

"Increases in the family allowance to \$20 per child have contributed substantially to larger Government expenditures. So has the indexing of the Old Age Security payments and the Guaranteed Income Supplement; but these are decisions that were made to help those who are least able to protect themselves against inflation."

Mr. Chrétien concluded: "In reviewing the spending proposals from government departments for the rest of this fiscal year, we are making a careful examination of existing programs...."

### Education boom to subside

Canada's education system is heading into a decade of relative calm after the frantic growth of the Fifties and Sixties, says the Bank of Montreal *Business Review* for October.

Total enrolment has tapered off, the number of teachers is actually declining, schools are consolidating or closing and capital costs are levelling off.

It is a trend to be welcomed, says the *Review*.

"Not only will it supply some much-needed relief to the hard-pressed taxpayer (unless, of course, the slack is taken up in other areas of government spending), but it also affords the educational authorities an opportunity to further upgrade the quality of education."

*The Review* notes that if projections on Canadian population hold true, pressures on elementary and secondary schools should continue to ease until about 1985. After that, the "very young" school-age population will begin to expand again and increases in spending can be expected.

During this period, enrolment in post-secondary institutions should also ease up. *The Review* points out that many of these are already having a hard time attracting students. However, the growing interest in part-time study (part-time enrolment had tripled in the ten years up to 1973) should cushion this apparent drop in total enrolment.

#### Teacher-demand decline

*The Review* says that with the general drop in enrolment, the demand for teachers has also fallen off.

"Preliminary data for the present school year show a decline of 1.3 per cent to 265,000 in the number of elementary and secondary teachers, and such a trend should continue for the remainder of this decade."

Naturally enough, the number of schools is declining as well. In 1967, for example, Canada had nearly 20,000 elementary and secondary schools. This year, there are about 16,000, a statistic reflecting the closing of rural schools, the move toward larger, more comprehensive schools, and fewer students to fill the classrooms.

As the pressures of the baby boom of the Fifties and Sixties have passed