



# CANADIAN WEEKLY BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION • DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS • OTTAWA, CANADA

Vol. 22 No. 37

September 13, 1967

## CONTENTS

Uniformity and Diversity in Canada .....	1	Northern Research Grants .....	4
Winter Works Programme .....	2	Workers Learn English on Job .....	4
Italian Pageantry at Expo .....	2	Prince Albert National Park .....	4
Trade Mission to East Europe .....	2	Fish-Protein Conference .....	4
Births, Marriages and Deaths .....	2	Canada's Industrial Relations	
Non-Proliferation Treaty .....	3	Come of Age .....	5
Distaff Professionals .....	3	Consumer Price Indexes .....	5
Gauvin Accredited to Malagasy .....	3	Population by Age .....	6

## UNIFORMITY AND DIVERSITY IN CANADA

*The following is a partial text of an address by Prime Minister Pearson to the Anglican Synod, Saint Paul University, Ottawa, on August 22:*

...Often in human affairs, the *talk* of change is ahead of the *act* of change. But today the actions of people are in many ways ahead of the word — of, if not *ahead* of the word, are divorced from it.

In so far as my own field, politics, is concerned, however, the problem that seems to me to be most important today has not changed from yesterday. It is the unity of our country — how to strengthen and secure the right kind of unity against the forces, within and without, that would divide and diminish us. The right kind of unity, the kind that will endure through the years ahead, is that which rejects uniformity and accepts diversity as a basic fact in our national life.

### PRESERVATION OF CULTURAL IDENTITY

To believe in — and insist on preserving — a special and distinctive cultural and linguistic identity within the political unity of a state can be a good and healthy and creative feeling. The love of a man for his own language and cultural traditions, inside a Confederation, can be as constructive as it is sincere and deep.

In our own country, for instance, loyalty to the whole state — to its unity — should not mean or require the loss of this special attachment to distinctive French cultural and linguistic values and their maintenance and growth in the body politic. Such a loyalty only becomes a negative and destructive force when it results in agitation for political separation and fragmentation. For Canada the best — indeed, the only possible — form of political

unity in our Confederation is one that accepts and values those cultural and linguistic differences which were there when Confederation was agreed on.

There can be no lasting or creative national unity through attempts at absorption — or by the kind of centralization which ignores these basic differences, or which ignores regional or provincial interests or feelings. Sound and enduring unity will never be secured merely by conscription to a common national task or by obedience to an imposed national policy. Such unity can come only through a unanimity of spirit and purpose which expresses itself in co-operative national endeavour — with a pride in the present and a faith in the future, shared by all citizens.

We are a nation of two founding peoples whose languages and cultures have both been given a special and a permanent place in our national society. The Right Honourable Vincent Massey has said: "That is an historical fact, not a political judgment!" If all Canadians will but acknowledge this basic fact of our nationhood, by word and deed, our unity will be strong and enduring and our testimony to the world and to history will be that of a mature, a unique country.

### RECOGNITION OF OTHER ETHNIC ORIGINS

However, while we recognize and develop our bilingual and bicultural origins, we must also respect the pride that Canadians of other ethnic origins have in their own particular cultural heritages and their rightful desire to preserve them in conditions that will contribute to a vigorous and enriched Canadianism.

In short, we must show the world how people can live together in unity without uniformity — with a deep national pride and patriotism but without the