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Cabinet reshuffle result of Finance Minister's resignation

John Turner's decision to resign as the Minister of Finance has created the need for a reshuffle in the Cabinet, which will probably be announced shortly. Meanwhile, Public Works Minister Charles Drury is filling the vacancy temporarily.

Speculation as to who might be appointed to the finance portfolio includes the names of Health and Welfare Minister Marc Lalonde, Treasury Board President Jean Chrétien, Energy, Mines and Resources Minister Donald Macdonald and Justice Minister Otto Lang.

Mr. Turner has made no further announcement concerning his future plans. He served successfully as chairman of a special committee of the International Monetary Fund during the past year and there were suggestions that he might succeed Robert MacNamara as head of the World Bank in Washington. This possibility was discounted by officials of the Bank.

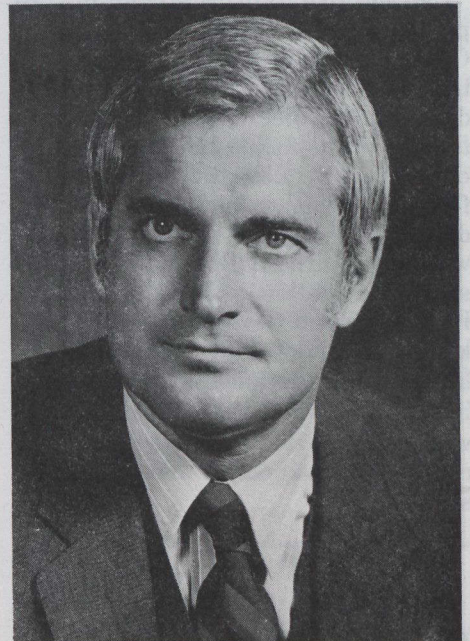
Turner career

John N. Turner, Canada's Minister of Finance for over three-and-a-half years, was born in Richmond, Surrey, England in 1929. He went to school in Ottawa and graduated from the University of British Columbia with a bachelor of arts degree in political science in 1949. At Oxford University on a Rhodes Scholarship, he received degrees of bachelor of arts in jurisprudence (1951) bachelor of civil law (1952) and master of arts (1957).

The former Finance Minister was named a member of the English Bar, Gray's Inn, London, in 1953 and the following year he was called to the Bar of Quebec.

Mr. Turner was elected to the House of Commons in 1962 and, the following year, he was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Northern Affairs and Natural Resources. In 1965 he was appointed Minister without Portfolio.

In April 1967, he became Registrar General and expanded his responsibilities to Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs in December of that year.



Former Finance Minister John Turner, still a Member of Parliament, intends to return to private life.

He was given the additional portfolio of Solicitor General in 1968.

Mr. Turner, who was third in the nine-candidate leadership contest of the Liberal Party in April 1968, was appointed Minister of Justice and Attorney General in July of that year. He became Minister of Finance in January 1972.

Resignation letter

The texts of Mr. Turner's letter of resignation, September 11, and the Prime Minister's reply follow:

"My Dear Prime Minister,

After the last election I made a commitment to you to see my budget which had been defeated, reintroduced, and passed in the House of Commons and to remain as Minister of Finance for one year. That commitment has now been fulfilled.

I have come to the conclusion that after almost four years in the finance portfolio and almost ten years in the Government of Canada I should return to private life.

This will serve to confirm my resignation from your Government imme-

Tory minority elected in Ontario

The Conservative government in Ontario was reduced to its first minority in some 30 years in the province's general election on September 18 and the New Democratic Party became the official Opposition.

Out of an enlarged number of 125 seats, Premier William Davis's Progressive Conservatives took 51, Stephen Lewis's New Democrats, 38 and Robert Nixon's Liberals, 36. At dissolution on August 11 the Tories had 74, the Liberals 23 and the NDP, 20.

With the number of seats increased to 125 as a result of redistribution, a record number of 456 candidates contested the election.