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CONFERENCE TO REVIEW THE CONSTITUTION OF CANADA

In his opening statement to the Federal-Provincial Constitutional Conference in Ottawa on February 5, Prime Minister L.B. Pearson said that there were times in the life of a country when "the assurance of good intentions, the discharge of normal duty and acceptance of routine responsibility are not enough". Such times, he said, demanded the "exercise of courage and decision that go far beyond the needs of the moment". "I believe that this is such a time for Canada," the Prime Minister declared. "Here the road forks."

Excerpts from Mr. Pearson's address follow:

...Ontario is in many ways central in these discussions; as the most populous province, and the richest, and as the province where there is the longest tradition of living and working together with French Canada. I think of those days after the passage of the Act of Union of 1841, when Kingston was the capital of Canada; when Robert Baldwin was elected to the legislature at a by-election in Quebec and Louis Hippolyte Lafontaine was elected at a by-election in Ontario.

The position of Ontario is central for another reason. More may be asked of it than of any other province in the way of innovation and magnanimity. In its turn, the loss that would be caused by dismemberment would be almost as great for Ontario as it would be for Quebec. Ontario would be weakened and impoverished as a result; so much has the character and flavour of life in English-speaking Eastern Canada depended on our partnership in so many ways with French Canadians.

This question of what kind of a Canada would be left if Quebec were to withdraw from Confederation will be deeply pondered by English-speaking Cana-

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dians in every other part of the country as well, even though the tragic results may be less obvious the farther away you move from the Province of Quebec.

Perhaps it is in the Western Provinces that the cardinal problems we must grapple with today are likely to seem most remote. There, the heartland of French Canada is far away. The settlements of French Canadians are few and infrequent, and life has been deeply coloured by the flow of immigrants from countries other than France or the British Isles.

NATIONAL SURVIVAL AT STAKE

I would beg Canadians of such different ethnic origins to believe that any proposals of the Federal Government - or indeed of any other government - at this conference are put forward in full recognition of the great contribution they have made to Canadian life, not only in the West but in every other part of Canada, and in full recognition also of the sacrifices they have made to serve and enrich this country. I believe that these other Canadians will find the new course we are proposing for Canada easier to accept and support if they remember that the country to which they have committed themselves and their children, and the country where they have found their freedom, may not endure without a great new act of accommodation. For let me be explicit - what is at stake, in

my opinion, is no less than Canada's survival as a nation.

Some aspects of constitutional change may also not come easy to many in these old provinces by the Atlantic seaboard. I would ask them to believe that I am very much aware of the decisive part those provinces played in the creation of our country 100 years ago. I am very much aware also that economic progress there has been slower than in other parts of the country. I have joined others before me in trying to remedy that, but I am very conscious of the fact that much more remains to be done. Indeed, I regard the problem of raising economic levels in the Atlantic Provinces as a principal aspect of the total problem of maintaining Canadian unity. There will, I know, be support from those provinces for a programme of constitutional progress and reform if only because they also would be surely and quickly injured if Canada were divided.

THE PRICE OF SEPARATION

What I would say to French-speaking Canadians is perhaps best expressed in the programme of policy that I have put forward in the document entitled *Federalism for the Future*. I should like to say merely two things. The first is a comment on the suggestion that has been made that, if Quebec were to secede, it could then enter into negotiations with Ottawa in order to work out a *modus vivendi* with the rest of Canada while acquiring independent sovereignty. As someone not without experience in international negotiations, I should like to state my view that any such proposal rests on illusion – indeed, on a whole set of illusions. It is an illusion to think that a declared intention to seek a disputed divorce can be the basis for amicable and productive negotiations, especially when the parties concerned are still living in the same house or as next-door neighbours. It may even be an illusion to think that in such circumstances there would necessarily be an "Ottawa" that could speak for the whole of English-speaking Canada. Indeed, the whole proposal disguises the obvious fact that separation could not be carried out without rupture and loss and pain.

Secondly, and more generally and positively, I should like to say a few words to French Canada in explanation of the spirit that animates the course of action I think should be taken. It is designed essentially to create conditions – and with all possible speed – so that French-speaking Canadians may feel that every part of this country is their homeland. But this feeling requires understanding and good will – and patience on their part as well as on the part of English-speaking Canada.

Our federal proposals are designed to set in train a process of constitutional review so that Quebec may have the largest possible scope for the development of its own society, its own destiny, in Canada. But this process of change must be consistent – let there be no doubt on this – with the continued existence of Canada as a single federal state....

TWO OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Last October the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism submitted the first volume of its final Report. That volume deals with English and French as the two official languages of Canada; with the basic issue of cultural and linguistic equality. It makes 14 recommendations. Some of them are addressed to the Federal Government. We accept these and we will proceed to implement them as quickly as we can.

Some are addressed to the provincial governments. We hope that the provinces will find it possible to accept them. For our part, we stand ready to offer such help as may be necessary and desired.

Some of the recommendations are addressed to the Federal and provincial governments jointly. In those cases we would be glad to enter immediately into negotiations with the provinces with a view to agreement on joint implementation. As I see it, it will be one of the most important tasks of this conference with top priority to secure the widest possible measure of agreement on these far-reaching and carefully considered recommendations.

There are recommendations which, if accepted, would involve changes to the British North America Act, which would have to be agreed to by the Federal and provincial governments. These two changes, whether in the precise form recommended or in some other, are, in my view, fundamental if we are to establish and to ensure the basic principle of equality for the communities of people speaking our two official languages. It is essential for Canada that this principle be accepted and become real.

CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS

I hope also that we can reach agreement in principle at this conference on a constitutional Charter of Rights for all Canadians. This would cover a wide variety of rights, political, legal, egalitarian as well as linguistic. To agree on the detailed provisions and the mode and pace of enactment of a Charter of Human Rights will clearly not be easy, and it will take time. There are subtle and important legal and constitutional questions at issue. But I would urge that in this process none of us lose sight of the large goals before us. What we will be aiming at, if we can agree here in principle, is to provide a firmer, wider and more secure basis for the freedom of all Canadians, not only as individuals but also as members of particular societies within a larger unity. That, I believe, is the beacon that we should steer by.

I hope, finally, that we can agree here to undertake jointly – as a matter of fundamental importance – a comprehensive constitutional review and agree as well on the methods and procedures that we should follow in carrying it out. The British North America Act was a great act of statesmanship in its day. It has served as the constitutional basis for the growth of the strong and varied Confederation that we know today. But it is hardly to be expected that an act

CANADIAN ARTS AT OLYMPICS

Canada is fully represented in a series of cultural events leading up to and accompanying the Nineteenth Olympic Games, which open in Mexico City in October. In arranging this programme, the Mexican organizing committee for the Olympic Festival was recalling the fact that the celebrations held in ancient Greece at Olympia included musical and literary as well as athletic competitions. All countries affiliated with the International Olympic Committee have been invited to take part.

Canada's participation in the Olympic cultural events began on February 6 with performances by the National Ballet of Canada. Following their appearance in Mexico City, the National Ballet will perform in Jalapa and Guadalajara. Michel Cartier of Les Feux-Follets has choreographed an Eskimo dance that will form part of the *Ballet of the Five Continents*, to be presented in October in Mexico City by the Mexican Folklore Ballet.

Canada will also take part in a number of exhibitions associated with the Olympiad. The Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, the National Research Council, the Defence Research Board and

Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. are collaborating with the Canadian Government Exhibition Commission in presenting displays illustrating Canada's achievements in space research and in the use of nuclear energy for human welfare. The National Museum and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development will exhibit specimens of the ancient and modern arts of Canada's Indians and Eskimos, and the National Gallery will provide displays of the work of contemporary Canadian painters. The Department of External Affairs will exhibit a large collection of Canadian handicrafts.

Paintings by Canadian children on the theme "A World of Friendship" will be included in an international exhibit of children's paintings, which will later visit countries affiliated with the International Olympic Committee. A new film on youth activities will be screened by the National Film Board as part of an Olympic film festival, and a collection of Canadian stamps will be included in a philatelic exhibition of postage stamps issued by member countries commemorating sporting events, and in particular the Olympic Games.

FEDERAL DISTRICT REJECTED

Prime Minister L.B. Pearson, Premier John Robarts of Ontario and Premier Daniel Johnson of Quebec recently agreed that there was no intention of proposing a federal district under the sole jurisdiction of the Federal Government.

In a joint announcement, Messrs Pearson, Robarts and Johnson said that representatives of the Federal Government and the governments of Ontario and Quebec, who had been meeting to consider the possibility of co-operative action in developing the capital region, had agreed that steps should be taken to develop the capital region further within certain geographic boundaries extending over both sides of the Ottawa River, including the cities of Ottawa and Hull and certain neighbouring areas.

The committee had also agreed that the capital region should reflect fully the linguistic and cultural values of English and French-speaking Canadians and Canadians of other origins, to encourage in all a feeling of pride, participation in and attachment to the capital.

The committee recommended that the Federal Government and the governments of Ontario and Quebec should consider how these objectives might be attained, and expressed the opinion that they could be attained without changing basic constitutional jurisdictions or existing provincial boundaries, and without impeding programmes for the "restructuring" of local government by the provincial governments.

Before any firm decisions are made, the provinces will consult local governments within their jurisdictions.

Messrs Pearson, Robarts and Johnson believe that, through concerted action, a truly bilingual and bicultural capital region can evolve, where no Canadian will feel himself to be a stranger.

The meetings between the government representatives are continuing on a regular basis in order that the objectives may be attained as soon as possible.

INCO IN INDONESIA

Mr. Henry S. Wingate, Chairman and Chief Officer of The International Nickel Company of Canada, Limited, recently announced that an agreement had been signed between the Government of the Republic of Indonesia and International Nickel, following the decision of the Indonesian Cabinet to accept the company's proposal regarding nickel deposits on the island of Sulawesi (Celebes). International Nickel was one of a number of companies that responded to the Government's invitation for proposals covering the exploration and possible development of these potentially important deposits in Indonesia.

Mr. Wingate said that the company would proceed as rapidly as possible with a comprehensive programme for exploration of the deposits and, if justified, undertaking metallurgical and other work with a view to early development. The area in which the work will be conducted is relatively remote and the company will be working in co-operation with the Indonesian Government and others to facilitate the establishment of necessary supporting facilities.

EXPORT GOAL OVER THE TOP

Canada officially reached and passed its export target of \$11.25 billion for the centennial year.

Mr. Robert Winters, Minister of Trade and Commerce, commenting on Dominion Bureau of Statistics final figures for 1967, which show that Canada's exports reached \$11.4 billion in 1967, (10.5 percent above the 1966 level of \$10,325 million), pointed out that the target was exceeded despite slower growth in several of Canada's principal markets and in world trade as a whole. He complimented the export community on an outstanding performance. "It is a matter of great satisfaction to me that our export community has proved itself more than equal to the challenge," he said.

This rate of growth in Canada's exports, the Minister continued, exceeded by a considerable margin the rate of growth in international trade as a whole. "This fine centennial accomplishment," he said, "gives us all a sense of pride in what we can do together to build for our nation's future prosperity."

CHALLENGE OF 1968

Speaking of 1968, the Trade Minister emphasized that in the circumstances now prevailing, Canada was particularly dependent on export growth to provide the impetus to employ adequately the growing labour force and move the economy forward in line with its promising potential.

The achievement of an export level of \$11.4 billion in 1967 means that a further increase of \$900 million will be needed to meet the 1968 target already set at \$12.3 billion. However, with less spectacular gains in exports of automotive products in prospect this year compared with last, substantial increases in other export categories are needed for the \$12.3-billion target to be realized.

"The 1968 target presents an exacting challenge involving exports averaging more than \$1 billion a month," the Minister stated. "To meet this challenge proper restraint must be exercised by all groups in the community to keep costs and prices competitive. With greater export awareness than ever before and the opportunities created by the Kennedy Round just opening up to us, I am confident that the export community will continue to respond vigorously to Canada's urgent need for strong and sustained export performance and that this year as last the export target will be achieved."

HOUSING DESIGN GRANT

Mr. E.J. Benson, President of the Treasury Board and the minister responsible to Parliament for the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, has announced the approval of a grant worth \$51,000 to support the work of the Canadian Housing Design Council this year.

The aim of the Council, which was formed in 1956, is to encourage improvement in housing design

in Canada. Its 24 members include house-builders, architects, planners and others who serve on the Council as a public service. CHDC programmes direct attention to housing design in a number of ways. National design awards for good housing design in Canada are presented periodically by the Council for the best entries submitted in competitions which are open to builders, architects and developers. Exhibits shown at home shows, and other outlets, focus public attention on award-winning designs. The Council has published a number of booklets on various aspects of housing design and these, together with a series of lectures on the subject, contribute towards the general objective.

LOAN TO NEW ZEALAND

Canada's first long-term export-financing arrangement with New Zealand was announced recently. Through the Export Credits Insurance Corporation, the Canadian Government will lend the New Zealand Government's international air carrier, Air New Zealand, the sum of \$756,976, which is more than half the cost of the \$1,474,000 digital flight simulator that is to be sold.

The balance will be financed by Canadian Aviation Electronics Limited of Montreal, the supplier and exporter. Repayment of the loan will be made in 68 consecutive equal monthly instalments. The interest rate will be 6 per cent on the unpaid balance.

The sale involves the design, manufacture, testing, supply and installation of a model DC-8-52 CAE digital flight simulator for pilot training. Construction will require 200,000 man-hours of labour in Canada.

This agreement brings the total of ECIC loans to \$338 million.

INDIAN TALES AS TEXTBOOK

George Clutesi of British Columbia, author, poet, painter, and lecturer, is about to have his latest book *Son of Raven, Son of Deer* added to the prescribed school textbooks for 1968. This is the first time in the history of B.C. education, and perhaps the whole of Canada, that a book written by a Canadian of Indian origin has been on the approved school-list.

The book is an excellent collection of West Coast mythology written in a style understandable to children of the intermediate grade-school level. This does not, however, mean that adults will not take an interest in the beliefs and legends which coloured much of the early Indian life of the Pacific Coast.

Mr. Clutesi is a Sheshaht Indian from Port Alberni, Vancouver Island. He is well known in Canadian artistic circles as one of the finest painters of British Columbia's native art. He was one of the artists invited to paint a mural at the Indians of Canada Pavilion at Expo 67.

INTERNATIONAL FILM AWARD

Tuna Angling - the Art and Science of Big Game Fishing, a film produced for the Newfoundland and Labrador Tourist Development Office, has been awarded second prize in the Film Festival at LaSpezia, Italy. The Festival attracts entries from many countries for competition in the maritime sports-film class. The Newfoundland film was submitted in response to a request from the sponsors of the Festival after it had earned acclaim in a similar festival held last year in Yugoslavia.

Participation in the LaSpezia Festival was arranged by the Department of External Affairs through its embassies and consulates in Italy. The Canadian Vice-Consul in Milan attended the prize-giving ceremonies and accepted the award, a medal, on behalf of the Newfoundland and Labrador Tourist Development Office.

The film, produced by Lee Wulff, is a 25-minute, 16 mm. colour production demonstrating the technique of tuna angling. It covers the preparation of baits, leaders, and other tackle, and demonstrates the proper methods of handling the boat and "playing" the big fish. Underwater sequences were filmed in the midst of schools of giant tuna, which provide the highly successful big-game fishing enjoyed by visitors to Newfoundland waters.

In recent years, the sport of tuna fishing has been spreading from its original proving ground in Conception Bay, and one of the purposes of the film is to provide instruction and orientation for both crews and anglers in areas where there are no resident sportsmen with the necessary background and experience.

HYDRAULIC ARMS HELP CHILDREN

Mechanical designers at the Northern Electric Company laboratories in Ottawa have just completed the design of the world's first set of fully-powered hydraulic artificial arms to be worn by a young patient. The arms were formally turned over to the Rehabilitation Institute in Montreal last month.

The new artificial arms took almost a year to develop, and are the latest product of a co-operative agreement between government, industry and medical agencies to provide the most advanced devices for children and young adults in Canada. Northern Electric began this study in 1965 by designing a miniature set of electro-mechanical arms for children aged five to seven. The firm's mechanical staff began by making exhaustive studies of human movements, which included calculations of the many angles through which a hand could move, the degree of this movement, closing pressures, and so on. Mechanisms of joints that could duplicate such movements were designed and built, and gear trains created to simulate the correct speed. In this way the various design criteria were gradually established.

DESCRIPTION

The first pair of electro-mechanical arms, which weighed about seven pounds, were turned over to the Montreal Institute in June 1966. This was the design shown in the theme pavilion, Man and his Health, at Expo 67.

The new hydraulic arms weigh less, are more powerful, have fewer parts and a much longer life-expectancy than the first electro-mechanical set. They are quieter and almost impervious to damage from dirt because of their sealed characteristics.

The "heart" of the new hydraulic arms is a miniature high-speed pump that sends fluid through a network of plastic tubing. Control valves direct the fluid to drive pistons in tiny cylinders and provide

power for whatever arm function is desired.

The new hand has a powered two-finger grasp to allow easy manipulation of such things as crayons and toys. For safety reasons, the grip pressure is limited to about two pounds. The thumb can be folded manually for easy entry into pockets. The wrist rotates in either direction, while the elbow bends in normally. The shoulder is powered to move forward and backward and can be manually actuated to open the arms and raise the elbow away from the body.

Power is supplied by miniature rechargeable batteries. These must be recharged once a day, and should last for several years.

CONFERENCE TO REVIEW THE CONSTITUTION OF CANADA

(Continued from P. 2)

passed more than 100 years ago should be adequate for all the needs or aspirations of Canadians today and for the future.

That is why my colleagues and I recommend that we now agree to begin a systematic and balanced process of constitutional review. It is impossible for me, or for anyone else, to forecast in advance what the ultimate and agreed results of this are likely to be. But as an indication of the scope of the review that we recommend, we would want to include in it the institutions of federalism, such as the composition and functions of the Supreme Court of Canada and the Senate. Certainly a most important part of any such review would be the division of powers and jurisdiction between the Federal and provincial governments....

In our initial discussions, this week, the representatives of the Federal Government will, of course, be receptive to the wishes and open-minded to the

proposals of every province. But I would be less than candid if I failed to point out that there are certain federal positions which must be maintained. The Federal Government must be strong enough to carry out its responsibilities for moderating economic fluctuations and for promoting economic growth. It must be able to promote economic equality for Canadians in all parts of the country and for every economic region. It must maintain the right and the power to assist in research and in cultural developments. It must maintain the unity of Canada's foreign policy, as an indispensable attribute for any state that does not intend to allow itself to be divided.

I believe that the review which I am recommending will prove that there is large room for constitutional revision. But even now Canada has one of the more decentralized federal systems of the world. For us, this is right. But federal powers must not be so reduced that the Government of Canada will be unable to carry out the responsibilities it must dis-

charge if the country is to remain strong, prosperous and united....

A NEW FEDERALISM

Let me recapitulate, then, the main elements of a programme to bring about a new federalism.

(1) Agreement at this conference to accept the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism recommending English and French as our official languages, and establishing the cultural and linguistic equality of the two groups who together made Confederation with constitutional guarantees in that regard.

(2) Agreement on the principle that certain basic rights should be constitutionally secured for all Canadians.

(3) Agreement to embark on a comprehensive process of constitutional review.

The nature of such a programme puts it above regional or racial or party interest or advantage. It is a programme for all Canada....

CHALLENGE

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REFERENCE TO REVIEW THE CONSTITUTION OF CANADA by members of the House of Commons (Continued from page 1)

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level at which 30% of the total body weight was supported. The first pair of electro-mechanical arms, which weighed about seven pounds, were turned over to the Montreal Institute in June 1966. This was the design shown in the theme pavilion, Man and the Machine, Expo 67. The arms were designed to be used by the new hydraulic arms which weigh less, are more powerful, have fewer gears and a much longer life expectancy than the first electro-mechanical set. They are quiet and almost imperceptible in damage from the because of their sealed characteristics.

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