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### SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

*A federal Department of Urban Affairs and Housing and a federal department "to be concerned with the environment and the husbanding of those renewable resources" that are a part of it, were among the proposals in the Throne Speech read by Governor-General Roland Michener at the opening of the third session of Canada's twenty-eighth Parliament on October 8. A program was announced to "gather... scientific resources" to serve the industrial and technological sectors of the economy better.*

*Other matters to be dealt with in the new session include tax reform, unemployment insurance, consumer protection and foreign ownership in the uranium industry.*

*Excerpts from the speech follow:*

...The Northwest Territories, which comprise 40 per cent of our land and water, and the "keystone" province of Manitoba, have each celebrated the one hundredth anniversary of their entry into Canada.

They were greatly encouraged in these exercises, and Canada as a whole was delighted by the presence of our gracious Queen and the Duke of

Edinburgh, accompanied for the first time by the Prince of Wales and Princess Anne. The Royal Family travelled extensively in the Northwest Territories and visited a great many Manitoba communities, ending with an enthusiastic send-off from Winnipeg. In Ottawa we were all pleased to play host for two days to Prince Charles, a friendly and interested guest.

The interest of Canada as a whole in these centennials was shown in many ways, including a session of the Cabinet in Winnipeg, individual visits by the Prime Minister and other Canadians in public life, and by the participation of my wife and myself.

#### ROYAL VISIT TO B.C. CENTENNIAL

Next year British Columbia, which extended the Canadian Federation to the Pacific Coast in 1871, will mark the centennial of this historic event. It will give Canadians much satisfaction to know that Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh, accompanied by Princess Anne, will visit the province in early May and join in the centennial celebration....

#### URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING

One of the greatest of the challenges to individuality comes from the increasing pressures of urban living. It is estimated that 80 per cent of the population of Canada will be resident in a few large cities by the end of this century. By comparison with the recent past, this is a new face of Canada bringing with it a new accumulation of problems. One of those problems is the need for adequate housing, another the provision of the many services necessary in an urban environment. Much progress has already been attained in these areas, but much more remains to be done. To solve the problems will require an ever-increasing share of the nation's financial resources; not to solve them, to permit unmanaged growth, would result in an unacceptable drain on the nation's human resources. To foster co-ordination of the activities of all levels of government, and to con-

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tribute to sound urban growth and development, the Government proposes the re-organization of its urban activities under the direction of a Minister of State for Urban Affairs and Housing. The Government seeks, by making rational its efforts in these fields, and through consultation with those most directly concerned, to help Canadians reach and implement the decisions that will determine their urban future.

#### SCIENCE RESOURCES

There exists in Canada a great wealth of untapped and unco-ordinated scientific talent and experience not now adequately utilized in the quest for solutions to our modern problems. In order to serve better the industrial and technological sectors of our economy, as well as Canada at large, a program will be introduced to gather and focus these sometimes divergent and competitive scientific resources. In this respect the Government will consider with care measures recommended by the Senate Committee on Science Policy and the Science Council of Canada.

A society is said to be judged best by the compassion and the fairness with which it treats those of its members who breach or are accused of breaching the norms of conduct which it establishes for itself. The Canadian record in this respect is of a high standard, but not so high that it can withstand all criticism. You will be asked, therefore, to consider further measures intended to continue the reform of the law in these areas. Legislation has been prepared which deals with bail and pre-trial detention, and with the treatment of young offenders.

#### DRUGS AND ABORTION

Norms of conduct are never static, however, and certainly not at present. A society which cherishes the concept of freedom of individual rights must be prepared constantly to assess the effect and extent of changing attitudes, no matter how distressing or disturbing the re-evaluation may be to some persons. Previously accepted postures are under attack in Canada and require study in several areas. The Government accepts its responsibility in this process. The report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Non-Medical Use of Drugs, expected within the next few months, will require careful study and discussion. The Government proposes to make time available during this session for discussion of still another controversial issue. It proposes a special debate on abortion.

To ignore the undoubted widespread challenges to present laws in these fields would be dishonest. You will be invited, therefore, to participate in the examination of these important questions. You will be asked as well to give consideration to the report of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women when once this is received....

#### LABOUR STANDARDS

Because the Canadian work force is growing in size and sophistication, and operating within an in-

creasingly integrated industrial environment, present measures must be amended to meet changing social requirements. You will be asked, therefore, to approve a revised legal framework for labour-management relations and a new set of labour standards for industries within federal jurisdiction. Sweeping changes in the field of unemployment insurance will be proposed in a bill designed to widen considerably both the benefits offered and the persons who are qualified to take advantage of them. These measures will make more rational and more fair the assistance available to those temporarily without employment. The legislation is a product of the careful study of this subject tabled in Parliament last session in the form of a white paper....

#### TAX REFORM

The Government is pleased at the widespread and largely constructive public response to its invitation to comment upon the proposals contained in its white paper on tax reform. The views of those who have participated in this exercise are being examined and carefully considered, as will those of the two Parliamentary committees. Thereafter, legislation will be introduced incorporating policies designed to make more equitable the economic burden shared by our fellow dwellers in this complex and varied land....

#### DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT

All our efforts for a stable prosperity and for a humane community will be of little value to us, however, if we do not quickly and determinedly grapple with the threat to our well-being and the well-being of future generations of Canadians, which is represented by environmental pollution. Pollution is a many-headed hydra and requires action in many forms. You will be asked to consider bills intended to deal with pollution in two of its aspects: in the ocean and in the atmosphere. More pressing than any single step or steps, however, is the need to co-ordinate and consolidate our efforts in an effective fashion. There will be proposed the establishment of a department to be concerned with the environment and the husbanding of those renewable resources that are a part of and dependent upon it, with a mandate for the protection of the biosphere....

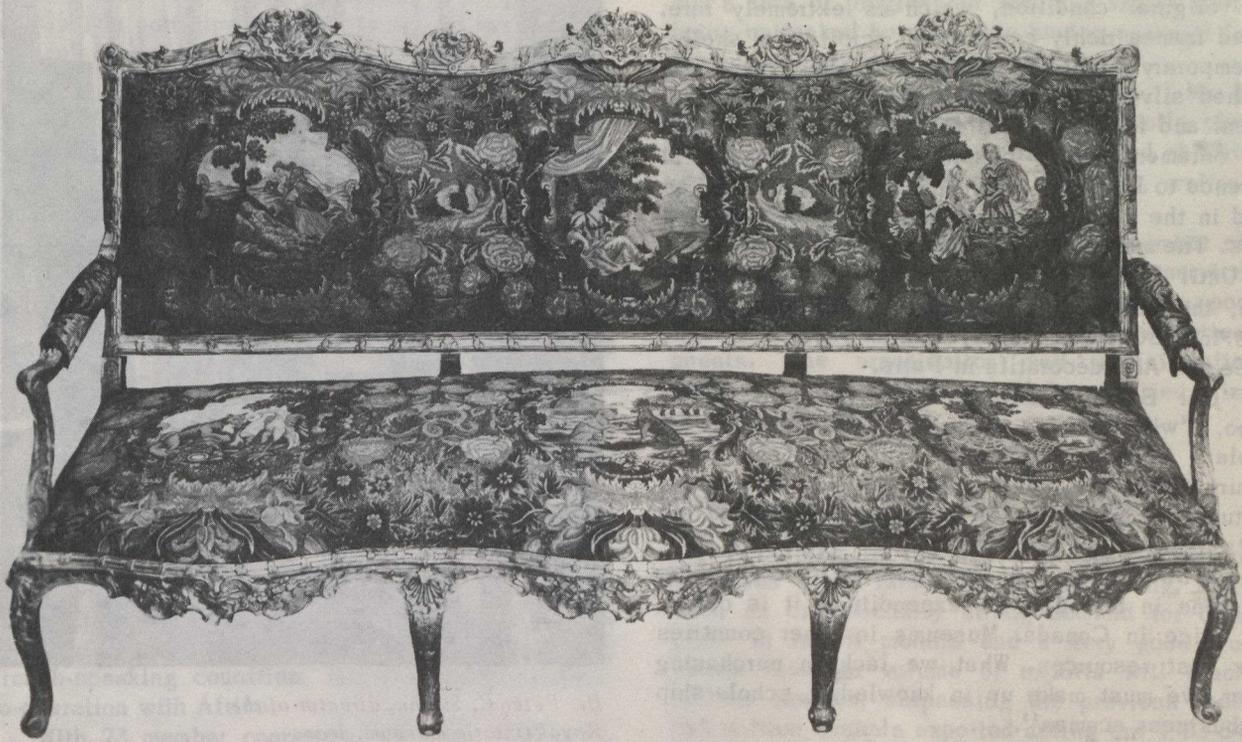
#### GAME DUCKS SAFE TO EAT

Duck hunters can rest easier as a result of game-bird testing for mercury contamination just undertaken by the Canadian Wildlife Service. The duck-hunting season will continue as usual.

Tests for mercury contamination of ducks taken from widely scattered locations in Eastern Canada indicate that the general level is below 0.5 parts in a million, W.T. Munro, acting director of the eastern region, Canadian Wildlife Service, announced.

While safe limits have not been established for game birds as human food, the maximum for fish has been set at 0.5 parts in a million.

## FRENCH FURNITURE TREASURES TO ROM



*The settee from the court of Versailles.*

Three magnificent examples of the furniture art of the Baroque period, from the court of Louis XIV at Versailles, will be on display at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto from November 23 thanks to the discernment and negotiating skill of the curator of the Museum's European Department, Mr. Heribert Hickl-Szabo. The pieces — a settee and two armchairs dating from c. 1710, which are among the finest surviving examples of French Baroque furniture — were purchased for \$50,000, the largest single expenditure in the ROM's 58 years of existence. In the opinion of Mr. Hickl-Szabo, the rarity and beauty of the purchase renders it one of the supreme bargains in the history of antique-collecting.

The mastermind of the coup, whose special delight it is to seek out for the ROM the treasures of the past from many sources and to bargain for the best prices, is a third-generation antiquary, both his parents and his grandparents having been antique dealers in Graz, Austria.

#### FUND-RAISING BALL

In the background of the prolonged negotiations, which started over a year ago, was a group of female supporters of the ROM who in May 1969 held a ball that became the top social event of the season in Toronto to raise money for the new Baroque and Rococo Gallery. The proceeds reached nearly \$40,000,

the incentive required to send Mr. Hickl-Szabo flying to Paris to see Mr. François-Gérard Seligmann, a dealer whom he knew to have been for 15 years resisting every offer for an 11-piece set of furniture from Versailles. The pieces Mr. Hickl-Szabo first bid for were from another set; on these he obtained first refusal. Later, when the dealer sold them to another bidder, he redeemed his promise by giving Mr. Hickl-Szabo his choice of three pieces from the 11-piece set already referred to. Mr. Seligmann at first offered the ROM "three capital pieces" for \$75,000. Negotiations continued and Mr. Hickl-Szabo closed the deal at \$50,000.

Weeks of indecision followed. The French Government, which regarded the furniture as a national treasure, was opposed to its leaving the country. The ROM having, in effect, paid for the set, and made provisions for its display in its new gallery, now faced the prospect of rejection as a purchaser.

The director of the Museum, Dr. Peter Swann, appealed by letter to Canadian Government officials and to the French authorities and, eventually, the French Government relented; Mr. Seligmann was able to wire the exciting words, "Very glad export permission granted." The ROM could take its place among the select few world museums with such examples of the finest workmanship of the Louis XIV period.

#### DESCRIPTION OF FURNITURE

The tapestries with which the furniture is upholstered, depicting scenes from Greek mythology, are woven in threads of silver and gold. They are in their original condition, which is extremely rare. Gilded frames richly carved with scrolls and shells; contemporary Saint-Cyr petit-point embroidery with couched silver threads, showing reserves of mythological and fable subjects surrounded by flower and leaf ornament. It is possible that an allegorical reference to Louis XIV and Mme de Maintenon can be found in the mythological scenes of the embroidered backs. The maker of this furniture is unknown.

Until 1892, when it appeared in a Paris sale-room, the furniture had remained in private collections. In 1960 it was displayed in an exhibition at the Musée des Arts décoratifs in Paris.

"Our Baroque Gallery," declares Mr. Hickl-Szabo, "will now be a world-wide focal point for scholars who are concerned with early eighteenth century antiquities. No one who wants to write about or study the Sun King can do so without mentioning the treasure of the furniture."

Dr. Swann says that "whereas we have passed a milestone in this \$50,000 expenditure, it is only a high price in Canada. Museums in other countries have vast resources. What we lack in purchasing power, we must make up in knowledge, scholarship and business acumen".

*(Material and photographs courtesy of the Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto.)*



*Dr. Peter C. Swann, director of the Royal Ontario Museum, leans gently on one of the Louis XIV chairs acquired recently from Paris.*

#### MAN-HOURS AND EARNINGS

Advance estimates indicated that average weekly wages increased sharply in construction and decreased in mining and manufacturing in July 1970, compared to June. Average hourly earnings were lower in mining and manufacturing and higher in construction. Lower average weekly hours were recorded in all three industry divisions.

In June, average weekly wages in manufacturing rose by \$1.18 as a result of a 0.1-hour increase in average weekly hours and a 3-cent gain in average hourly earnings. A 0.3-hour rise in average weekly hours in the durable component offset a 0.1-hour decline in non-durable goods manufacturing. Both components contributed to the increase in average hourly earnings. Average weekly hours in manufacturing were 0.1 hours lower and average hourly earnings 24 cents higher than in June 1969.

In mining, average weekly wages fell by \$3.03 to \$148.14 in June from the May level of \$151.17. This drop resulted from a 0.1-hour decrease in average weekly hours and a 6-cent decline in average hourly earnings. In the year-over-year comparison, average weekly hours were 0.3 hours lower and average hourly earnings 41 cents higher.

Average weekly wages in construction showed little change from May, as a 0.5-hour increase in average weekly hours failed to offset a 5-cent decrease in average hourly earnings. Compared to those of June 1969, average weekly hours were 0.2 hours lower and average hourly earnings 47 cents higher.

#### EMERGENCY AID TO JORDAN

The Secretary of State for External Affairs recently announced that Canada would make a special supplementary grant of \$150,000 to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees.

This contribution is intended to help the Agency carry on its work at a time when its financial situation is precarious and the demands being made upon it for services are increasing as a result of the civil strife in Jordan. It is in addition to Canada's pledge of \$1,200,000 to UNRWA for the current fiscal year and will bring the level of Canadian support for the Agency to \$1,350,000 for 1970.

The Canadian Government also announced recently a donation of \$25,000 to the Canadian Red Cross for emergency relief for the victims of the civil war in Jordan.

## CANADA AND NEW FRENCH AGENCY

Prime Minister Trudeau announced recently that Canada had ratified the Convention on the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation.

Canada participated actively in the second conference of countries wholly or partially French-speaking held in Niamey, Niger, in March 1970 for the purpose of creating an agency for cultural and technical co-operation among French-speaking countries. The Canadian delegation, headed by the Secretary of State, Mr. Gérard Pelletier, included representatives of the provincial governments of Quebec, New Brunswick, Ontario and Manitoba. On March 20, subject to ratification, Canada signed the convention establishing the Agency.

In announcing the ratification by Canada the Prime Minister expressed satisfaction that, by this action, the Canadian Government had formally confirmed the support it had given to the establishment of such an Agency, which granted an institutional framework to *la Francophonie*. He reiterated that the participation of Canada in *la Francophonie*, and more specifically in the Agency, was a projection of Canada's bilingualism on the international level, and was within the framework of Canadian policy, aimed at bringing about the best possible relations with French-speaking countries, and increased economic co-operation with Africa.

With 23 member countries, the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation is intended essentially to further the establishment and development of multilateral co-operation among its members in education, culture, science and technology, and thus foster closer relations among peoples who share the French language and culture.

## FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM

Health and Welfare Minister, Mr. John Munro, has announced a federal program of research, training and public information in family planning. In adopting this program, Mr. Munro said that the Government supported the right of Canadians to exercise free choice in the practice of family planning. "It is our hope," he said, "that through the program, family-planning information and services will become available to all who want them."

The Minister said that his Department would encourage research in this field through grants and contracts to other agencies as well as within the Department. It will disseminate information on family planning in collaboration with provincial governments and private agencies.

## VOLUNTARY USE OF SERVICE

Mr. Munro emphasized that use of the information and services to be offered would be on a voluntary basis. "The use of family planning," he said, "is a decision to be taken by the individual citizen. There

will be no suggestion of coercion toward anyone; we shall do everything possible to safeguard against that."

The Government has been concerned with Canada's rate of progress in reducing infant mortality, being outranked by countries having national family-planning programs.

"There is good reason to believe," Mr. Munro said, "that effective programs for family planning would reduce the incidence of unwanted children, of child neglect, abandonment, desertion, welfare dependency and child abuse."

The Minister pointed out that a number of provinces already offer family-planning services in varying degrees. Discussions indicate a positive interest in federal information and consultation proposals. The organization and administration of family-planning programs, will be assumed primarily at the provincial level.

## INCREASED DEMAND FOR WHEAT

According to the Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board, Mr. Otto E. Lang, there has been an exceptionally strong demand for Canadian grain in recent months and a very good prospect exists that the volume of exports will reach 700 million bushels, surpassing the previous record of 685 million bushels exported during the 1963-64 crop year. Last year, 474 million bushels were exported.

The demand for feed barley has been particularly strong, and the Canadian Wheat Board has taken full advantage of the market conditions. Export commitments have been entered into by the Board for barley, which will ensure exports in excess of the previous record of 122 million bushels.

Forward sales for shipment during the 1970-71 crop year for wheat are also at high levels for this time of the crop year. Demand from both regular customers and new customers, as a result of the Government's expanded credit program, will result in a high level of wheat exports.

Demand for Canadian grain has been exceptionally heavy in recent months because of lower production in Australia, Argentina and Western Europe and the blight damage to the U.S. corn crop.

## FIRST FULL-TIME CANADIAN ETV

Last month, Canada's first full-time educational television station began broadcasting from Toronto, serving a potential audience of 2,700,000 people in Youth Central Ontario.

Channel 19, which offers both school and community programming from the outset, is operated by the recently-created Ontario Educational Communications Authority. The Authority, which has, in effect, taken over the operations of the ETV Branch of the Ontario Department of Education, was established by legislation passed in June. Although it operates as

an independent body, it reports to the government through Education Minister William Davis.

Channel 19, which began operating on September 28, is on the air 13 hours a day Monday to Friday, and five hours a day on Saturday and Sunday. During the week, there are school programs in the day, and adult programs in the evening. On weekends, adult programs and professional development programs for teachers predominate.

Channel 19 can draw on its own stock of 3,200 programs, amounting to about 3,500 hours of program time. Most have been produced by the previous ETV Branch of the Department of Education; about 95 per cent of all school programming will have an initial Canadian content of about 68 per cent.

#### RANGE AND AUDIENCE

Covering a viewing area stretching around Ontario's "Golden Horseshoe" from St. Catharines to Oshawa (with Toronto at the apex), Channel 19 is within range of a million pupils, about half of the province's school population. There are about 2,200 elementary and secondary schools in the viewing area, as well as five universities and several colleges of applied arts and technology.

Also within range is almost a quarter of Ontario's total population, but it will be some time before sizable numbers of individual homes will be able to pick up Channel 19. The station is beamed on ultra high frequency, and thus can be received only by viewers with UHF-equipped sets and antennas; only a small percentage of home television sets are at present capable of picking up UHF signals, and few of these have the necessary special antenna to go along with it.

However, many homes hooked into cable television systems may soon be able to receive Channel 19. Although this has still to be approved by the Canadian Radio-Television Commission (CRTC) it is expected that cable operators will be allowed to carry the new channel. In the meantime, pending CRTC ratification, tentative arrangements have been worked out with all Toronto-area cable firms to do just that.

If the arrangements are approved, Channel 19 will be available to about one-third of Toronto-area viewers. With the general growth of cable systems the situation is expected to improve steadily.

#### PRICES AND INCOMES COMMISSION

Canada's federal Prices and Incomes Commission was established on June 19, 1969, "to inquire into and report upon the causes, processes and consequences of inflation and to inform those making current price and income decisions, the general public and the Government on how price stability may best be achieved".

After numerous discussions with representatives of the Canadian business community, including the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, the Retail Council of

Canada and the Canadian Bankers' Association, the Commission decided to call a national conference on price stability in order to obtain a consensus on a national policy to combat inflation. The conference, held in Ottawa on February 9 and 10, was attended by senior officers of national business and farm associations, representatives of professional groups, leaders of the Canadian business community and officials of the federal and provincial governments. Those present indicated a willingness to exercise a meaningful degree of restraint in their pricing policies in 1970 and there was broad agreement that:

(1) business firms generally, if called on to do so, would reduce the number and size of price increases they would normally make in 1970;

(2) more specifically, where higher prices were needed to cover higher costs, and market conditions made them feasible, business firms generally, if called upon to do so, would ensure that price increases were clearly less than the amount needed to cover the increases in costs at a normal volume of output and sales.

#### MINISTERIAL MEETING

At a Federal-Provincial Conference of First Ministers, held in Ottawa on February 16 and 17, the Federal Government and all provincial governments endorsed the Commission's plan to call without delay on business firms generally to follow the basic price restraint principle adopted by the National Conference on Price Stability. The ministers urged Canadians to co-operate actively in restraining price and income increases during 1970.

Provision was made at the National Conference on Price Stability for a price-review procedure whereby the Prices and Incomes Commission would review price increases to determine whether they comply with the accepted criteria.

The Government of Canada and most provincial governments expressed the hope that government sanctions would not be required but agreed that, if necessary, they would use such means as were within their control to deal with cases of serious non-compliance with the pricing criteria as reported by the Commission.

#### RED CROSS WATER-SAFETY GRANT

National Health and Welfare Minister John Munro has approved an \$18,638-federal grant to the Canadian Red Cross Society for the development of a national water-safety program.

The three-year project will integrate existing Red Cross water-safety programs into a uniform national plan for teaching water-safety and life-saving procedures. The program is being developed with the co-operation of the Royal Life Saving Society.

The federal grant will help pay for technical conferences, administration and the production of handbooks, posters and pamphlets.