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Parliament dissolves as federal parties make ready for general election

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau announced on March 26 that he had asked Governor-General Edward Schreyer to dissolve Parliament in order that the next federal general election, the first to be called in nearly five years, could be held on May 22.

Among the issues expected to dominate the campaign are inflation, unemployment, future energy supplies, national unity and federal-provincial relations — with special reference to the aspirations of Quebec.

At dissolution, party standings in the 264-seat House were: Liberals 133, Progressive Conservatives 98, New Democrats 17, Social Credits nine, Independents five, vacancies two.

Under redistribution, Ontario will gain seven seats, British Columbia five, Alberta two, and Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories one each.

General elections in Canada

Canadians choose their Federal Governments through general elections for the House of Commons, the leading law-making body in the country.

The Canadian Constitution requires the election of a new House of Commons at least once every five years. This is called a federal general election to distinguish it from the many other elections held in Canada.

At the next federal general election, 282 legislators, representing the same number of constituencies, will be chosen to sit in the House of Commons.

Under Canadian law, representation in the House of Commons must be reviewed at ten-year intervals, after each decennial census. The review usually results in the redrawing of a number of electoral boundaries.

The voting populations of electoral districts vary from one to another, and average 52,000.

Role of Cabinet

The Prime Minister chooses 25 or more

individuals from his party to serve with him as Ministers in the Cabinet. Though one or two may be Members of the non-elective Upper House, the Senate, all usually are Members of the House of Commons or are elected to that House after their appointment.

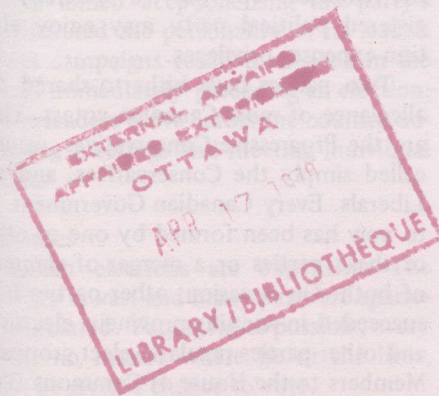
The Cabinet, consisting of the Prime Minister and the other Ministers, discharges the executive functions of Government. Individual members administer different government departments such as Finance, Agriculture, External Affairs, Justice. In addition, there are sometimes one or more Cabinet members known as Ministers without Portfolio, who are not in charge of departments but who may be assigned by the Prime Minister to carry out specific executive functions within departments.

Collectively, the Cabinet provides leadership and initiative in the determination of national policy and the appointment of other chief officers of state, including lieutenant-governors of the provinces, judges and ambassadors. The Cabinet is at all times responsible to the House of Commons.

A federal general election is only one of many occasions on which Canadian citizens record their will concerning the conduct of public affairs. Each of the ten provinces in the Canadian federation has its own elected legislature. Each province has its own system of local government under which elected councils direct the affairs of cities, towns, villages, rural municipalities and school districts.

The federal Parliament, however, is the only body that makes laws for and speaks for Canada as a nation. It consists of the Queen, represented in Canada by her viceroy the Governor General, the appointed Senate and the elected House of Commons.

Nominally important, the Queen's powers — exercised through the Governor General — are used only on the advice of the Cabinet, in respect to executive decisions, and of the two Houses of Parlia-



Twenty years ago yesterday...

Canada's first privately-owned and operated nuclear research reactor officially opened at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario.

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ment, in respect to legislation. The powers of the Cabinet, too, are often exercised through the Governor General, by Orders-in-Council that he must sign.

The Senate

The Senate's powers are limited in two fundamental respects. It may not initiate financial legislation. This means that it has little more than a negative say on the taxes to be levied on Canadians and the use to which public funds may be put. Furthermore, unlike the House of Commons, it has no control over the executive. It cannot unseat a Government.

Senators are appointed by the Governor General.

Election arrangements

The dissolution of Parliament sets the complicated election machinery in motion. Essentially, it consists of an Office headed by the Chief Electoral Officer in Ottawa and a returning officer for each constituency. Each returning officer is responsible for the conduct of the election in his constituency.

As insurance against being caught unprepared, the Chief Electoral Officer starts to get ready for a new election as soon as the last one is over. A general election requires the production of several tons of paper material, such as background papers, manuals of instruction and forms of many kinds.

When the date is set, appropriate quantities of these materials are shipped to the constituencies. Returning officers complete plans for the recording of the votes cast in their areas, set up polling divisions and polling stations, assign enumerators to compile lists of eligible voters, and appoint deputy returning officers. The voter lists are posted in public places so that anyone may check them for accuracy and call for a revision if names have been wrongly omitted or wrongly included.

The independence of the Chief Electoral Officer is assured by the fact that he is appointed by resolution of the House of Commons and not by the Cabinet, as are most public servants of similar rank. His salary is set by law and not by Order-in-Council. Finally, he is responsible to the Commons, and not to the Government, and can be removed only for cause by the Governor General on address of the Senate and the House of Commons.

The voters

Every Canadian citizen 18 years of age or

Voting is restricted outside Canada to members of the Canadian forces, to public servants posted abroad and to their dependants who have attained the age of 18.

over has the right to vote.

Persons born in Canada or abroad of Canadian parents, on or after February 15, 1977, are, with limited exceptions, Canadian citizens. Persons born in a foreign country may acquire Canadian citizenship after living three years in Canada.

Among those deprived of their franchise — but only so long as the deprivation lasts — are prisoners in penal institutions and persons restrained of their liberty of movement or deprived of the management of their property by reason of mental disease. Certain classes of person are deprived of their vote because of their official functions: the Chief Electoral Officer and his deputy, judges appointed by the Governor-in-Council (except for citizenship judges), and returning officers. The last-mentioned must cast the tie-breaking ballot when two candidates for election have received the same number of votes. Finally, any person found guilty of electoral fraud may lose the franchise for a specified period.

Voters who for any reason feel they cannot get to the polls on election day — whether because they plan to take a trip or attend a wedding — can vote in an advance poll held on the ninth, seventh and sixth days before polling day. Those who are unable to cast their vote at an advance poll or an ordinary poll may do so in the office of the returning officer from the fourteenth day to and including the Friday before polling day, except for the advance polling days.

Fishermen, mariners, prospectors, physically-incapacitated persons, members of air crews, forestry crews, topographical survey crews, or trappers and students away from home have, under certain conditions, the right to vote by proxy.

Canadian public servants posted abroad, such as the staffs of embassies, vote before election day, with their dependants. The total in the next election is expected to be about 3,400.

In the same category for voting purposes are all 83,000 members of the regular armed forces plus the dependants in Germany of about 5,000 Canadian troops stationed there under NATO command.

These special votes usually take place

throughout the second week before the election.

The candidates

In general, anyone eligible to vote is eligible for nomination and election to the House of Commons. There are no property or educational qualifications.

Some exceptions to this rule are members of provincial legislatures, judges, persons convicted of corrupt electoral practices, public servants, except those having been granted leave of absence without pay to seek nomination under the Public Service Employment Act, and members of the regular armed forces. None of these may run for election to the House of Commons.

Most candidates are the official representatives of the various political parties, chosen at party-nominating conventions.

Nominations close, in general, 21 days before election day. In a few isolated constituencies, nominations are held 28 days before the voting date. A candidate need not reside in the constituency he is contesting. His nomination, however, must be endorsed by at least 25 electors in the constituency, and must identify the official agent and the auditor he or she is required to appoint. He must put up a \$200-deposit which is returned to him if he wins the election or polls 15 per cent of the total valid votes cast. This is to discourage frivolous nominations.

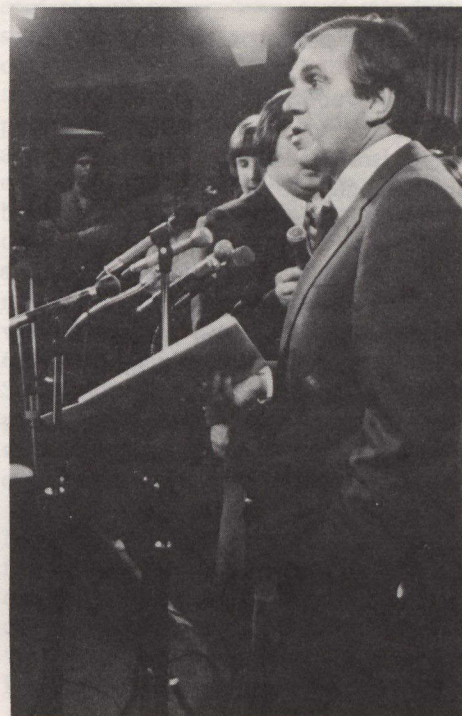
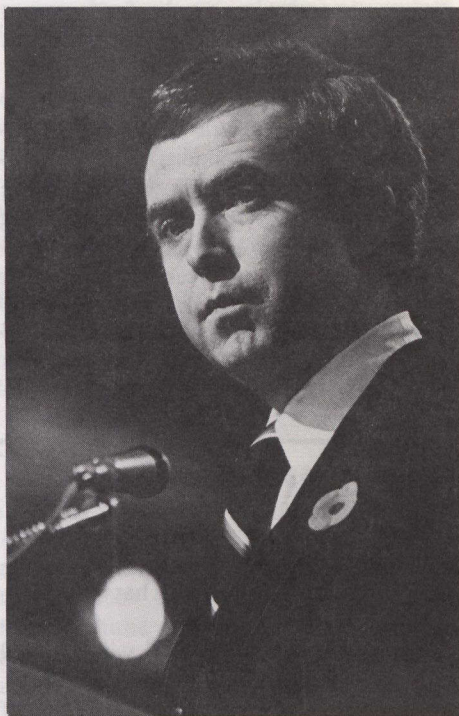
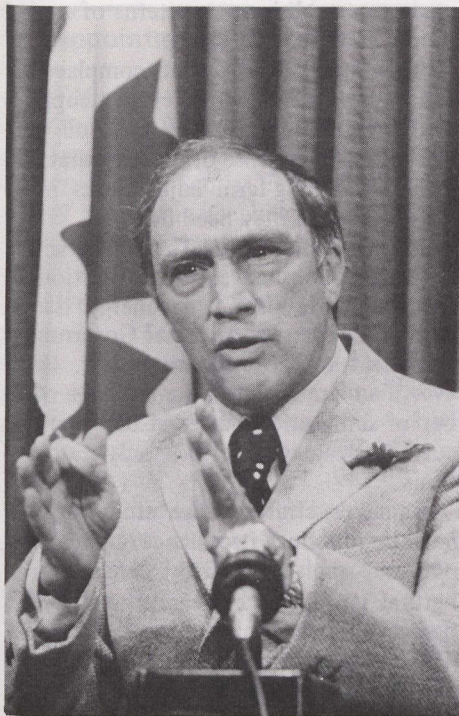
The parties

Everyone is free to form a political party and to join or support any party he or she chooses, but only a federally registered political party may enjoy election expenses privileges.

Two parties have hitherto shared the allegiance of most Canadian voters. They are the Progressive Conservatives, usually called simply the Conservatives, and the Liberals. Every Canadian Government up to now has been formed by one or other of these parties or a merger of elements of both. On occasion, other parties have succeeded in winning provincial elections, and other parties regularly elect groups of Members to the House of Commons. Two of the most prominent in this respect are the New Democratic and the Social Credit Parties.

On entering a polling station, the voter is handed a ballot listing the candidates (by name) and — in the case of qualified, registered parties, — party affiliation.

The principal political parties function



Party leaders (from left to right): Pierre Trudeau, Liberal; Joe Clark, Conservative; and Ed Broadbent, New Democratic Party.

through voluntary associations with headquarters in the national capital but in more-or-less intimate association with organizations at the provincial and constituency levels.

The constituency association is responsible for selecting the candidate who will contest that seat in the election. (It also sends delegates to national assemblies where the party leader is chosen and party policies formulated.)

As the time for an election approaches, party associations launch massive campaigns aimed at publicizing the party's policies and the personality of its leader. These campaigns reach their peak in the weeks immediately preceding an election, as the leaders move across the country addressing meetings and meeting individual voters.

Expenses

Canadian elections are expensive. The country is vast and many parts are sparsely populated. Yet, as far as possible, every voter, no matter where he or she lives, must be given a chance to vote.

Chief Electoral Officer J.M. Hamel expects to spend \$55 million in public funds at the next election — on printing, salaries and fees for electoral officials, transportation and other costs. Included in this amount are the cash reimbursements to which some candidates and political parties may be entitled to receive.

The campaign expenses of candidates and political parties, which will exceed several million dollars, come from private sources — the candidates themselves, friends and well-wishers, and party supporters.

Candidates must keep detailed accounting records and, after the election, must declare their election expenses. They are required to appoint official agents to receive all contributions and make all disbursements on their behalf and an auditor.

Under the Income Tax Act, persons or corporations who donate money to a registered political party during any given year, or to an official candidate during an election are entitled to a partial reimbursement in the form of a tax-credit receipt. They may then deduct this directly from their income tax payable.

A disclosure requirement now exists as well, so that the reports submitted by registered political parties and official candidates must identify all donors whose contribution exceeded \$100. This becomes public information.

Legislation approved by Parliament, which has been in force since August 1, 1974, has the effect of limiting campaign spending. At the same time, candidates are reimbursed from the public treasury for part of their campaign expenses and registered political parties are also entitled to a reimbursement of half their

broadcasting expenses.

Large expenditures are required to finance the national campaigns of the parties, but these, too, are limited by law. They cover advertising in newspapers and other publications, radio and television broadcasts; printing and distribution of literature, travel expenses of the leaders and party organizers, and rental of office space and meeting-halls.

Partisan radio and television broadcasts as well as advertising in periodical publications are prohibited from the day of the issue of the writs to the twenty-ninth day before polling day, as well as on polling day and on the day immediately preceding polling day. Owing to time-zone differences, election results in eastern Canada are known before voting ends in the West. Federal law therefore prohibits the publication or broadcast in any area, before polls close in that area, of the result of voting in any electoral district in Canada. This is intended to prevent late-voting westerners from being influenced by results already made public in the East.

The Parliamentary system, combined with the Canadian electoral system, appears to have served Canada well. During more than 100 years of Canadian federation it has, by and large, produced governments responsive to the will of the people and capable of developing long-range policies.

Praise for peace participants

Canadian political leaders paid tribute March 26 to the "architects" of the Egypt-Israeli peace pact signed that day in Washington.

The House of Commons gave unanimous approval to a motion by former Prime Minister John Diefenbaker that praised the efforts of U.S. President Jimmy Carter, President Anwar Sadat of Egypt and Premier Menachem Begin of Israel.

The treaty, said Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, was a "great achievement for peace and the world".

"Canadians will strongly support this achievement and we all admire the courage and vision of these three men."

Mr. Diefenbaker moved:

"To express deep appreciation to President Carter and to the Prime Minister of Israel and the President of Egypt at having been successful in producing a treaty which this House had hoped for as expressed in a resolution on March 7; and furthermore, as the heads of these two countries have received the Nobel Peace Prize, and as each of them have spoken warmly of President Carter's contribution, that an award of the Nobel Prize to him would be welcomed, not only by Canadians, but by peace-loving people of all mankind."

Japan helps B.C. fishermen

Canada's first deep sea freezer-packer fishing vessel is taking advantage of the extended 322-km offshore fishing jurisdiction, thanks to a co-operative effort between Canadian and Japanese fishermen and shipbuilders.

A member of the Japanese fishing co-operative suggested to Canadian fishermen two years ago that use of Japanese technology in preserving fish would enhance the appearance of the Canadian catch. So four Prince Rupert fishermen bought the Japanese-built *Callistratus* (named after the Greek fishing god), a 55-metre vessel capable of locating fish on the deep seas, contacting buyers anywhere in the world to sell the fish in advance, and then netting, cleaning, packaging and freezing the product right on the fishing grounds.

The owners "hope to open new markets for Canadian fish, concentrating on

silver hake and Alaska pollock for its roe, a delicacy in Japan", says the ship's captain.

The federal Fisheries Department has granted the *Callistratus* the first freezer-packer licence in Canada, provided government biologists are allowed to use the sophisticated electronics on the fishing grounds to determine what catch is available before issuing licences to similar vessels.

(From an article by Alyn Edwards for Canadian Scene, March 16, 1979.)

Tanker salvaged

The British tanker, *Kurdistan*, which broke up between Nova Scotia and Newfoundland on March 15, has been salvaged at sea.

The stern section, loaded with 17,000 tons of bunker C oil worth \$1 million, was moved safely to the southern end of Cape Breton, where crews scraped sticky, black oil from the decks and attached steam lines from a nearby barge to heat the cargo of oil for transfer to another tanker.

The Canadian Coast Guard ship, *Alert*, and a tug towed the bow section of the tanker to deep water, where they sank it beyond the 200-mile fishing zone.

It was the second major tanker break-up on Canada's east coast in nine years, after the Greek ship, *Arrow*, ran aground, depositing oil on the beaches of Chedabucto Bay.

So far, none of the oil spilled in the latest mishap has threatened the coast of Nova Scotia. No lives were lost in the accident.

Study analyzes energy situation

Energy, Mines and Resources Minister Alastair Gillespie recently released *Energy Futures for Canadians*, a long-term assessment to the years 2000 and 2025. Prepared for the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources by James E. Gander and Fred W. Belaire, it concludes that the world energy situation could well deteriorate sharply in the next ten to 15 years. Potential shortages and interruptions of the supply of world oil could result in abrupt and steep price increases, and possibly bring about socio-political disturbances on a global scale unless efforts are

made to establish new patterns of energy supply and use.

This study warns that complacency about the availability of energy supplies in the medium-term future may lull Canada into a false sense of security that will make vital long-term adjustments more disruptive than they need be.

Mr. Gillespie said: "The study, which has been published as a contribution to the public discussion of energy issues, does not represent a formal Government viewpoint or Government policy. However, I am gratified to note the large number of similarities that exist between our current strategy and the study's suggestions."

Canada's strategy, the study argues, must be to reduce its reliance on imported oil, and replace it with Canadian oil, natural gas, coal, nuclear power, hydro power and renewable energy resources. Total reliance on oil would be reduced, and the rate of growth in energy demand would be significantly lower than it was in the past 25 years.

Although Canada has the resources to achieve sustainable energy self-reliance by the year 2000, the study says, the process will be extremely difficult.

The 353-page study analyzes the adjustment process in detail, discussing energy pricing, finance, ownership and control, research and development, environmental concerns, institutions and management.

The final chapter recommends a national energy program based on:

- the transformation of energy end-uses to conform with future Canadian supplies;
- the establishment of a mixture of energy supplies appropriate to the indigenous resources of Canada and each of its regions;
- the development of policies on prices, financing, ownership, environment and innovation that support the necessary energy adjustments;
- the realization of the economic and social benefits inherent in the energy adjustments;
- the establishment of a comprehensive information and communication program to co-ordinate energy-related activities and to enlist public support.

Energy Futures for Canadians, DSS Cat. No. M23-12/78, is available at authorized bookstores or from the Canadian Government Publishing Centre, Dept. of Supply and Services, Hull, Quebec, Canada K1A 0S9, at a cost of \$5.

News of the arts

Five appointments to Senate

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau recently announced the following appointments to the Senate: Robert Muir, Conservative M.P. from Nova Scotia; Fernand Leblanc, Liberal M.P. from Quebec; Norbert Theriault, a former Liberal Cabinet minister in the New Brunswick Legislature, and Dalia Wood (Liberal) from Quebec.

A fifth Senate seat was given to Yvette Rousseau, president of the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women. Mrs. Rousseau, who has not been active in politics, will sit as a Liberal.

The appointments leave seven vacancies in the 104-seat Senate. It is traditional for the Prime Minister to make several appointments prior to an election.

Mr. Trudeau also appointed retiring Liberal M.P. Jean-Robert Roy from Timmins, Ontario, a commissioner of the International Joint Commission.

Standings in the Senate now are: Liberal 75, Conservative 18, Independent two, Independent Liberal one, Social Credit one, with seven vacant.

A statement accompanying the announcement of the Senate appointments warned the new senators they might not remain in the Upper House until their compulsory retirement age of 65.

Mr. Trudeau wants to revamp the Senate so half of its members are appointed by provincial governments. The Prime Minister at present recommends all appointments to the Senate.

The Senate normally sits three days a week and only when the Commons is in session.

New rules for parolees

The National Parole Board and provincial boards of parole will now be permitted in certain cases to grant parole before the inmate would otherwise be eligible.

Under no circumstances would the new measures apply to murderers, dangerous sexual offenders, dangerous offenders or habitual criminals, Solicitor-General Jean-Jacques Blais said.

To be eligible for parole by exception, an inmate must meet one of the following criteria: he must be terminally ill; he must be subject to a deportation order; or, his continued incarceration would result in serious physical or mental harm.

Special telephone switching system

An Ottawa firm, Mitel Corporation Ltd., is manufacturing and marketing an electronic telephone exchange with a memory.

The system, referred to in the industry's jargon as an EPABX (Electronic Private Automatic Branch Exchange), was developed through the aid of a National Research Council Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP) grant. It is a small telephone switching device, installed on business premises, which provides internal telephone switching as well as outside connections.

The compact console of the EPABX is designed for easy visual monitoring and fingertip control of all operations. Light emitting diodes provide visual confirmation of each operation: they indicate if the telephone of the party being called is ringing, busy or on hold, and which of the available lines are being used; if the line is busy, the EPABX automatically makes the connection when the other line is free, without the caller having to redial. Other useful features such as coded, double digit dialing of commonly called numbers and music for callers on hold are also part of the system.

How it works

What makes this versatile and flexible system operate is Mitel's innovative electronic gadgetry housed in the console

control cabinet, which contains two shelves accommodating 22 easy-to-remove circuit cards. At the heart of the electronics are microprocessors (minicomputers) which contain the system's operating program. Traditionally bulky electro-mechanical switching devices have been replaced by a new electronic system contained in small silicon chips. Also, special Mitel design has allowed the elimination of transformers which interface with telephone lines. Extensive use of CMOS (Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor) circuitry has reduced power requirements, which not only saves money but prevents heat build-up and prolongs life of the component.

Another attractive feature of the EPABX is the built-in diagnostic system for localizing problems. A series of self-check routines informs the user by digital of any malfunction and its location.

International interest

American Telephone and Telecommunications Corporation has approved the system, opening the way for Mitel to sell to the U.S. Bell companies. At least 40 other companies in the U.S., Canada and Europe have also shown interest. At present, 20 units from a pre-production run are being tested by prospective clients and factory production increases are leading up to a rate of 100 units a month.

(From an article by Sadiq Hasmain, in Science Dimension, 1978/5.)



The attendant console.

Six named to Business Hall of Fame

Six businessmen have been selected for initial membership in the Canadian Business Hall of Fame, newly established by Junior Achievement of Canada. They are: Armand Bombardier, David Dunkelman, K.C. Irving, Frederick C. Mannix, Hart Massey and Donald Alexander Smith.

The Hall honours Canadians who have made "outstanding and enduring contributions to improve the products, the processes, the efficiencies or the human relations of business".

J. Armand Bombardier, 1907-1964, invented the snowmobile. His company, Bombardier Inc., today produces transportation equipment for shipment to many areas of the world.

David Dunkelman, 1880-1978, the son of a poor Polish immigrant, in his teens made buttonholes. In 1910, he adopted the assembly-line method of making men's suits and by the mid-1960s when he sold his company, Tip Top Tailors, its stores had spread across Canada.

K.C. Irving, born in 1899, started in the oil business in his native New Brunswick after the First World War. Today, the company that bears his name encompasses woodland operations, pulp and paper, oil refining, a fleet of ships, shipbuilding and drydock facilities.

Frederick C. Mannix, born in 1913, turned his father's construction company, Mannix and Son, into one of Canada's largest resource conglomerates, the Loram Group, which has interests in coal, petroleum, pipelines and construction. His companies were involved in the building of the Toronto subway and the St. Lawrence Seaway.

Hart Massey, 1823-1896, took over his father's Newcastle foundry in the 1850s. By the time he died, it was the largest farm equipment company in the British Empire. Today its successor, Massey-Ferguson Ltd., is one of Canada's largest multinational companies.

Donald Alexander Smith, 1820-1914, is perhaps best known to Canadians as the man who drove the last spike in the Canadian Pacific railway. However, from a start in the Labrador fur trade, he rose to be governor of Hudson's Bay Co. and was president of the Bank of Montreal. He was also a Member of Parliament.

Junior Achievement gives high school students a chance to run their own small-scale businesses.

Grains and oilseeds outlook

Agriculture Canada economists have updated the December 1978 outlook reports for wheat, coarse grains and oilseeds.

In 1979, the total area seeded to wheat in Canada will remain around 26 million acres, with fewer acres seeded to durum. Based on average yields in the last five years, this would produce a crop of slightly less than 20 million tonnes.

Canadian wheat and flour exports during 1978-79 are forecast at 14 to 15.5 million tonnes. This is down from the 1977-78 level because of the large world wheat crop (estimated at 440 million tonnes, an increase of 54 million tonnes from 1977-78), and increased competition from other exporters.

Total world wheat trade is forecast to decline to 70 million tonnes in 1978-79 from the record 72.4 million tonnes in 1977-78.

Coarse grain production in Canada in 1978-79 is estimated to be 8 percent lower than that of last year at 20.3 million tonnes. However, supplies have increased by about 2 per cent because of a large carry-over.

Domestic coarse grain use in 1978-79 is expected to increase 5 to 6 per cent

from last year because of major expansions in hog and poultry production.

Much of the expected increase in coarse grain use is in barley feeding. With oat and corn supplies estimated to be down, the use of barley may increase by more than 10 per cent.

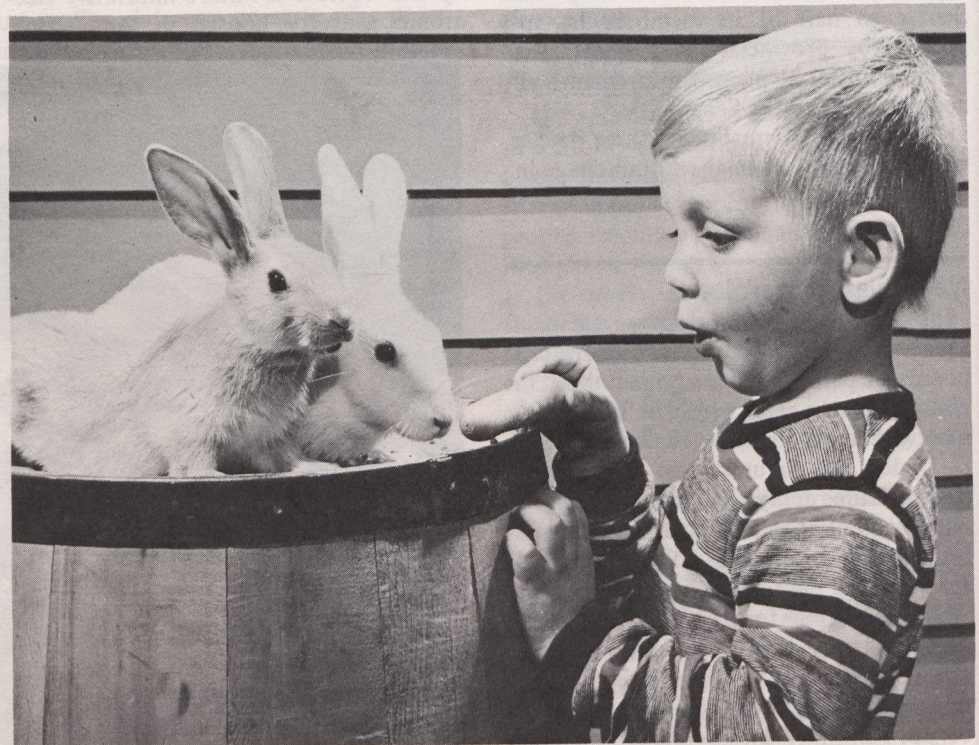
Oilseed plantings are expected to increase in North America and elsewhere in 1979.

Canadian rapeseed supplies are high this year, 3.8 million tonnes, compared to last year's 2.2 million tonnes. However, the lower value of the Canadian dollar has contributed to a substantial increase in rapeseed exports. Exports for the present crop year should be close to 1.6 million tonnes.

Rapeseed prices could weaken towards the end of 1979 because of the increased world supplies.

World flaxseed supplies are scarce, resulting in increased Canadian flaxseed exports and rising flaxseed prices. Plantings in Canada could increase, but prices will weaken towards the end of 1979, if, as expected, world supplies increase and prices of competing oils decline.

Soybean acreage in Canada is expected to increase 10 to 15 per cent in 1979 as a result of new varieties and the favourable soybean-corn price ratio.



Hey fellas, can you believe another year has rolled by and it's Easter bunny time again?

News of the arts

Artist's work fits many categories



Paintings, collages and photographs by Montreal artist Charles Gagnon are on view at the National Gallery of Canada until May 20.

According to Mr. Gagnon, his works are characterized by their ambiguous nature; the viewer is invited by the artist to become the interpreter. In spite of his New York experience and close ties with Quebec, Charles Gagnon's work cannot be easily categorized. After the Ottawa presentation, the exhibition will be seen at the Vancouver Art Gallery, the Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto, and the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

Alice Munro captures second award

Alice Munro of Clinton, Ontario has received her second Governor-General's literary award from a second Governor General.

Mrs. Munro won her first award in 1968 for *Dance of the Happy Shades*, presented by then Governor-General Roland Michener. She accepted her second award April 4, for *Who Do You Think You Are?*, from Governor-General Edward Schreyer.

First awards, announced by the Canada Council, went to Roger Caron, for *Go Boy*; Patrick Lane for *Poems New and Selected*; François-Marc Gagnon for *Paul-Emile Borduas*; Jacques Poulin for *Les Grandes Marées*; and Gilbert Langevin for *Mon Refuge est un Volcan*.

An 18-member committee considered more than 600 Canadian books before

awarding the \$5,000 cash prizes.

Mr. Caron's *Go Boy*, published by McGraw-Hill Ryerson, is an autobiographical account of the 23 years he spent in federal prisons for bank robbery and escaping custody.

The book is about making a run for freedom, something at which the author had considerable experience. During his time in prison he escaped from 13 jails.

Who Do You Think You Are?, a collection of ten short stories about a woman living in a small Ontario town, is published by Macmillan.

It is the fourth book by Mrs. Munro, who in 1978 was the first Canadian to win the Canada-Australia literary prize.

Mr. Lane, poet in residence at the University of Manitoba, has written ten volumes of poetry. The new book is published by the Oxford University Press.

Mr. Gagnon's 500-page study of

Canadian play wins U.S. approval

A Canadian play, George F. Walker's *Zastrozzi*, has attracted the attention of New York impresario Joseph Papp, who, at a recent reading of the play in New York, announced his intention to produce it next season.

A representative of Papp's Public Theatre said of the script, "It's a very theatrical work. The point of view and the intelligence are so strong...and he has such an exceptional sense of humour. Most attempts at humour we get, and we get 3,000 scripts a year, just aren't worthy of the name."

Mr. Walker's play, *Gossip*, began a four-week run last month at the new PAF Playhouse complex on New York's Long Island. The 520-seat theatre, run by the Performing Arts Foundation, was opened in January.

The Empty Space Theatre in Seattle, Washington, which performed on extremely successful version of *Gossip* last season, opened *Zastrozzi* on April 4.

TV channel for children

The International Year of the Child will be marked by a treat for Canadian youngsters — a television channel designed especially for them.

Programming for the Canadian Children's Channel, aimed at Canada's 6.8 million youngsters who are 16 or under, will include original productions, programs from TV Ontario, the National Film Board and a variety of other sources.

The channel will operate from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily and will rely on sponsors from the public and private sectors to finance the venture.

Quebec painter Paul-Emile Borduas, published by Fides, includes 168 Borduas reproductions.

Les Grandes Marées is a satirical look by Mr. Poulin at a comic strip translator whose quiet existence on a deserted island is gradually invaded by a number of well-meaning but destructive people. It is published by Edition Lemeac.

Langevin's *Mon Refuge est un Volcan*, published by Hexagone, is the latest in a series of collections of poems that began with *A la Grueule du Jour* in 1959.

News briefs

The Canadian armed forces will follow the lead of armies in the United States, Britain and India by allowing Sikhs to enlist without having to cut their hair or their beards. Discussion between the Canadian Human Rights Commission and the armed forces resulted in the change. Enlisted Sikhs will be allowed to wear green turbans with regimental badges. However, a commission spokesman said that they could still face difficulties if required to wear steel helmets in combat roles.

The fourth session of the thirty-first British Columbia Legislature opened in Victoria on March 22. Highlights from the Throne Speech include: introduction of a new energy policy; announcement of a comprehensive dental care program; take-over of federal powers to regulate B. C. Telephone; expansion of home purchase assistance programs and low-interest loans for development projects throughout the province.

Massey-Ferguson Limited of Toronto has received orders valued at \$16 million (U.S.) for the supply of farm tractors and harvesting machines from Mitsubishi Corporation of Japan.

Transcanada Pipelines Limited's construction spending on its natural gas pipeline system is expected to total about \$59 million in 1979, up from \$52.2 million in 1978, according to the company's annual report.

Consumer prices rose in February, led by food prices. The consumer price index was 184.4, up 0.9 per cent from 182.7 in January and up 9.2 per cent from 168.9 in February 1978. The index has a base of 100 for 1971.

Hudson's Bay Co. of Winnipeg has concluded "several million dollars worth of purchases" with the People's Republic of China. Items include carpets, luggage,

home decorations, toys, stationery supplies, and non-restricted textile apparel and yardage. According to William Coleman, executive director of the Canada-China Trade Council, the purchases "opened the door for Hudson's Bay Co. to build an increasing volume of business on a broad diversified commodity basis with China".

Ontario's new Ombudsman is the Honourable Donald R. Morand, Q.C., formerly a Judge of the Supreme Court of Ontario (Trial Division). He succeeds Arthur Maloney, Q.C., the province's first Ombudsman, who was appointed in 1975. Mr. Morand, who headed the 1974-76 Ontario Royal Commission on Metropolitan Police Practices, was instrumental in bringing about establishment of the Family Law Branch of the Ontario Supreme Court.

Ontario will increase its emphasis on trade and business development in the eastern Mediterranean countries, the Middle East and southern Asia by sponsoring seven missions to various countries in those areas this year, including participation in Technology '79, a technical trade fair in Tel Aviv, Israel. Premier William Davis visited Israel and Iran last year, while the then Minister of Industry and Tourism, the late John Rhodes, explored investment and tourism opportunities in Egypt and the Sudan for Ontario companies.

The transfer of Canfarm Co-operative Services from Agriculture Canada to a private company managed by Canadian farmers was completed April 2. It is taking over programs that were developed and researched by the federal and provincial departments of agriculture.

Summer in Canada, published by the Canadian Bureau for International Education for Canadian travellers and visitors, offers information on travel, accommodation, outdoor activities, study programs and festivals taking place in Canada during the summer. It also contains a section with information on travel and summer camps for the disadvantaged and handicapped.

The Export Development Corporation has approved loans, surety and export credits insurance totalling \$40.8 million to support prospective export sales of \$57.9 million to five countries: Cameroon, New Zealand, Senegal, Spain and Venezuela. The transactions involve such goods and services as a computer analog control system, valves, spare parts and re-

lated services, aluminum concrete forming systems, aircraft, and supply and installation of four electrical power distribution networks.

Waste from Maritime fish processing plants could provide local farmers with an inexpensive source of feed for livestock and poultry. Two scientists from Agriculture Canada and the Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture and Forestry, working with provincial fisheries experts, combined ground fish waste from low-fat, white fish, such as cod and sole, with an organic formic acid to control bacteria and mold. The finished product is a relatively stable liquid that can be stored for at least a year without spoiling. Tests reveal satisfactory feed consumption and growth rate by cattle fed a grain-fish silage mixture, and no "fishy" taste or aroma in the meat of calves slaughtered after the test period.

The Charles Herbert Best Chair of Medical Research — a \$1-million endowment — was presented to the University of Toronto recently by Ontario Health Minister Dennis Timbrell. The Chair, financed by funds from the provincial lottery, honours the late Dr. Best (co-discoverer of insulin) for his many contributions to medical science.

Reductions in duty of between 2 and 15 percentage points on such imported products as vegetable juices, frozen potatoes, raisins and grapefruit juice have been announced by Finance Minister Jean Chrétien. Other items such as apples, oranges, bananas and grapefruit already enter the country duty-free.

Alberta will introduce new programs for the handicapped, including a guaranteed-income scheme, which will amount to about \$23 million in the 1979-80 budget. The programs will include financing for regular education for the multiple-handicapped and provision of mechanical aids such as wheelchairs.

Food store profits rose \$22 million, up 18 per cent, to \$146 million in the first nine months of 1978 over those reported in the same period a year earlier, the Anti-Inflation Board states. Before-tax profit margins rose to \$1.88 per \$100 of sales in the period, up from \$1.80 in 1977.

An old grocery store in Toronto is the location of what is believed to be the world's first full-time multilingual broadcasting station. CFMT, Canada's First Multilingual Television, is to go on the air in September with about 100 hours a week in 24 languages.

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