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GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS

As the Weekly Bulletin went to press last week there was no clear indication of the composition or leadership of the Government in the 23rd Parliament. The June 10 general election saw the Progressive Conservative Party led by Mr. John Diefenbaker emerge as the largest single group in the House of Commons, electing 110 members, a dramatic gain over its showing in the 1953 election, when 51 PC's were elected, but failing to gain an overall majority over the other three major parties in the lists.

The Liberal Party, which had been in power for 22 years, met with a sharp reverse, as its elected members dropped from 170 in the 1953 election to 103 in this year's contest. Nine members of the Cabinet met defeat in their home ridings.

The positions of the CCF and the Social Credit did not change materially, but as holders of the balance of power between the Liberals and Progressive Conservatives these two parties were expected to have positions of strategic importance in the new Parliament. CCF members numbered 25, compared to the 23 they elected in 1953, and 19 Social Crediters were successful as against 15 five years ago.

Leaders of the four major parties were re-elected--Mr. L.S. St.-Laurent, Liberal, in Quebec East, Mr. Diefenbaker in Prince Albert, Sask., Mr. Coldwell, CCF, in Rosetown-Biggar, Sask., and Mr. Solon Low, Social Credit, in Peace River, Alberta.

Cabinet Ministers who failed in their bids for re-election were Mr. C.D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce and Defence Production; Mr. W.E. Harris, Minister of Finance; Mr. J.J. McCann, Minister of National Revenue; Mr. Stuart Garson, Minister of Justice; Mr. Milton Gregg, VC., Minister of Labour; Mr. Robert Winters, Minister of Public Works; Mr. Hughes Lapointe, Minister of Veterans Affairs; Mr. Ralph Campney, Minister of National Defence; Mr. Paul Hellyer, Associate Minister of National Defence.

Party standing as of 1.15 p.m., June 11 was as follows:

	1957	1953
Progressive Conservative	110	51
Liberal	103	170
CCF	25	23
Social Credit	19	15
Independent Liberal	2	2
Independent	2	3
Liberal-Labour	1	1
Independent P.C.	1	
Not decided (Yukon)	1	
* Deferred	1	
	265	265

* The death of the Liberal candidate in one Ontario riding shortly before the election resulted in the deferral of the voting until July 15.

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FARM WORKERS MOVE: An organized movement of workers from the Prairie Provinces to Ontario farms, arranged under Federal-Provincial Farm Labour Agreements, is underway and is expected to continue for several weeks. The return movement will take place between August 15 and August 29.

Recruiting for this excursion has been underway for some time in the Prairies and is being carried out by the National Employment Service and the provincial agricultural services. Placement on Ontario farms is being made by the local offices of the National Employment Service.

Workers recruited in the West will be despatched to either Ottawa or Toronto where distribution will be made to areas requiring farm help. In this co-operative effort between the railroads and the Federal and Ontario governments to meet Ontario's farm labour needs, a low excursion rate of $10 for the outgoing journey and $20 for the return journey has been provided.

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GENERATING CAPABILITY: Generating capability of Canada in 1956 amounted to 14,983,000 kilowatts, an increase of 5.9 per cent over the preceding year's total of 14,147,000 kilowatts, according to the third annual report titled "Electric Power Survey of Capability and Load" which will be released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics shortly. The survey forecasts that generating capability in Canada will be 22,111,000 kilowatts by 1960, an increase of 47.6 per cent over 1956, while it predicts that the proportion of thermal generation to the total will rise from 14.3 per cent in 1956 to 19.5 per cent in 1960.

This annual electric power survey which was conducted in March 1957 presents the combined forecasts of 108 major electric power producers in Canada whose combined generation equals approximately 93 per cent of the total kilowatts produced in the country. The figures contained in this survey are therefore regarded as representative of the whole electric power industry in Canada. Other highlights of the survey are:-

(1) Net Generation Capability. The indicated growth of 47.6 per cent during the forecast period 1956 to 1960 represents an additional 7,128,000 kilowatts of net generating capability. The total growth, both actual and planned over the period 1952 to 1960, is 101 per cent.

Although the forecast of net generating capability for Canada as a whole shows an increase of 101 per cent for the period 1952 to 1960, it varies considerably for the several provinces from a low of 48 per cent for Newfoundland to 258.4 per cent for Alberta.

(2) Firm Power Peak Load. The firm power peak load or demand within Canada amounted to 13,917,000 kilowatts in 1956, an increase of 11 per cent over the 1955 total of 12,536,000 kilowatts. By 1960 the load is forecast to rise 36.8 per cent to 19,040,000 kilowatts.

During the period 1952 to 1960 the firm power peak load or demand within Canada is expected to increase by 9,096,000 kilowatts or 91.5 per cent. The actual increase in firm power peak demand experienced during the period 1952 to 1956 amounted to 3,973,000 kilowatts or 40 per cent over the 1952 total.

The increase in the 1952-1960 period for Canada as a whole reflects fairly steady and consistent growth from the 9,944,000 kilowatts in 1952 to 19,040,000 forecast for 1960. The actual growth experienced in the past four years, 1952 to 1956, amounted to a rate of 10 per cent per annum. The increase forecast for the next four years 1956-1960 inclusive is equal to a rate of growth of 9.2 per cent per annum.

(3) Indicated Reserve. The indicated reserve in Canada in 1956 was 1,088,000 kilowatts and is expected to be 3,011,000 kilowatts in 1960. These correspond to reserves of 7.2 per cent and 15.7 per cent, respectively, over the total demand in those years. Figures for the various provinces and Canada vary considerably from year to year and are shown in detail in the report.

(4) Firm Energy Requirement. The indicated firm energy requirement in Canada was 82,679,000,000 kilowatt hours in 1956, an increase of 11.7 per cent over the 1955 total of 74,032,000,000 kilowatt hours. It is expected to climb to 14,365,000,000 kilowatt hours in 1960 or by 37.6 per cent.

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WOMEN AT WORK: According to the new booklet, "Women at Work in Canada", published by the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labour, a dramatic increase has occurred in the number of women in the Canadian Labour force in the course of the past 50 years. In 1901 there were 238,000 women in the labour force, representing some 13.5 per cent of the total female population. By 1951 there were 1,164,000 female participants in Canada's labour force, representing 23.6 per cent of the female population.

During the past ten years, several changes have taken place in the labour force participation of women of different age groups. The most important has been the increase in the proportion of women in the 45 to 64 age group who are now in the labour force. These are mainly women whose families have grown up or whose home responsibilities no longer require full attention. Many of these have taken jobs for the first time.

VAST SURVEY PROGRAMME

Come spring and "break-up time", Canadian Government geologists are heading back into the field to lay bare the geological secrets of thousands more square miles of Canada's 3.8 million square miles of territory.

The Department of Mines and Technical Surveys announces that this year 72 parties of the Geological Survey of Canada will fan out into each province and territory and penetrate into the Arctic Islands to within 600 miles of the North Pole.

Their assignments run the gamut of geological investigations from the reconnaissance mapping, by helicopter, of Canada's great northern regions to mapping the surficial geology of the Ottawa area to bring peace of mind to industry and residents alike contemplating construction in the Capital City area.

Survey geologists will work with the most modern of tools, the helicopter in the Upper Mackenzie River basin and in the hinterlands of New Quebec, and the airborne magnetometer in northern Manitoba. At the same time, they will continue to use the pack horse in the mountains and the canoe on northern streams.

Their methods will range from the time-worn study and sampling of outcrops in areas where outcrops occur to geochemical research and exploration in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Wherever they are and whatever their task, they will cope with the vagaries of the weather while trying to gather as much information as possible in an already too short field season.

MAPPING BY HELICOPTER

The Survey's 1957 field programme features two large helicopter projects, Operation Mackenzie and Operation Fort George.

In Operation Mackenzie, nine officers of the Geological Survey and nine student assistants will use helicopters to help map 100,000 square miles of promising oil and gas territory in the Upper Mackenzie River basin in the Northwest Territories lying between latitudes 60 and 64 degrees and extending from longitude 126 degrees to the western edge of the Canadian Shield. The extensive search for new sources of oil and gas in Western Canada has spread into the Peace River area and into the Northwest Territories and industry is already actively exploring the territory to be covered by Operation Mackenzie. The region is known to be underlain by rocks similar to those in which producing wells have been found in Alberta and to the northwest at Norman Wells. A promising gas discovery was made in the area in 1955. The Geological Survey has done little work in the area since 1923.

In Operation Fort George, three Geological Survey officers and three geological assistants will map by helicopter from 35,000 to 40,000 square miles of a 300-mile by 400-mile block of Quebec lying between latitudes 52 and 56 degrees and extending from the Hudson and James Bay coast inland to longitude 68 degrees. This is part of the largest unmapped area in the Canadian Shield. Interest in the area's mineral potential has increased greatly since the recent discovery of important nickel deposits 300 miles to the north. This is an opportune time for the Opeeation as the party will be able to make use of facilities made available by the construction of the Mid-Canada Line. The Operation is a two-year project and will be continued in 1958.

AEROMAGNETIC SURVEYS

In northern Manitoba, a party will carry out the aeromagnetic mapping of another unmapped area in the Canadian Shield, a strip one degree wide lying along the Manitoba-Northwest Territories border. Similar work was done immediately to the south in 1956. The resulting aeromagnetic maps will serve as temporary substitutes for reconnaissance geological mapping and will facilitate future ground mapping in the area.

OTHER SURVEYS

Of the many problems dumped into the lap of the Geological Survey of Canada each year for solution, those connected with surficial geology are becoming increasingly numerous. The rapid growth in Canada's population and the extensive construction under way throughout the country are underlining the vital need for information on sources of groundwater supplies and of construction materials, the outlining of new agricultural areas, and for data on the nature of the earth's surficial deposits in relation to engineering projects.

Ottawa has been earmarked for a surficial geology study. The continued high pace of construction activity in the Capital City area has given rise to hundreds of phone calls from industry and residents for information on foundation problems and available sources of ground water in relation to building in certain parts of the area. The value of surficial geology studies is emphasized by the decided settling of the National Museum building. If such information had been available at the time of its erection in 1912, this settling might have been avoided.

In Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, the Survey will carry out extensive geochemical surveys, analyzing stream and lake waters, soils, and the sediments laid down by streams as a means of locating and outlining areas likely to contain base-metal deposits.

JOURNALISTS' TOUR: A group of leading journalists from European NATO countries are now on a 20-day tour of Canada. This is the fourth tour of this country by journalists, from the thirteen European NATO countries, sponsored by the Department of External Affairs in co-operation with the Department of National Defence and other government agencies and a number of private organizations. It is one of a series of tours of NATO countries arranged by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization during 1957, the purpose of which is to enable journalists to gain a better understanding of the role each member country plays in the Atlantic Alliance.

As last year's NATO tour of Canada was centered mainly on Western and northern Canada, this year's is largely focussed on Eastern Canada. After a programme in Ottawa, including briefings by various government departments, the NATO party left Ottawa to visit Atomic Energy of Canada at Chalk River and to take a circular tour to Toronto and Niagara Falls, Ontario; Gimli and Churchill, Manitoba; Schefferville (Knob Lake), Quebec City and Montreal, Quebec; Halifax and the Annapolis Valley, Nova Scotia; and St. John's, Newfoundland. During the tour the journalists will see establishments of Canada's three armed services at Churchill, Quebec City, St. Hubert and Halifax. In addition, at the RCAF station at Gimli, Manitoba, they will have an opportunity to talk with NATO airmen from Europe who are receiving instructions there under the Canadian NATO aircrew training programme.

The journalists will tour industrial plants, iron mines, power developments, the St. Lawrence Seaway, and also visit universities and the homes of immigrants from the journalists own countries in order to see at first-hand many aspects of Canadian life.

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SPECTACULAR DECLINE: Canada's death toll from tuberculosis, once referred to as the great white plague, dropped still further in 1956, continuing the spectacular declines of recent years, according to advance figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In 1941, 15 years ago, over 6,000 persons died of tuberculosis; in 1956, 1,256 died of this cause, only about one-fifth of the 1941 toll, or an 80 per cent drop. However, since there has been a great increase in the Canadian population since that time the death rate has dropped 85 per cent from 52.8 (per 100,000 population) to 7.8. Corresponding 1955 figures were 1,403 deaths and a rate of 8.9.

Tuberculosis mortality rates among males is almost double the female rate, 10.2 as compared with 5.3; and in most provinces the male rate far exceeds or is significantly higher than the female rate. Despite a drop in the male rate for Canada as a whole from 10.9 in 1955 to 10.2 in 1956 male rates were higher than (or equal to) 1955 in 5 provinces, whereas the female rate was higher in only one province. Most of these increases are due to a rise in non-respiratory tuberculosis--for Canada as a whole respiratory tuberculosis deaths dropped from 1,223 in 1955 to 1,079; while deaths from other forms of tuberculosis only declined from 180 to 177.

Canada's figures are in line with a general international trend in the reduction of tuberculosis death rates. Over the past 10 years the rate for England and Wales has declined from 55.2 per 100,000 population to 12.1 and in the United States from 33.1 to 8.3, both countries now having higher rates than Canada.

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ARCTIC PATROL: The Navy's Arctic patrol ship, HMCS Labrador, is scheduled to sail from Halifax June 25 to carry out for the third successive year surveys and research in the Arctic and to assist in the sea-borne supply of Distant Early Warning Line sites in the Eastern Arctic area of northern Canada, Naval Headquarters announces.

During the first part of her 1957 mission, the Labrador will conduct the initial survey of the DEW Line supply routes and landing beach areas, beginning with Fox Harbour.

On completion of this activity, sometime between July 1 and 10, she will disembark a hydrographic survey party and helicopters at Resolution Island, then carry out oceanographic surveys in the Davis Strait area, returning to Resolution Island in the latter part of July to pick up the hydrographic party and helicopters.

From the end of July to mid-August, she is scheduled to take part in the re-supply of DEW Line sites in the Resolution-Brevoorts areas. During the period July 15-20 it is intended the Labrador go to Greenland to embark Mr. H.F. Feaver, Canadian Ambassador to Denmark, and Mr. Eske Brun, head of the Danish Government's Greenland Department, for passage from Narsarssuak to Godthaab.

In the latter part of August, the Labrador will arrive at the eastern approaches to Pellot Strait to begin oceanographic surveys with the intention of establishing an escape route for participating United States ships arriving in the Arctic from the West Coast. If this route is not passable, an alternate route will be used, and the Labrador is scheduled to complete her survey and escape-route mission with the United States ships sometime between September 15 and 20.

Her final northern task before returning to Halifax will be to carry out exploration of the Barrow Strait and Wellington Channel regions, followed by sea hydrography in the Baffin Sea en route back to Halifax, where she is scheduled to arrive not later than October 20.

PLUM HOLLOW FARMER FAMOUS

Viewed from the roadside, across an ancient snake-fence, the maple trees in Frank Tackaberry's woodlot at Plum Hollow, Ontario, look like any others. Yet they are internationally famous.

In competition with North America's finest, in New York State's second annual maple festival on May 4 at Syracuse, maple syrup from Mr. Tackaberry's trees was adjudged second best by taste-test. Syrup from the farm of J.H. Fedden and Sons, Woodstock, New Hampshire, placed first. Other competitors were from New York, Vermont, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin.

In Canada, Quebec and Ontario are the big maple syrup provinces. Quebec produces a bit more than Ontario's million dollar crop. In 1910, Ontario produced close to half a million gallons. Today's crop is less than half that figure but the price per gallon is four to six times higher.

The Tackaberry farm at Plum Hollow--a picturesque valley 20 miles northwest of Brockville--is 250 acres, of which about half is wooded. In this woodland are many maples, ranging from tiny seedlings to giant patriarchs four feet in diameter. About 4,500 mature trees are tapped annually.

But they are not tapped to capacity. Mr. Tackaberry produces only about 300 to 450 gallons each year. Production varies each year with the weather, he says, but the big handicap to full utilization is the constant shortage of labour.

Asked why one maple syrup is better than another, Mr. Tackaberry replied that it's probably a matter of processing. All native North American maple trees yield sap that can be made into syrup, he explained, but only the hard (sugar), black, red and silver maple are tapped commercially. The hard maple and variant black maple are the best producers.

But, said Mr. Tackaberry, when the sap is drawn from the tree it has neither the taste nor colour of maple syrup. That one maple syrup should taste better than another must, therefore, depend largely on the processor.

The trees must be tapped at just the right time. When winter eases its icy grip--when daytime temperatures rise well above freezing but fall below 32 degrees fahrenheit at night--in late February to late March--the time is ripe. The season may last a month or be over in eight to ten days.

Tests reveal that the sap produced by a maple tree is proportionate to its crown area. The yield per acre is usually higher is forest stands than in open stands. An average syrup crop may run as high as seven gallons per acre. Cull and over-mature trees will remain good producers only as long as they retain healthy crowns and root systems.

It's no easy job to tap maple trees and process the syrup. At tapping time, the snow in the bush is usually deep and trails must be broken. From two to four holes--extending two to three inches into the sapwood--must be bored in each tree at a height of three to four feet above ground. A spile is then driven into each hole and a bucket hung on it to catch the sap.

In the old days the men who carried the sap buckets from the trees to the big kettles wore yokes that fitted their shoulders. They walked on snowshoes. Today, huge metal sap-tanks are mounted on sleighs or wagons. Horses--in some areas, tractors--haul the tanks through the bush from tree to tree and back to the "sugar house". The tanks are equipped with anti-splash flanges. Perforated cones, inverted in a depressed opening in the top of the sap tanks, intercept twigs and other foreign matter that may have fallen into the sap collecting buckets.

One end of Mr. Tackaberry's "sugar house" is stacked high with firewood--about 50 cords, cut during the winter--of which more than 25 cords will be burned in a season to keep the big evaporators at 216 degrees to 221 degrees fahrenheit, the usual processing temperatures.

As the liquid thickens in the evaporators the maple flavour and colour becomes more and more pronounced. Subsequent heating, until sufficient water has been evaporated to cause the boiling point to rise to 240 degrees or 255 degrees fahrenheit, will produce a strongly flavoured, highly coloured maple syrup. This liquid must be held at these high temperatures for about two hours without further loss of water by means of a reflex condenser. In cooling, an amount of water equivalent to that evaporated is added.

While still hot, the syrup is filtered into settling cans where it remains for 24 hours. These cans are equipped with spigots so placed that the sediment will not enter the gallon or half-gallon tins in which the syrup is marketed. Standard maple syrup weighs 13.2 pounds per imperial gallon. Hydrometers are used to check the density.

In addition to his extensive farming operations and production of award winning maple syrup, Frank Tackaberry has been president of his district's telephone company for 17 years, is an active member of the area's school board and leader in many other Plum Hollow community activities. Mrs. Tackaberry is his devoted secretary and faithful monitor.

Mr. Tackaberry ships maple syrup to customers in Vancouver, Saskatoon, Calgary and Toronto, and to "maple syrup clubs" composed of Members of Parliament at Ottawa and Toronto.

"For some reason I have never been able to fill all the orders and requests I receive for my maple syrup," says Mr. Tackaberry.

Perhaps the mystery was solved at Syracuse last May 4.

WORKING CONDITIONS: Working conditions in the slaughtering and meat packing industry were found to be equal or better than the average for manufacturing as a whole at April 1956, according to information released by Hon. Milton F. Gregg, Minister of Labour.

The study, which was conducted by the Labour Department's Economics and Research Branch, covered 80 establishments and 17,985 plant employees. The study showed that four-fifths of the plant employees were on a 5-day 40-hour week; two weeks' vacation after 5 years and three weeks after 15 years were predominant; almost 95 per cent of the employees enjoyed 8 or more statutory holidays per year; approximately 75 per cent were covered by pension plans; and about 95 per cent were covered by group life insurance.

In all provinces except Quebec and Ontario plant workers comprising more than 90 per cent of the provincial total were in packing plants reporting a 40-hour week. In Quebec about 11 per cent of the workers were on a 45-hour week, and in Ontario more than a fifth of the workers were in plants where 45 hours was standard.

The practice of granting rest periods was universally reported throughout the meat packing industry. The commonest practice in all regions was two 10-minute periods per day, although 31 per cent of the employees in Alberta and 10 per cent in British Columbia were in plants reporting two 15-minute periods.

Employees in plants reporting pension plans ranged from 59 per cent of the total coverage in Quebec and Saskatchewan to 91 per cent in the Maritimes. In the Maritime region almost half of the packing house employees were in establishments where the entire cost of the pension plan was borne by the employer. In the other regions a 50-50 arrangement was more common, although the proportion in plants paying the entire cost was substantial in several provinces.

Group life insurance plans were prevalent in all regions, ranging between 91 and 100 per cent of the employees. The cost-sharing arrangement for group life showed considerable variation between regions.

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TOBACCO CROP: Production of leaf tobacco (green weight) in the crop year ending September 30, 1956 amounted to 170,278,000 pounds, more than 26 per cent larger than the preceding year's 134,840,000 pounds, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. Growers received $76,012,000 for the 1956 crop, some 31 per cent more than 1955's $57,685,000. Producers in Ontario grossed $72,604,000 compared to $53,531,000 in 1955. Harvested area in 1956 was larger at 127,722 acres as compared with 109,909 in the preceding year and the average yield rose to 1,333 pounds from 1,227. Ontario's acreage in 1956 was 116,356 versus 96,833 in 1955.

MOBILE INSPECTION: Services provided the fishing industry in the Atlantic Provinces by the federal Department of Fisheries have been considerably enhanced by a new mobile fish inspection laboratory which was placed in operation in March.

The unit, a large truck-trailer assembly, is designed to provide a rapid, on-the-spot means of investigation where any unusual technological problems in fresh fish processing or in shellfish packing are encountered.

The mobile laboratory, which is operated by the Department's Inspection and Consumer Branch, supplements the services provided by the fish inspection laboratories at Halifax, Shediac, St. Andrews and Charlottetown, and two small mobile laboratories.

The mobile laboratory is based in Halifax and will serve the entire Maritimes area. Its outstanding feature is that it will be able to provide a highly technical service to outlying areas in a matter of hours.

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DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS: The Department of External Affairs has announced that an agreement has been reached between Canada and Tunisia to establish diplomatic relations between the two countries. As a first step towards the development of closer relations between Canada and Tunisia the present Tunisian Ambassador in Washington, M. Mongi Slim, will become concurrently the first Ambassador of Tunisia to Canada. Ambassador Slim will continue to reside in Washington.

Tunisia, a former French protectorate, achieved full independence on March 20, 1956. Canada extended de jure recognition to the new state on June 20, 1956. Canada was represented by a special envoy at the celebration of Tunisia's first anniversary of its independence.

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OVERSEAS AWARDS: As announced by the Royal Society of Canada, twelve fellowships worth $4,000 each and sixteen scholarships each worth $2,000 have been awarded in the sixth series of Canadian Government Overseas Awards.

These awards are tenable in the United Kingdom, France, Italy and The Netherlands. Of the twenty-eight winners in this year's competition, seven will go to England, three to Italy, one to The Netherlands, and seventeen to France.

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RATES LOW: Canadians have one of the lowest electricity rates per kilowatt hour in the world, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. In the United States the average revenue per kilowatt hour sold to residential or domestic customers averaged 2.64 cents in 1955 against 1.66 cents per kilowatt hour in Canada. Commercial and industrial sales in the United States averaged 1.3 cents per kilowatt hour compared with 0.7 cents for Canada.