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PARLIAMENT PROROGUED

The fifth session of the 22nd Parliament of Canada was prorogued on April 12 with the following speech by the Hon. Patrick Kerwin, Deputy Governor General:

"The unstable situation in the Middle East has continued to give concern to Canadians throughout the session which I now bring to a close.

"My Government has sought both inside and outside the United Nations to play a constructive part with a view to reducing the risk of renewed hostilities between Israel and Egypt; to facilitating the early clearance and reopening of the Suez Canal, which is so important to the waterborne commerce of our friends in Europe and Asia; and, through Canada's participation in the United Nations Emergency Force, to establishing conditions conducive to a long-term solution of the political problems of that area.

"In March, discussions were held between my Prime Minister and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom at Bermuda which dealt with a wide range of matters of international concern and in particular with questions of primary interest to Canada and the United Kingdom. The possibility of a meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers early this summer was also discussed.

"The emergence of the former colony of the Gold Coast into full Commonwealth membership as the independent State of Ghana was welcomed by all Canadians as a further confirmation of the value and the adaptability of our free association of sovereign states linked by

common interests and common loyalties. One of my ministers represented Canada at the inaugural ceremonies.

"During the present session useful discussions were also held with the Prime Minister of France, who addressed a special joint meeting of both Houses of Parliament.

"Canada's development is proceeding at such a pace that it continues to place a strain on our human, material and financial resources. In order to hold inflationary tendencies in check, my ministers have urged that governments and private enterprise exercise restraint in their expansion projects.

"A special committee of the Senate has begun a comprehensive investigation of the use of our land resources to contribute more effectively to the improvement of agricultural production and the incomes of those engaged in it.

"The report of the Royal Commission on Economic Prospects has been laid before you. In accordance with its recommendation that special consideration be given to assisting the economies of the Atlantic Provinces, the Government has announced its intention of undertaking a detailed examination of transportation conditions in that area. In the meantime, increases in the payments under the Maritimes Freight Rates Act have been authorized. An offer has been made to construct interconnection facilities between the electricity systems of the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and to build and operate large

(Over)

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thermo-electric plants in the Atlantic area to meet at the lowest possible cost the power requirements of growth and industrial development in that region. The recent adjustment in the tariff on potatoes should also have a favourable influence on its economy and on the economy of other farming areas.

"A Royal Commission has been established to review the financial position of the Province of Newfoundland in accordance with the terms of union of that province with Canada.

"The Report of the Royal Commission on Radio and Television Broadcasting has been completed and presented for your consideration.

"The brutal suppression of the Hungarian people by the armed forces of the Soviet Union served to emphasize the continued need for the greatest possible degree of unanimity of purpose among the nations of the free world and the importance of maintaining an adequate system of collective defence.

"My ministers continue to believe that our position in the Commonwealth and firm support of the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization are essential contributions to the advancement of our aim of preserving peace and promoting prosperity throughout the world.

"In the course of the present session you have approved important items of legislation of lasting benefit to the Canadian people.

"You have authorized the Government to enter into agreements with the provinces for the establishment of a nation-wide system of insurance programmes for hospital care and diagnostic services. This legislation constitutes an important step forward in helping to improve the standard of health for the Canadian population and in relieving individual citizens from the worrisome burdens of large hospital bills.

"You have approved legislation for the establishment of a Canada Council for the encouragement of the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. Undoubtedly, both the fund for scholarships and grants and the fund for assistance to universities for capital expansion projects will accelerate the cultural and intellectual growth of the nation.

"To the same end the annual federal grants for universities have been doubled.

"Provision has been made to assist the transportation to Canada of Hungarian refugees. Special arrangements have also been made for the movement of large numbers of British, French and other immigrants to this country.

"In furtherance of the Government's policy to maintain a high standard of social welfare in this country, increases are being made in the scale of payments to veterans under the Pension Act and the War Veterans Allowance Act, as well as payments under the Family Allowances Act, the Old Age Security Act, the Old Age Assistance Act, the Disabled Persons Act and the Blind Persons Act.

"You have approved a measure authorizing the payment of the equivalent of full taxes on federal property in all municipalities where such property receives normal municipal services.

"You have approved legislation authorizing the continuance of the Canadian Wheat Board as the sole marketing agency for western wheat, oats and barley. You have also enacted amendments to the Agricultural Products Marketing Act, the Prairie Grain Producers Interim Financing Act and the Prairie Farm Assistance Act, as well as a measure extending the scope and provisions of the Canadian Farm Loan Act.

"Other measures enacted during this session included the Pacific Salmon Fisheries Convention Act, the Pacific Fur Seals Convention Act, the Fertilizers Act, and amendments to the Export and Import Permits Act, the Territorial Lands Act, and Canada Shipping Act, the Currency, Mint and Exchange Fund Act, the Export Credits Insurance Act, the Judges Act, the Exchequer Court Act, the Quebec Savings Banks Act, the Merchant Seamen Compensation Act, the Eastern Rocky Mountain Forest Conservation Act, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act, and the Prisons and Reformatories Act.

This concluded the fifth session of the twenty-second Parliament.

"Members of the House of Commons:

"I thank you for making provision for the public service during the period required for the holding of a general election and the assembling of a new parliament.

"Honourable Members of the Senate":

"Members of the House of Commons":

"Let me give expression to our humble gratitude for the great blessings which Divine Providence has bestowed upon us and upon our beloved country. May He continue to guide us as we work together to maintain and secure the peace, prosperity and well being we now enjoy."

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ECONOMY GROWTH: In a special comparison of the economies of Canada and the United States issued April 16, the Bureau of Statistics announced that in the seven years 1946-53, Canadian national production increased by 104 per cent and that of the United States by only 74 per cent. In the years 1953-56, the Canadian increase was 22 per cent and that of the United States 14 per cent. American national production rose to \$412,400,000,000 in 1956 from \$209,200,000,000 in 1946. Canadian production increased to \$29,900,000,000 from \$12,000,000,000.

Canada's accomplishments were achieved with a population that increased in 1956 to 16,100,000 from 12,300,000 in 1946. In that decade the American population rose to 168,100,000 from 141,400,000. The number of persons with jobs rose in Canada to 5,500,000 from 4,700,000 and in the United States to 65,000,000 from 55,300,000.

In the seven years of 1946-53 industrial production increased in Canada by 46 per cent and in the United States by 49 per cent. In the 1953-56 period, Canadian production rose by 14 per cent and in the United States by only 8 per cent.

In releasing this information the Bureau of Statistics said:

"The gap between the rates of growth in real output, which had been considerably higher in Canada, has widened perceptibly in the past two years.

"Investment in durable assets had been a higher proportion of gross national product--value of all goods and services produced--in Canada than in the United States; this disparity is now accentuated.

"The rate of increase in real wages has been higher in Canada than in the United States, but since 1953 real wages have shown the same advance in both countries.

"The pattern of recovery from recession, with the strategic role of consumer expenditure and a closely related sector--housing--was the same in the two countries.

"With the accumulating effects of resource development, in the past year investment was a more dynamic factor in Canada than in the United States and indications are that it will continue to be in the current year."

CANADIAN DELEGATION: The Canadian Delegation to the twenty-third session of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, which is being held in New York from April 16 to May 3, 1957, is headed by Dr. R.A. MacKay, Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations in New York.

He is being assisted by an alternate representative, Mr. Jean Boucher, Director of Technical Services, Department of Citizenship and Immigration, and by officers of the Departments of External Affairs and Agriculture.

The Economic and Social Council (or ECOSOC) holds two regular sessions each year. Canada is at present serving a third term as member of the Council, to which it was elected for three years effective January 1, 1956.

SWISS EMBASSY: The Department of External Affairs announces that it has welcomed the decision taken by the Swiss Government to raise the status of the Swiss Legation in Ottawa to that of an Embassy and agreed to the appointment of the present Swiss Minister, Dr. Victor Nef, as first Ambassador of Switzerland to Canada.

Canadian representation in Berne has been at the ambassadorial level since March 1953, at which time the Canadian Government indicated that it would welcome this change in status whenever the Swiss Government so desired.

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: At March 16, 1957, there were an estimated 5,373,000 persons with jobs, an increase of 11,000 from a month earlier and of 132,000 from a year before. The number of persons without jobs and seeking work, at 343,000, was approximately 20,000 above a month earlier, 48,000 more than at the same time in 1956, but 58,000 less than in March 1955. From February to March of this year, registrations for employment at the National Employment Service offices increased by the same amount as did persons without jobs and seeking work and totalled 597,000 at mid-March. The peak in the number of registrations for employment was reached in British Columbia and Ontario earlier in the winter; and there were clear indications that by mid-March the peak had been reached for the country as a whole.

In the month ended March 16, total employment showed practically no change, a slight decline in non-farm employment being more than offset by a small gain in farm jobs. Since December, the seasonal decline in employment has been somewhat greater than last year, but the decline in the labour force has been less than last year. Reductions in employment in the forestry, construction and mining industries were not entirely offset by employment gains in service, trade, transportation, utilities, finance and insurance. The continued strength of the labour force is attributable, at least in part, to the substantial immigration that has occurred since last Autumn. At April 1, the classification of 109 local labour market areas was as follows (last year's figures in brackets); in balance 3 (5); in moderate surplus 50 (56); in substantial surplus 56 (48).

The civilian labour force totalled 5,716,000 in the week ended March 16, 1957, compared with 5,685,000 in the week ended February 15, 1957. These estimates are obtained from the monthly labour force survey conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Of the 5,716,000 in the labour force, 4,818,000 or 84.3 per cent worked full time (defined as 35 hours or more) in the March survey week, 401,000 or 7.0 per cent worked less than 35 hours, 154,000 or 2.7 per cent had jobs but did not work during the survey week, and 343,000 or 6.0 per cent did not have jobs and were seeking work. Classed as not in the labour force are such groups as those keeping house, going to school, retired or voluntarily idle, too old or unable to work, and these numbered 5,168,000.

During the corresponding week in 1956, there were 5,536,000 in the labour force of whom 4,737,000 worked full time, 361,000 worked less than 35 hours, 143,000 had jobs but did no work during the week, and 295,000 did not have jobs and were seeking work. There were 5,110,000 classed as not in the labour force.

CHILDREN'S GIFTS: Canadian Children who donated their nickels and dimes to the Canadian Junior Red Cross may have wondered at the eventual destination of their money. It's unlikely that any one of them dreamed that their donations would pass through the hands of a princess and end up in a castle beside the river Eder in Germany.

This is what happened to the accumulated gifts of thousands of Canadian youngsters.

Recently at Wolfsgarten Castle, south of Frankfurt-am-Main, the Director of the Canadian Junior Red Cross, Kathleen Herman, of Toronto, presented a cheque to Princess Margaret Von Hessen.

The gift of \$2,000, from the CJRC Help and Understanding Fund, will be used to help finance an occupational therapy programme for high school members of the German JRC. The training school will actually be situated in the castle.

Princess Margaret, sister of the Duke of Edinburgh, owns Wolfsgarten, a baroque structure built in the late 18th century. She has become famous throughout Europe for her work in the German branch of the organization.

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NEW NATIONAL PARK: The bold headlands of Newfoundland's eastern shoreline will become the Atlantic limits of Canada's 18th National Park.

In a statement issued jointly Hon. Jean Lesage, Federal Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, and Hon. W.J. Keough, Minister of Mines and Resources for Newfoundland, announced the establishment of a National Park in Newfoundland. The Government of the Province of Newfoundland has transferred to Canada title to the land and an Order in Council has been passed authorizing acceptance, and proclaiming the area a National Park.

The new Park area, comprising 156 square miles, was offered by the Government of Newfoundland after a number of sites had been surveyed by officers of the National Parks Service to locate a tract of land that would combine some of the Province's finest maritime scenery with easy access by highway and rail.

The site, some 150 miles north of St. John's, is on the route of the Trans-Canada Highway. A stretch of about 25 miles of the highway will lie within the Park. The location is easily reached from Port aux Basques as well as St. John's and is within comfortable travelling distance of Gander airport. The shoreline skirts Clode Sound, Alexander Bay and Newman Sound, and includes the off-shore islands. Highest point in the Park is about 1,050 feet above sea level, in the vicinity of Bread Cove.

This year's development programme will concentrate mainly on road construction and the planning of Park administrative head-

quarters at the southwest extremity of Newman Sound. The National Parks Service plans to send out survey and engineering parties in June.

Headquarters, and other buildings connected with administration, will be specifically designed to complement the natural features of the rugged setting. Villages nearest to Park headquarters are Port Blandford, Charlottetown, Glovertown, Traytown and Happy Adventure. On the eastern limits is the wild area known as Lion's Den, a strip of coastline torn into rocky headlands that plunge boldly into the sea.

The wooded areas--predominantly black spruce and balsam fir, with birch, poplar and red maple--provide living space for a variety of wildlife. Moose, beaver, muskrat, and waterfowl make their homes in the marshes, lakes and streams.

Fresh water fishermen will find Newfoundland speckled trout in the inland waters; anglers who prefer their sport-fishing salty can catch cod, mackerel, pollock, black fish and sea trout in off-shore waters. Visitors to the Park will even be able to see, on occasion, the harbour seals in the shelter of the Park inlets.

Newfoundland's National Park is being planned basically as a maritime Park. This salt water character, born of its Atlantic setting, will stamp all plans now being made by the National Parks Service for its development.

The new Park area has been named Terra Nova National Park.

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"AU BON MARCHÉ": Considerable interest in Canadian clothing has been aroused in Brussels, where a large display of women's wear was opened last week in "Au Bon Marché", a leading department store. Madame Charles Hébert, wife of the Canadian Ambassador, was present at the opening with a number of other distinguished guests, and the pipe band of the Royal Canadian Air Force, stationed in Metz, was on hand to provide a festive atmosphere for the occasion. A squadron of R.C.A.F. jet aircraft, also from Metz, flew over the Belgian capital while the pipe band gave a demonstration in the Grand Place.

Although this is a purely commercial project, designed to stimulate the sale of Canadian garments purchased in Montreal early this year for the Belgian market, it represents the successful conclusion of a campaign on which the Canadian Department of Trade and Commerce has been engaged for some years, in co-operation with Canadian manufacturers. Women's wear was featured in the Canadian section of the Brussels International Trade Fair in 1955, and a few weeks later a Canadian Fur and Fashion Show created additional interest in the high quality of Canadian merchandise.

CANADA COUNCIL APPOINTEES

Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent announced April 15 a number of appointments to the Canada Council which was established to encourage the arts, humanities and social sciences through scholarships, grants, and assistance to universities in order to accelerate the cultural and intellectual growth of the nation.

The Hon. Brooke Claxton and the Most Rev. Georges-Henri Levesque, O.P., were named Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council, respectively.

Nineteen prominent Canadians were appointed members of the Council for terms of two,

three, or four years.

Dr. A.W. Trueman and Mr. E. Bussière, of Ottawa, were appointed as Director and Associate Director, respectively.

Under the provisions of the Act, the membership of the Investment Committee consists of the Chairman of the Council, a Member of the Council designated by the Council and three other persons appointed by the Governor-in-Council.

Mr. Graham Towers, Ottawa, Mr. James Muir, Montreal, and Mr. J. Hungerford, Toronto, were appointed as Members of the Investment Committee by the Governor-in-Council.

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NEW DOLLAR: A new Canadian silver dollar, showing a totem pole in bold relief, will commemorate British Columbia's centennial in 1958. It will mark the 100th anniversary of the creation of B.C. as a Crown colony, and the 1858 gold rush.

The reverse impression of the coin will show a large totem pole against a background of mountains, and the words "Canada" and "British Columbia" will follow the curve of the coin's rim.

Design for the new dollar was created by sculptor Stephen Trenka of Thornhill, Ont.

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NATIONAL HOSPITAL INSURANCE: The Province of Prince Edward Island announced on April 16 its willingness to enter the proposed National Hospital Insurance scheme. The federal proposal for a cost-sharing agreement with the provinces for the provision of hospital insurance developed out of protracted federal-provincial discussion and negotiation and was based on the entry of a minimum of 6 provinces representing more than half the Canadian population.

Prior to the Prince Edward Island decision to enter the scheme, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia and Newfoundland had indicated their willingness to take part in the insurance plan.

Health Minister Paul Martin issued the following statement in Ottawa, April 16:

"We will now proceed immediately to bring federal hospital insurance legislation into force by proclamation and to take whatever further steps may be required to help in bringing hospital insurance to the people of the participating provinces at the earliest possible date."

Under the scheme, the central administration will share with the provinces roughly on a fifty-fifty basis the cost of launching insurance covering standard hospital care and diagnostic services.

The overall scheme may go into effect by January 1959 or perhaps a bit earlier, depend-

ing on how soon the provinces can get their plans into operation.

While agreements with the provinces may be signed within a few months, it may actually take many months, perhaps more than a year, to get the national plan into operation.

The signing of agreements must be followed by the passage of enabling legislation in the provinces which have not already done so. Then administrative machinery must be organized.

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NIMBLE BAT III: No. 440 All-Weather Fighter Squadron, the RCAF's third CF-100 squadron to leave Canada for NATO duty with the Air Division in Europe, is scheduled to make its overseas move during May, it has been announced by Air Force Headquarters.

Based at RCAF Station Bagotville, Quebec, north of Quebec City, No. 440 Squadron will fly its jet interceptors across the Atlantic in what will be known as Operation Nimble Bat III and will be based at No. 3 Fighter Wing, Zweibrücken, Germany.

Following the pattern laid by the two previous "Nimble Bats", carried out last November and February, the aircraft will cross the northern Atlantic by way of Goose Bay, Bluie West One in Greenland, Keflavik in Iceland, Kinloss in Scotland and from there to the continental base.

The first of the four scheduled Nimble Bat Operations took place last November when No. 445 Squadron flew its CF-100s from RCAF Station Uplands, Ontario, to their new base at Marville in France, the RCAF's No. 1 Fighter Wing. Nimble Bat II saw No. 423 Squadron's CF-100s bridge the Atlantic from their base at RCAF Station St. Hubert, Quebec, to No. 2 Fighter Wing, Grostenquin, France.

The 440 flight will be supported by Air Transport Command, who take over the responsibility of the trans-ocean journey from Air Defence Command, posting aircraft known as "Duckbutts" along the route which are used for "homing" purposes.

Half of the squadron's groundcrew will accompany the unit overseas. They will precede the jet passage by North Star transport and await the arrival of the jets with the other half of the groundcrew, which will be drawn from Air Division personnel.

Later this year, the fourth and final CF-100 squadron will follow 440 to Germany, and will be located at No. 4 Fighter Wing, Baden-Soellingen.

As No. 440 Squadron takes off from Bagotville on its flight to Germany, No. 413, a Sabre unit based at Zweibrucken, will be disbanded. Simultaneously, a new CF-100 squadron will be formed at Bagotville and will take the designation, 413 from the disbanded Sabre squadron.

CADETS FOR BISLEY: Twelve teen-age sharpshooters of the Royal Canadian Army Cadets, selected from corps across the country, have been chosen to represent Army cadets in rifle matches at Bisley, England, this summer. The matches will be in competition against marksmen from all parts of the Commonwealth.

The cadets will leave Montreal July 2, aboard the "Empress of England" and will arrive at Liverpool July 8.

During their stay in the United Kingdom, the cadets will tour many points of interest, and arrangements are being made for them to visit the 2nd Canadian Infantry Brigade Group in West Germany.

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NEW DOLLAR: A new Canadian silver dollar, showing a totem pole in gold relief, will commemorate British Columbia's centennial in 1958. It will mark the 100th anniversary of the creation of B.C. as a Crown colony and the 1858 gold rush. The reverse impression of the coin will show a large totem pole against a background of mountains and the words "Canada" and "British Columbia" will follow the curve of the coin's rim. Design for the new dollar was created by sculptor Stephen Trank of Thornhill, Ont.

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NATIONAL HOSPITAL INSURANCE: The Province of Prince Edward Island announced on April 10 its willingness to enter the proposed National Hospital Insurance scheme. The federal proposal for a cost-sharing agreement with the provinces for the provision of hospital insurance developed out of protracted federal-provincial discussion and negotiation and was based on the entry of a minimum of 10 provinces representing more than half the Canadian population. Prior to the Prince Edward Island decision to enter the scheme Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia and Newfoundland had indicated their willingness to take part in the insurance plan and the federal government issued the following statement in Ottawa April 10: "We will now proceed immediately to bring federal hospital insurance legislation into force by proclamation and to take whatever further steps may be required to help in bringing hospital insurance to the people of the participating provinces at the earliest possible date." Under the scheme, the central administration will share with the provinces roughly on a fifty-fifty basis the cost of launching insurance covering standard hospital care and diagnostic services. The overall scheme may go into effect in January 1959 or perhaps a bit earlier depend-

ing on how soon the provinces can get their plans into operation. While agreements with the provinces may be signed within a few months, it may actually take many months to bring more than a year to get the national plan into operation. The signing of agreements must be followed by the passage of enabling legislation in the provinces which have not already done so. Then administrative machinery must be organized. * * * * *

NIMBLE BAY FLYING: No. 440 All-Weather Fighter Squadron, the first CF-100 squadron to leave Canada for NATO duty with the Air Division in Europe, is scheduled to make its assembly area move during May. It has been announced by Air Force Headquarters, Downsview, Ontario, based at RCAF Station Bagotville, Quebec, north of Quebec City, No. 440 Squadron will fly its jet interceptors across the Atlantic in what will be known as Operation Nimble Bay. It will be based at No. 3 Fighter Wing, Zweibrucken, Germany, and will be the first of the four scheduled Nimble Bay operations to take place last November when No. 442 Squadron flew CF-100s from RCAF Station Plattsburgh, Ontario, to their new base at Marville in France, the RCAF's No. 3 Fighter Wing Nimble Bay flew No. 442 Squadron to a bridge in Assens, France, from No. 3 RCAF Station, St. Hubert, Quebec, to No. 3 Fighter Wing, Grosse Pointe, Ontario, and the 440 will be supported by Air Transport Command who take over the responsibility of the long ocean journey from Air Defence Command during aircraft movements for "homing" purposes.