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WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS: The Liberal Government of Prime Minister Louis S. St. Laurent was returned to office in the general election of June 27, in what the Canadian Press report the following morning described as "an unprecedented Atlantic-to-Pacific election sweep which all but eliminated the C.C.F. as a national party and shattered a Progressive Conservative bid for power."

The Canadian Press gave the final party standing, by provinces, on the voting together with the standing at dissolution, as follows:-

Final party standing:

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Liberals | 193 |
| Progressive Conservatives | 42 |
| CCF | 12 |
| Social Credit | 10 |
| Ind | 4 |
| Ind. L. | 1 |
| Others | 0 |
| TOTAL | 262 |

Standing At Dissolution:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Liberals | 125 |
| Progressive Conservatives | 69 |
| CCF | 32 |
| Social Credit | 12 |
| Others | 6 |

The margin of Liberal victory exceeded the most optimistic forecasts of any of its leaders and supporters. Pro-Liberal sentiment was not confined to any one province or region. From earliest Newfoundland returns until the time differences across the country finally yielded the Pacific Coast returns, it was the same story: an overwhelming swing to Government candidates.

Newfoundland and the other Maritime Provinces reported Liberal victories in about the proportion forecast for this region, but earliest Quebec returns, quickly following, heralded the ultimate, surprising Quebec Province result of 68 Liberals, 2 Progressive Conservatives and three Independents.

Manitoba voted in 12 Liberals, one Progressive Conservative and three C.C.F. members, and then Saskatchewan followed with one of the highlights of election surprises: 15 Liberals elected, one Progressive Conservative and only four C.C.F. members, whereas Saskatchewan had sent 18 C.C.F. members to the last Parliament. British Columbia, where the two main opposition parties had considerable hopes, voted in 11 Liberals, three Progressive Conservatives and three C.C.F. members. Yukon's one seat went Liberal.

The Liberals surprisingly won 56 of Ontario's 83 seats, having held only 33 of the 82 Ontario seats at dissolution. The C.C.F. lost Ontario riding to the Liberals but regained South York from the Conservatives.

1948-49 CANADA YEAR BOOK: The 1948-49 edition of the Canada Year Book is now available. This volume is the official statistical annual of the country and contains an up-to-date account of the natural resources of Canada and their development, the history of the country, its institutions, its demography, the different branches of production, trade, transportation, national accounts and public finance, education, labour, and so on. In brief, it is a comprehensive study, within the limits of a single volume, of the social and economic conditions of Canada.

This new edition, which extends to 1,300 pages, has been thoroughly revised, and includes in its 32 chapters the latest material available at press time. In addition to the regular chapter material there are several special articles dealing with the physical geography of the Canadian western Arctic, the climate of Canada, the contribution to science made by the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, and the chemical industry in Canada.

The current issue also includes a statistical summary of Canada for the years 1871-1948, a calendar of events for 1948, a directory of sources of official information, a list of official appointments, and legislation of the third session of the twentieth parliament. Upwards of eleven maps and forty-three diagrams have been inserted.

Cloth-bound copies of the Canada Year Book may be obtained from the King's Printer, Ottawa, at the price of \$2.00 per copy. By a special concession, a limited number of paper-bound copies have been set aside for ministers of religion, bona fide students and school teachers, who may obtain such copies at the price of \$1.00 each. Applications for these special copies should be sent to the Dominion Statistician, Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

Each year a number of articles from the Canada Year Book are made available in reprint form. These are chosen for their special interest and on the basis of the demand that exists for them. A list of reprints is given in the Year Book together with their prices, of ten to fifteen cents a copy.

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES: Department store sales in Canada in May were up 11 per cent over the same month last year. All provinces shared in the advance, and increased sales were recorded for all departments except food.

According to the Bureau of Statistics, the month's sales were valued at \$72,198,000 as compared with \$74,969,000 in the preceding month and \$65,229,000 a year earlier. Gains varied from five per cent in Saskatchewan to 15 per cent in the Maritime Provinces. Average increase for the first five months of this year was 10 per cent over the similar period of 1948.

STRIKES IN INDUSTRY: Three strikes accounted for more than 87 per cent of the time loss due to work stoppages arising from industrial disputes in Canada during May, 1949, according to the monthly summary of strikes and lockouts issued by the Minister of Labour, Mr. Mitchell.

The strike of asbestos miners and mill-workers in various centres in Quebec, together with the strike of seamen in Canadian and foreign ports, and a strike of construction labourers in Toronto were responsible for 87.2 per cent of the time loss and almost 70 per cent of the total workers involved in all work stoppages during the month.

Although the number of strikes in existence, and the number of workers involved during the first five months of 1949 was in each case considerably lower than the corresponding period in 1948, the time loss during the same period was approximately 25 per cent higher.

Preliminary figures for May, 1949, showed 23 strikes and lockouts in existence, involving 10,540 workers, with a time loss of 174,150 man-working days, as compared with 18 in April, 1949, with 7,877 workers involved and a time loss of 139,500 days. In May, 1948, there were 22 strikes involving 3,204 workers with a time loss of 39,754 days.

RMC \$1,000,000 DORMITORY: Work on the new, \$1,000,000 dormitory building at Royal Military College, Kingston, Ont., is expected to begin almost immediately, the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton, has announced.

The all-limestone structure, expected to take about 18 months to complete, will provide living accommodation for 150 cadets plus administrative offices, equipment storage rooms and a regulation-sized swimming pool to be constructed according to Olympic specifications.

SCHOOL ENROLMENT: Enrolment in the elementary grades (one to eight) of Canadian schools will be an estimated 600,000 greater by 1953-54 than it was in 1946-47, due to the increased birth rates of the 1940's. The extra pupils will require the employment of an additional 18,000 teachers -- a number greater than the present elementary school staff of either of the two largest provinces.

This forecast is made in the biennial survey of "Elementary and Secondary Education in Canada, 1944-46" issued by the Bureau of Statistics.

The secondary school grades -- those above eight -- will begin to feel the effect of the increase between 1953 and 1955, according to the report. Considering immigration, the increased use of transportation, the effect of larger units of administration, and other means being adopted to increase the holding power of the schools, a total increase of

800,000 pupils seems likely in the next 10 years.

This large increase, amounting to 35 per cent over the present enrolment, it is pointed out, will require a great expansion in the educational system, in the form of new schools, additional classrooms and more equipment, as well as increased staffs.

MENTAL HEALTH GRANTS: Mental health grants totalling more than \$864,000 for the Province of Quebec have just been approved by the federal Government under the National Health Program the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Martin, announced on June 23.

A wide variety of projects will be instituted in Quebec, covering all aspects of the problem of mental health, and including the following:

1. Expansion of in-patient and out-patient psychiatric services at the various institutions for the mentally ill as well as in some general hospitals.
2. Promotion of preventive mental health work through establishment of mental health and child guidance clinics.
3. Widening of training programs in the field of mental health at the universities through larger staffs and additional facilities.
4. Provision of scholarships and bursaries to enable qualified persons to pursue studies in mental health.
5. Addition of specialized equipment and services to the universities, mental health institutions and general hospital psychiatric wards.

BAGOTVILLE RCAF BASE: A two and one-half million dollar building program is to be carried out for the RCAF at Bagotville, P.Q., to bring the station up to operational requirements, it was announced on June 21 by the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton. Bagotville was an active RCAF station during the war, but it has not been used as a permanent base for some years. It was announced last year that Bagotville was being reactivated, in accordance with development of the RCAF's postwar plans.

The work includes extension of the runways, an extensive building program to provide barracks and married quarters, erection of a supply building, and a new sewage disposal plant.

Authority has been provided for construction of 75 married quarters, at a total cost of \$800,000, and of barracks costing \$900,000. Half a million dollars has been allocated for work on the station's runways, which are being extended in length.

DISPLACED PERSONS: Following are latest statistics, on Displaced Persons admitted to Canada:

| | |
|--|--------|
| Group workers (those brought over at the request of industry) | 34,628 |
| Those joining Canadian relatives | 35,410 |
| Orphans for whom private organizations have made special provision | 1,045 |
| Total | 71,083 |

CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES: Canada's chemical industries maintained their upward climb of recent years during 1948 to set a new record value for output of \$554 million at factory prices, according to preliminary figures released by the Bureau of Statistics. This total is exclusive of shell-filling.

The Bureau's 1948 compilation includes for the first time the figures for the vegetable oils industry, due to a change in statistical procedure. Allowing for that industry in the compilation for 1947, the total output value for that year was \$488 million as against the final figure of \$450 issued by the Bureau. The gain in value in 1948 was thus \$66 million or 14 per cent on the same coverage.

Higher output values were recorded for all industries in the chemical group. Percentage increases over 1947 were as follows: heavy chemicals, 20.6; fertilizers, 7.1; paints, 15.5; soaps, 18.2; coal tar distillation, 3.1; toilet preparations, 10.1; compressed gases, 14.8; medicinals, 0.3; polishes, 17.5; inks, 12.8; adhesives, 26.1; primary plastics, 21.5; and miscellaneous, 6.0. The vegetable oils industry gained 37 per cent.

Total number of plants in operation during the year was 1,030, and the average number of employees 39,754 as compared with 38,491 in 1947. Salaries and wages paid totalled \$87,020,000 as against \$77,480,000.

Ontario, with 535 plants and 21,000 employees, had production valued at \$310 million, accounting for about 56 per cent of the total output value and 47 per cent of the employees. Quebec had 331 establishments, 14,000 employees, and production at \$161 million, or nearly 30 per cent of the total value. British Columbia was third among the provinces with 70 plants and production at \$49 million.

CARLOADINGS: Carloadings on Canadian railways for the week ended June 18 totalled 74,522 cars compared with 72,764 in the preceding week and 80,827 in the corresponding week last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. Cumulative loadings for the year-to-date were 1,738,328 cars as against 1,784,340 in the same period of 1948, a decrease of two per cent.

PRAIRIE PROVINCES: Of the 550,000 families living in the Prairie Provinces in 1946, 62 per cent reported the mother tongue of the head as English. Other numerically important mother tongues recorded for family heads, along with the proportion each formed of the total, were: Ukrainian, 10 per cent; German, eight per cent; French, four per cent; Scandinavian, four per cent; Polish, three per cent; and Netherlands, two per cent.

By mother tongue is meant the language first spoken in childhood, if still understood by the person. Included under Scandinavian are the Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, and Icelandic languages.

The average number of persons per family was 3.8 for all families, and ranged from 3.4 in the case of families whose heads reported Yiddish as mother tongue to 4.8 in the case of those reporting Netherlands.

AUSTRALIA AIR SERVICE: Postal communication between Canada and Australia will be greatly improved with the inauguration of direct air service on July 13, the Post Office Department announces.

On this date the Canadian Pacific Airways will commence their new Pacific operation leaving Vancouver at 10:45 a.m. and thereafter every alternate Wednesday, and due in Sydney, Australia at 5 p.m. the following Sunday. (Local Standard Time)

Leaving Sydney, Australia, on July 22 the mail plane is due in Vancouver at 12:30 a.m. July 25. Flights will leave Sydney for Vancouver, thereafter, every alternate Friday.

This is the first direct All-Canadian Air Mail service between the two countries, and operates in addition to the existing direct Trans-Pacific A.M.S. from Vancouver, and in addition, likewise to the Air Mail connections made via the United States planes to and from Australia.

EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS: Employment in leading establishments in the eight major industrial divisions showed moderate improvement at May 1, reversing the downward movement indicated in immediately preceding months, according to preliminary figures released by the Bureau of Statistics. The rise in employment was accompanied by a slight advance in total payrolls. Per capita weekly earnings, however, were down slightly from April but above May last year.

The advance index number of employment, based on 1926 as 100, stood at 188.6 -- a new high for May 1 -- as compared with 187.6 at April 1, and 186.5 at May 1, 1948. Marked seasonal curtailment was noted in logging operations in the Eastern and Central provinces, but the trend in numerous other industries was favourable at the beginning of May.

The rise in the advance index number of

employment at May 1 as compared with April 1, was 0.5 per cent, and 0.1 per cent in the index of payrolls. The per capita weekly earnings of the employees reported in the eight principal industries stood at \$43.16 at May 1 as compared with \$43.35 at April 1, and \$39.70 at May 1, 1948.

Greater activity as compared with April 1 was indicated in Quebec and the four Western provinces. The gains ranged from 0.7 per cent in Quebec, to 3.7 per cent in British Columbia and 4.1 per cent in Saskatchewan. The losses in the remaining provinces varied from 0.1 per cent in Ontario to 4.4 per cent in Nova Scotia. The trend of payrolls was generally downward in all provinces except Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. Reduced working time in some industries was a factor contributing to the decline in the disbursements in salaries and wages.

The advance index number of employment in manufacturing, at 203.2, was insignificantly higher than that at 203.0 at April 1, and also slightly exceeded the May 1, 1948, figure of 201.8. The index of payrolls, however, showed a loss of 0.1 per cent in the month, but was 9.8 per cent higher than at May 1 last year. The preliminary figure of per capita weekly salaries and wages of persons employed in leading manufacturing establishments at May 1 was \$44.45, as compared with \$44.54 at April 1, and \$40.78 at May 1, 1948.

TOURISM IN CANADA: For the Canadian Government Travel Bureau 1949 has so far been a year of unprecedented activity. Up to the end of May there were 210,838 enquiries from potential vacationists, an increase of 46,745 or 28.5 per cent over the corresponding period for 1948, and the flow of incoming mail showed no signs of abating.

On a single day May 25, the Travel Bureau received 5,657 enquiries, an all-time daily record.

The volume of the Bureau's requests for travel information for these first five months of 1949 exceeded that for the whole year of 1947 by 2,720 enquiries.

The actual volume of incoming tourist traffic has been increasing also. In the first three months of 1949 there were nearly 3,000,000 individual entries into Canada. During the same January-March period 114,576 automobiles entered on traveller's vehicle permits for stays longer than 48 hours, and 737,692 non-Canadian cars entered Canada for shorter stays, making a total of 852,268 visiting autos.

Highway traffic at Canadian border points in January of this year showed an advance of 17 per cent over the same month last year. During February it was 14 per cent greater in volume than February 1948, and in March the flow was six per cent heavier than in the same month of 1948.

The Canadian Press summary of results by Provinces was as follows:-

| Party | Total | Nfld. | PEI | NS | NB | Que. | Ont. | Man. | Sask. | Alta. | BC | Yukon |
|--------------|------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Lib. | 193 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 68 | 56 | 12 | 15 | 5 | 11 | 1 |
| PC | 42 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 25 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| CCF | 12 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| SC | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Ind. | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Ind.-L | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 262 | 7 | 4 | 13 | 10 | 73 | 83 | 16 | 20 | 17 | 18 | 1 |

Several well known and veteran members of the last House of Commons fell by the wayside. Hon. John Bracken, former Progressive Conservative Leader, was defeated in his Manitoba seat, as were John T. Hackett, K.C., only straight Progressive Conservative member elected from Quebec in the 1945 election, and J.M. Macdonnell, Progressive Conservative financial critic in the last House of Commons. Mrs. Gladys Strum, C.C.F. member in the last House, was defeated, as were all 15 women candidates. The veteran John R. MacNicol was defeated in Toronto. Hon. Harry H. Stevens, one time Minister of Trade and Commerce, running as a Progressive Conservative in Vancouver Centre, was defeated by Liberal Ross Campney.

Camillien Houde, Montreal Mayor, won a seat in Montreal as an Independent; Ludger Dionne, Quebec textile manufacturer who brought 100 displaced Polish girls from Europe after the war to work in his mills, was defeated in Beauce riding by an Independent.

The Prime Minister polled the biggest personal winning margin in his riding of Quebec East of any candidate. He was returned by a plurality of 17,942 votes, compared to his winning margin of 10,768 in the 1945 election.

He polled 26,015 votes compared to 8,703 for his nearest opponent and 1,404 for the third candidate in the riding. All other party leaders were elected by comfortable margins.

The Canadian Press gave the following final summary of party gains in the election:

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Lib. from PC | 27 |
| Lib. from CCF | 21 |
| Lib. from Ind-L | 7 |
| Lib. from SC | 4 |
| Lib. from Ind | 3 |
| Lib. from IP | 2 |
| Lib. from Ind-C | 1 |
| Lib. (new seats) | 17 |
| PC from Lib | 1 |
| PC from Ind | 1 |
| PC (new seats) | 3 |
| CCF from PC | 2 |
| CCF from Ind-CCF | 1 |
| Ind-L from Lib | 1 |
| Ind. from Ind-L | 1 |
| Ind. from PC | 1 |
| Ind. (new seats) | 1 |
| Unchanged | 168 |
| TOTAL | 262 |

Following is the Canadian Press report of the 1949 popular vote by provinces:

33,911 of 36,765 polls.

| Province | Total | Liberal | P.C. | C.C.F. | Others |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Newfoundland | 98,273 | 69,686 | 28,390 | 197 | ... |
| Pr. Edward Island | 67,605 | 33,185 | 32,791 | 1,629 | ... |
| Nova Scotia | 321,020 | 168,066 | 121,927 | 31,027 | ... |
| New Brunswick | 217,628 | 117,255 | 85,537 | 9,117 | 5,719 |
| Quebec | 1,384,566 | 846,032 | 336,523 | 17,513 | 184,498 |
| Ontario | 1,964,621 | 895,673 | 735,027 | 304,101 | 29,820 |
| Manitoba | 316,259 | 150,014 | 70,631 | 82,648 | 12,966 |
| Saskatchewan | 355,355 | 153,989 | 52,001 | 144,896 | 4,469 |
| Alberta | 305,400 | 102,913 | 54,318 | 31,242 | 116,927 |
| British Columbia | 389,505 | 149,734 | 104,056 | 116,097 | 19,618 |
| Totals | 5,420,232 | 2,686,547 | 1,621,201 | 738,467 | 374,017 |
| Per cent | | 49.5 | 30.0 | 13.6 | 6.9 |

FOREIGN TRADE HIGHER IN APRIL

INCREASE OF 9.3 PER CENT: Canada's total foreign trade in April was valued at \$483,000,000, showing an increase of 9.3 per cent over the corresponding month last year, according to figures released by the Bureau of Statistics. Aggregate value for the first four months of this year moved up to \$1,813,800,000 from \$1,707,400,000 in the similar period of 1948, or 6.2 per cent.

Both imports and domestic exports were higher in the month and four-month period. The advance in the value of imports was seven per cent in April and nearly 12 per cent in the cumulative period. The value of exports was up 12 per cent in April, and one per cent in the four months.

Imports for consumption from all countries in April were valued at \$242,700,000 as compared with \$226,700,000 in the corresponding month last year, and in the four months at \$908,400,000 compared with \$212,300,000 a year ago, and in the four months at \$896,600,000 compared with \$884,400,000 last year.

Foreign commodities were re-exported in April to the value of \$2,484,000 compared with \$2,752,000 in the same month last year, and in the four months at \$8,828,000 compared with \$11,009,000.

With imports slightly higher than domestic and foreign exports, Canada had a small deficit of \$2,400,000 on the month's foreign trade with all countries as compared with a deficit of \$11,600,000 in April last year. There was also a small overall debit balance of \$3,000,000 in the four months ending April as compared

with a favourable balance of \$83,400,000 in the like period of 1948.

The debit balance with the United States was \$5,100,000 on the month's trade as compared with a deficit of \$48,000,000 in the corresponding month last year, and in the four months totalled \$197,900,000 compared with \$155,900,000 a year earlier. The credit balance with the United Kingdom in the month was \$33,400,000 compared with \$19,800,000 a year ago, and in the four months, \$96,600,000 compared with \$134,800,000 a year ago.

Total values of imports from both Commonwealth and foreign countries were higher in April than a year earlier, and there were gains in six of the nine main commodity groups. Purchases from Commonwealth countries advanced to \$44,400,000 from \$39,500,000 in the corresponding month last year, and in the four-month period to \$159,700,000 from \$132,100,000. Amount from foreign countries in the month was up to \$198,300,000 from \$187,200,000, and in the four months to \$748,700,000 from \$679,900,000.

Imports from the United Kingdom during April continued the upward climb of the three previous months this year, amounting to \$30,120,000 compared with \$28,343,000 in March and \$24,641,000 a year ago. Total for the four months was up to \$106,786,000 from \$85,703,000.

Imports from the United States in April rose to \$177,293,000 from \$159,461,000 in the corresponding month last year, and in the four-month period to \$659,863,000 from \$584,583,000.

THREE U.S. SHIPS TO ARCTIC: The Department of External Affairs announced on June 29 that three United States ships will spend about two months in northern waters this summer. Sailing from United States and Canadian east coast ports in July they will supply fuel and provisions to the joint weather stations in the Canadian Arctic that have been established there since 1947. The stations are maintained by the Canadian and United States Governments, and representatives of Canadian Government departments will take part in the expedition. The senior Canadian representative will be Mr. J. W. Burton of the Northwest Territories Administration, Department of Mines and Resources, Ottawa.

The ships, the U.S.S. "Edisto", an ice-breaker, the U.S.S. "Wyandot", a transport, and the U.S.S. "LST-533", serving as a cargo vessel, will be under the command of Captain Basil N. Rittenhouse, U.S.N., embarked in the "Edisto".

The expedition will carry north the yearly

stock of Canadian and United States supplies required by the four joint weather stations now in operation at Prince Patrick Island, Ellef Ringnes Island, Cornwallis Island and Ellesmere Island. If conditions are favourable, the icebreaker may also endeavour to land additional supplies at Alert, the site near Cape Sheridan (northern Ellesmere Island) chosen last summer for a weather station to be put into operation at some future date. This site has been given its name in honour of H.M.S. "Alert", one of the ships of the British explorer, Sir George Nares, who in 1875-6 carried out the first survey of the north coast of Ellesmere Island.

The U.S.S. "Edisto" will carry helicopters to facilitate navigation through the ice, and if time permits, will investigate routes to and sites for possible future weather stations.

The "Edisto" will be commanded by Commander W. F. Morrison, U.S.N.; the U.S.S. "Wyandot" by Commander T. S. Webb, U.S.N.; and the U.S.S. "LST-533" by Lieutenant J. E. Vautrot, U.S.N.