

RC Pioneer In North America Is Honored In Celebrations

By LEO LeBLANC
Canadian Press Staff Writer
QUEBEC (CP)—Week-long centennial celebrations start today in honor of the man who established the Roman Catholic Church in North America.

The celebrations mark the arrival 300 years ago of the French bishop Francois de Montmorency-Laval, first bishop of Quebec, whose diocese originally stretched from the Arctic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico.

The Pope's representative at the ceremonies, Alfredo Cardinal Ottaviani, and 15 other delegates from Rome are to arrive here today.

About 16,000 school children are to meet Cardinal Ottaviani at the coliseum and a liturgical reception for the papal legate is to follow at the Quebec Cathedral.

TOURED INTERIOR

Bishop Laval reached the new world May 16, 1659, landing on the tip of the Gaspé Peninsula. He conferred the sacrament of confirmation on 130 Indians and settlers' children, then set out to visit outposts and the interior country.

He spent a month in wilderness wanderings, learning at first hand the hardships rigorous nature dealt the settlers. He proved himself a rugged man in a tough country.

Bishop Laval arrived at Quebec City June 15, 1659, to begin his mission: organizing a Roman Catholic clergy.

An ascetic man, Bishop Laval was continually at odds with the French nobility in New France whose frivolities and mercenary outlook he condemned.

King Louis XIV had favored a rival of Bishop Laval for the world post but bowed to Rome's decision to send the bishop as apostolic vicar. It was practice then for kings to advise on the choice of bishops.

CONDEMNS LIQUOR

Bishop Laval vigorously fought the practice of trading liquor to the natives and sought to make the new country a land of human values instead of a mere trading counter.

He preached family virtues, the prompt submission of the child, the humble and hard-working devotion of the mother, the authority of the father.

His precepts are still deeply rooted in Quebec society where the church has a profound social influence.

He was a strong-headed man who set down sharply divisions

between authority of the church and of the state. He brooked no interference even from such an explosive autocrat as Governor Frontenac.

This independent spirit has remained strong in the Roman Catholic hierarchy in Quebec where decisions of the church on social questions actually set the tone of government policy.

GREW RAPIDLY

From a few French missionaries and a few hundred faithful in the early days, the Roman Cath-

olic Church in Canada has grown to a point where it now has more than 15,000 priests and about 7,000,000 members.

The Ottawa-based Canadian Catholic Conference will meet in Quebec city during the celebrations. The CCC is an organization of all Canadian Roman Catholic archbishops and bishops which holds periodic meetings to study church problems.

A spokesman for the conference said this meeting was made to coincide with the Bishop Laval

celebrations because they provided "an excellent opportunity or comparing our present way of life with the ideals set out by this courageous head of a young colony."

LEAVE ON ARCTIC TOUR

OTTAWA (CP)—A Canadian-American party including Allen W. Dulles of the United States Central Intelligence Agency Saturday began a weeklong Arctic trip. Also visiting DEW line and other bases will be U.S. Amb-

assador Richard B. Wigglesworth, Defense Production Minister O'Hurley and W. J. Browne, minister without portfolio.

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GOLDEN HAWKS ARE THANKED

Member of the Golden Hawks aerobatic team and other RCAF personnel who make outstanding contribution in commemorating the RCAF's 35th anniversary received personal thanks from the Chief of the Air Staff at Station Trenton, Ont., Here, Air Mar-

shal Hugh Campbell shakes hands with Squadron Leader Fern Villeneuve of Ottawa, leader of the aerobatic team. Next in line are Flight Lieutenants Jim McCombe of Fredericton, N.B., and Ed Rozdeba of Bienfait, Sask. Wing Commander J.A. Easton, the man in charge of the Hawks' across-

country tour, is at left. (National Defence Photo)

Commission Scuttling Attempt Is Red Charge Against Britons

By STANLEY JOHNSON
MOSCOW (AP)—The Kremlin accused Britain Saturday of trying to scuttle the international control commission for Cambodia behind the Russians' backs in order to submit that Indochinese nation to "foreign influence."

In one of the most strongly worded notes on Southeast Asia in months, the U.S.S.R. charged that Britain—co-chairman of the Soviet Union of the 1954 Geneva agreement that ended the eight-year-long Indochinese war—made the proposition to Cambodia without notifying Moscow. It said Britain's "meagrely bankrupt" action, which the Soviets got wind of from Cambodia, had placed London in "an unenviable position."

PRIVATE APPROACH
In London, the foreign office said it was studying the Soviet note. It declined further comment, but authorities who declined to be named said Britain had privately approached Cambodian officials on possibilities of dissolving the Indian-Canadian-Polish commission because of British feelings it had outlived its usefulness. They emphasized that the approach was in no sense a formal proposal.

The Russians said Britain's action was highlighted by the fighting in Laos, a neighbor of Cambodia, where a United Nations fact-finding mission now is investigating Laotian charges of aggression by Communist North Viet Nam.

"In this connection," the note said, "one cannot fail to point out the example of Laos, where, as a result of the abolishment of the international control commission, the country found itself in a split condition, carrying a real threat of civil war with all the dangerous consequences for peace in Indochina."

The Laotians ejected the commission some time ago, contending the Polish member was trying to help the Communist Pathet Lao rebels. The Communist bloc has demanded that the commission be recalled in Laos.

The note evinced surprise that the British would make a proposal which "radically contradicts the conditions of the Geneva agreement," and that Britain had "evaded the tradition of call-

ing for discussion between the two chairmen of questions pertaining to the fulfillment of the Geneva agreement."

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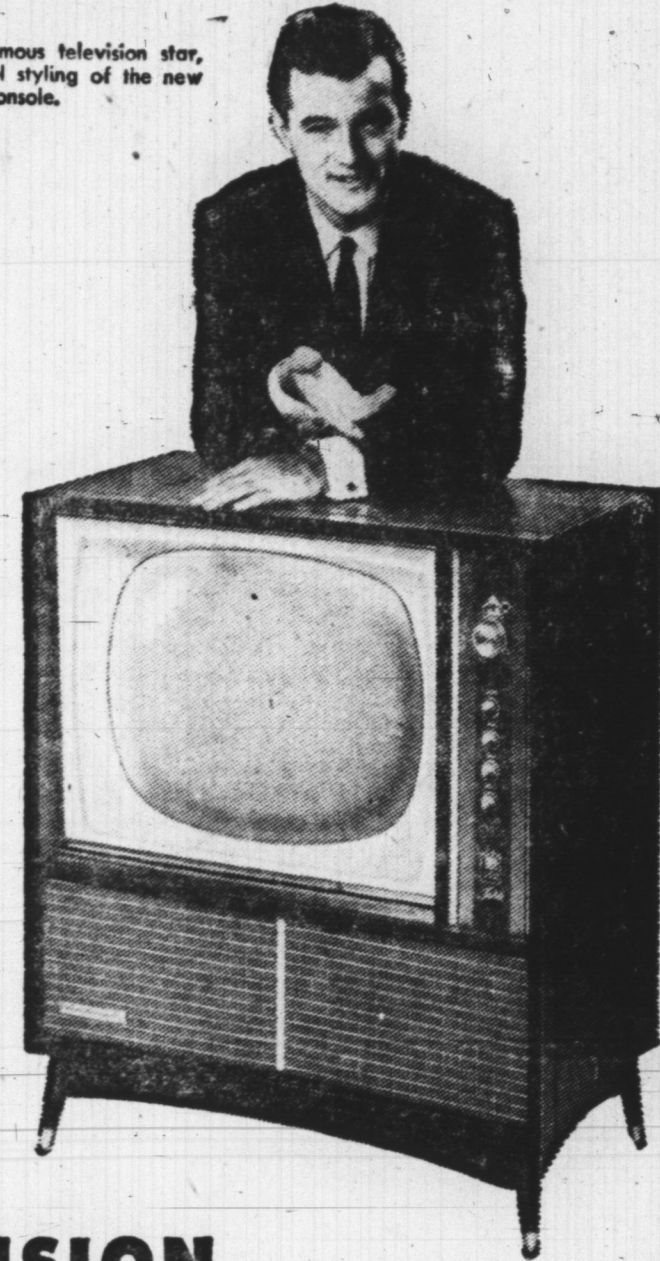
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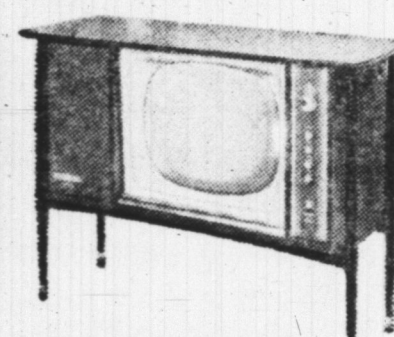
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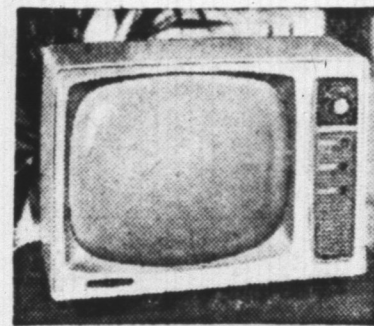
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