

Roblin Leadership Decision Expected To Be Made Shortly

WINNIPEG (CP) — Premier Duff Roblin will make known soon whether he is a challenger for the national Progressive Conservative leadership once his friend John Diefenbaker steps down.

Reliably reported to be tempted but as yet undecided under now-or-never party pressures to take aim nationally by contesting a Winnipeg seat in the Nov. 8 federal election, Mr. Roblin shielded himself Friday behind a barricade of no comments.

Gordon Churchill, a Diefenbaker confidante and Conservative MP for Winnipeg South

Centre in the last Parliament, confirmed that the 48-year-old Manitoba premier is seriously considering a switch to the federal field.

At dissolution, Conservative parliamentary strength was 92, 45 SIGNED.

And, Mr. Churchill said, a telegram was delivered to Mr. Roblin Thursday night with the signatures of 45 Conservatives who sat in the last house.

It said, according to Mr. Churchill: "Your country and your party need you now—repeat now."

Federal Conservatives want Mr. Roblin, Manitoba premier

since 1958, to contest the Winnipeg South riding held in the last Parliament by Mrs. Margaret Konantz, a Liberal. She will be seeking re-election.

The Conservative nominating meeting is scheduled for next Thursday night with two candidates already in the running: TV commentator Bud Sherrman and Winnipeg Alderman Leonard Claydon.

Observers said either, or both, might bow out quickly if Mr. Roblin announced his candidacy.

HELD IN HIGH REGARD
Mr. Diefenbaker's high regard for the Manitoba leader has

been well known for a number of years.

During a platform appearance with Mr. Roblin during the 1963 election campaign, he expressed hope that "you will take your place in the federal Parliament of Canada as one of Canada's great leaders."

The Tribune quotes leading Conservatives as saying the Opposition leader has promised Mr. Roblin a senior cabinet post if the party forms the next government.

It adds:

"They also said that a solid core of the party's most influential members will promote Roblin for leader if Mr. Diefenbaker loses the election and steps down."

The Conservative sources said Mr. Diefenbaker is certain to retire within six months if he is re-elected again by the voters.

SEES IMPORTANCE
The Tribune adds so much importance is attached to the premier's presence in the campaign that it is suggested this

to his last chance to go federal if he is interested in the Tory leadership.

"If he resists the pressure again, it will be taken as a definite sign that he regards his future as being in Manitoba."

Mr. Roblin was a hard man to find amid all the rumors and speculation. Reporters who did reach him got a firm no comment—and nothing more.

His normal Friday morning press conference was cancelled—on grounds that there was little news.

Mr. Roblin has sat in the Manitoba legislature since 1949 as the member for the Winnipeg constituency of Wolseley. Elected leader of the provincial Conservative party in 1954, he

formed a minority government after the 1958 election and was returned with commanding majorities in the elections of 1959 and 1962.

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HOW ABOUT THAT CAMPAIGN, GRANDPA?

Vicky War, 3, has some whispered advice for her grandfather during his visit to her home in West Hill, a Toronto suburb. The Diefenbakers left the campaign trail momentarily to squeeze in an hour's visit with their five grandchildren at the home of their son-in-law, schoolteacher Donald War.

(CP Wirephoto)

Greek Premier Takes Office

ATHENS (AP) — Stephanos Stephanopoulos has been sworn in as Greece's new premier by King Constantine, a spokesman for Stephanopoulos announced.

The spokesman said enough members of ex-premier George Papandreu's Centre Union Party have joined Stephanopoulos to help him get a parliamentary majority for a vote of confidence and end the country's two-month political crisis.

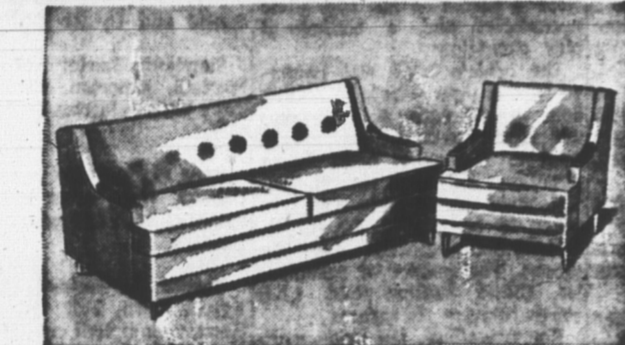
Progressive Conservative Nominating Convention Queens County

The Progressive Conservative nominating convention for Queens County will be held at the Community Centre on Monday, Sept. 20 at 8 o'clock p.m. Each poll is invited to send five delegates.

Queens County Progressive Conservative Association

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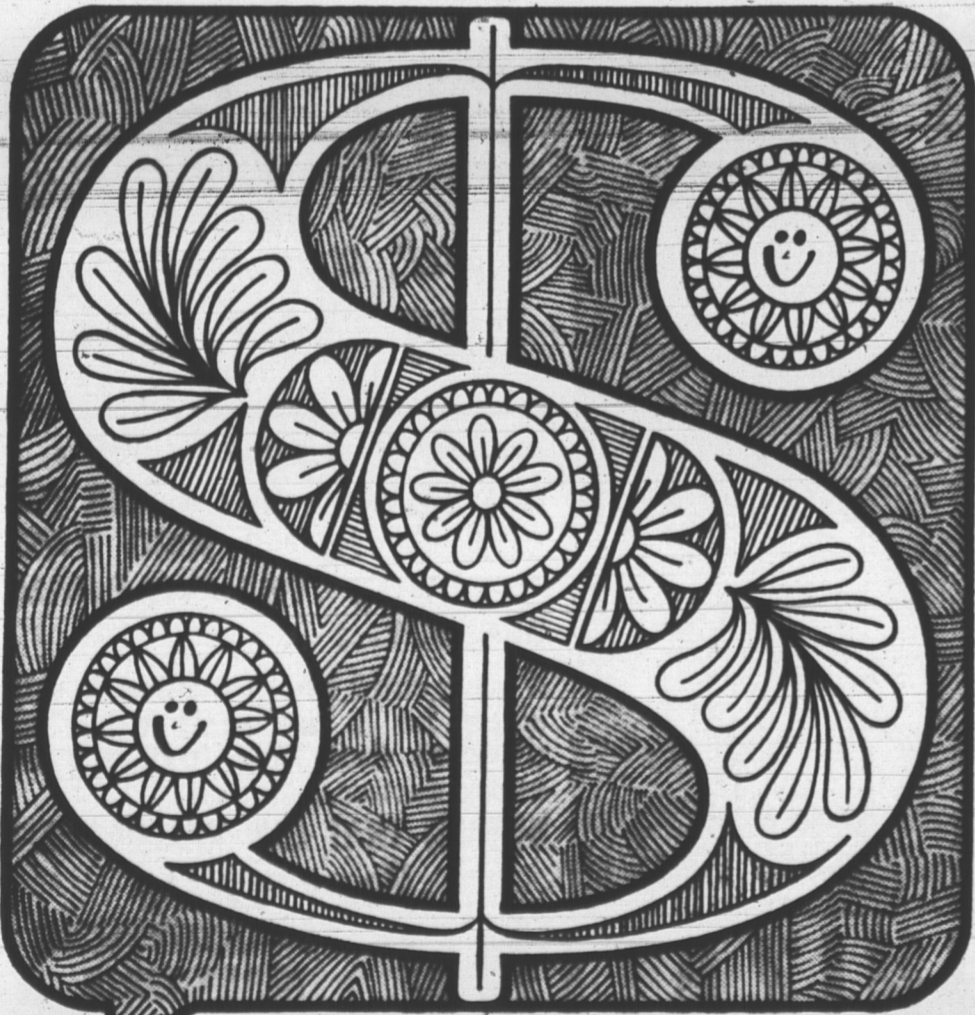
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2,000	174.01	8.00%	153.74	7.22%	143.66	6.51%	133.12	5.82%
3,000	261.01	8.00%	230.61	7.22%	215.48	6.51%	201.68	5.82%

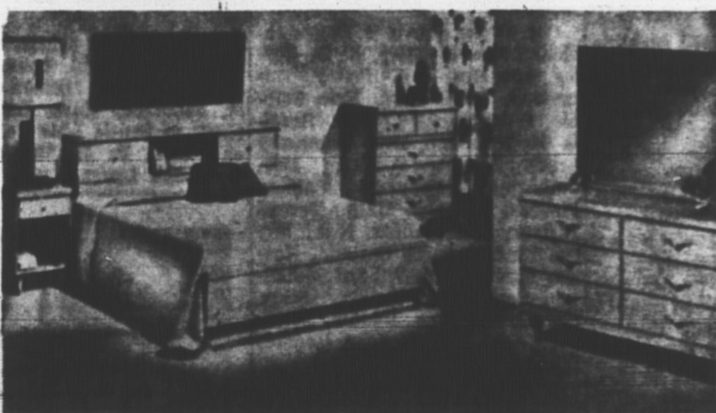
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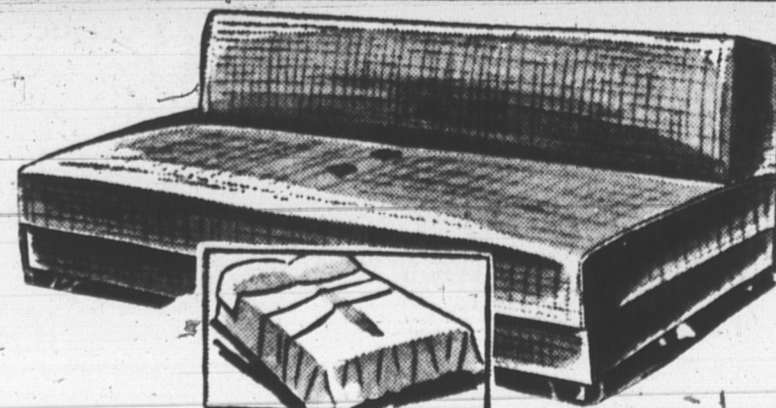
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