

Leading Political Events In Federal & Provincial Field

By ALAN DONNELLY
 CANADA Press Staff Writer
 OTTAWA (CP)—Canada's political scene was enlivened by three events in 1955. A CCF member bolted his party in the Commons, three provinces had elections which brought no change in their governments, and a federal-provincial conference was held which may do much to alter the complex relationships within Canada's federal union.

Ross Thatcher, economy-minded Saskatchewan hardware dealer produced probably the biggest political spark of the year on April 22.

The 38-year-old member for Moose Jaw-Lake Centre joined the Commons by leaving CCF ranks to sit as an Independent. He said he couldn't reconcile policy differences between himself and other party members.

It was the first open break by a Commons member with his party in more than a decade.

GOVERNMENTS RETURNED

Voters of three provinces decided to keep their existing governments, returning Liberals in Prince Edward Island, Progressive Conservatives in Ontario and Social Credit in Alberta.

The P.E.I. Ontario governments got slightly increased majorities in the new legislatures. That of the Alberta government was reduced as Social Credit marked its 20th anniversary in

power there—a mark reached also in 1955 by the Liberal government at Ottawa.

More far-reaching results, however, likely will flow from last October's meeting here of Prime Minister St. Laurent and provincial premiers.

From it came a federal suggestion by which provinces would return, after a long absence, to the direct tax fields of personal and corporation income and inheritance. It would replace the tax rental agreements existing with all provinces except Quebec. Under those the central administration has been—with the minor exception of direct taxes in nine provinces.

Follow-up negotiations have continued. Present rental agreements don't expire until March 31, 1957.

ESSENCE OF PLAN

The federal proposal, in essence, involves sharing with provinces on set rates the fields of personal and corporation income tax and succession duty where provinces accept the formula, preventing extra tolls on taxpayers.

Extra federal payments would average out provincial government incomes, proportionate to population, to the level of Ontario and British Columbia. An additional proviso would ensure against any province getting less than under the tax rental pact.

Another sharing apart from fiscal effects, may be closer relations between the central government and Quebec, which has held aloof from tax pacts and other agreements with Ottawa. Premier Duplessis recently spoke of a policy of co-operation and a desire to extend the "bridge of co-operation" so long as Quebec's tax rights are left intact.

There were two surprises among the seven federal-by-elections held this year.

Progressive Conservatives scored upset wins in wrestling from the Liberals Toronto Spadina, on Oct. 24, and New Brunswick's Restigouche-Madawaska on Sept. 26. Liberals had held the Toronto riding 25 years and the New Brunswick one 22.

On June 20 a Social Credit candidate retained Battle River-Camrose in Alberta for his party.

QUEBEC BY-ELECTIONS

Liberals retained three Quebec constituencies, Sept. 26—Témiscouata, Quebec South and Bellechasse—the last two with majorities sharply cut by Conservatives.

In the last by-election of the year, Dec. 19, the Liberals again were successful in St. Jean-Berville-Napierville, a Quebec constituency.

The seven by-elections left Commons party standings: Liberal 170; Progressive Conservative 53; CCF 23; Social Credit 15; Independent 4; total 265.

Thirteen Senate appointments were announced by Mr. St. Laurent July 28—the first since November, 1953—and they left the party make-up of the Upper Chamber in doubt. Eight of the newcomers have close Liberal ties and one is a staunch Conservative. But the political leanings of the other four are in doubt, at least publicly.

Mr. St. Laurent has said all appointments are "perfectly independent" and under no obligation to his government.

As the Jan. 10 opening of the next parliamentary session approached, Senate membership comprised 71 Liberals, seven Progressive Conservatives, the 13 new appointees and 11 vacancies.

OPPOSITION ACTIVE

The last half of 1955 brought an upsurge of federal political activity unusual for a non-election year. Leaders of all three opposition parties in the Commons made extensive speech-making tours un-matched since the 1953 election.

Conservative leader Dufferin-Pelton was the first to cross the country in two months speaking to public meetings and groups of party workers. CCF leader Coldwell spoke mainly at public meetings—almost 70 of them chiefly in small centres. Social Credit leader Low concentrated on the Prairies and Ontario.

Mr. St. Laurent and his cabinet members didn't match this burst of public travelling and speaking.

While the prime minister could call an election any time before the summer of 1956, when the five-year life of the present Parliament expires, it is generally believed the next election will be in 1957.

Illness and injury hit hard in cabinet ranks in 1955.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL DIES

Postmaster-General Cote died Aug. 7 after a long illness which followed a heart attack in February. Veterans Affairs Minister Lapointe was named Nov. 3 to succeed him while continuing to hold his veterans portfolio.

Mr. St. Laurent broke a bone in his ankle on a northern Quebec fishing trip Aug. 19. He was back at work by the end of the month but wore a cast for some weeks later.

Fisheries Minister Sinclair, touring Russia, fractured his back in a fall at Petropavlovsk on the Soviet Pacific coast and then contracted jaundice on a painful trip to Communist China. Mines Minister Prud'homme became ill during the summer. After convalescing for two months he had his appendix removed in November.

Opposition leader Drew made a successful recovery from a 1954 attack of meningitis and returned to the Commons Feb. 17.

Solon Low, 55-year-old national leader of the Social Credit party, was taken to hospital in Calgary after suffering a heart attack Nov. 29. Doctors, satisfied with his condition, said Mr. Low needed a rest of several weeks.

PARTY DISPUTES

During the year, too, there were reports of unrest and disagreement within parties.

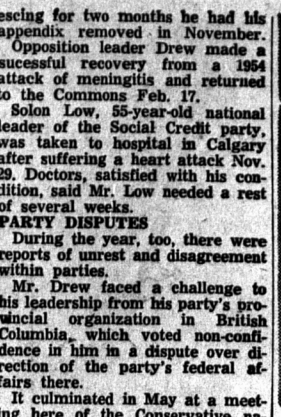
Mr. Drew faced a challenge to his leadership from his party's provincial organization in British Columbia, which voted non-confidence in him in a dispute over direction of the party's federal affairs there.

It culminated in May at a meeting here of the Conservative national executive, Deane Finlayson, leader of the B.C. association, was censured by the executive and ousted from its closed meetings.

Later in the year the provincial body sought to end the dispute by requesting a meeting with federal party representatives to iron out differences.

Disagreements within the CCF churned up briefly when top party members in Quebec took offence at speeches by a few federal members of the party concerning Roman Catholic schools, Quebec tax rights and use of the French language. The speech was followed by an expression of regret by the CCF national executive and the incident was considered closed.

Later, the CCF Quebec branch changed its name to the Social Democratic Party of Quebec (Parti Social Démocratique du Québec). The reason given was that CCF-Co-operative Commonwealth Federation "couldn't be adequately translated into French. No change was involved in the Quebec branch's connection with the national CCF organization.

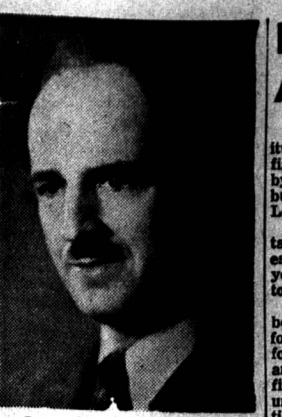


CANADIAN CLUB
 MR. GRANT MACEWAN

The guest speaker at the January meeting of the Canadian Club of Prince Edward Island on January 18 is to be Mr. Grant MacEwan, B.S.A., M.Sc., M.L.A. in the Province of Alberta.

Mr. MacEwan was for a time, professor and director of the School of Agriculture and Home Economics at the University of Manitoba. In 1952 after a brief period as agricultural editor of the "Western Producer", he assumed his present position of Manager of the Canadian Beef Producers, Calgary.

Mr. MacEwan was elected to the Alberta Legislature in June, 1955. He is a writer of books, the latest being, "Between the Red and the Rockies" which is a story of the prairies. This will also be the subject of his talk at the Canadian Club meeting here.



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Record Expenditures Anticipated In Quebec

QUEBEC (CP)—Record expenditures of \$74,101,427 for the 1955-57 fiscal year were forecast Tuesday by Finance Minister Gagnon in budget estimates tabled in the Legislative Assembly.

At the same time Mr. Gagnon tabled additional supplementary amount to \$28,461,000 compared with \$26,006,000.

In what is generally expected to be an election year, Mr. Gagnon forecast increased expenditures for all but one department—trade and commerce. The government's five-year term does not expire until 1957 but Quebec administration has seldom served a full term before calling an election.

SUMMER ELECTION?

Most political observers believe the election will be called for next summer.

Mr. Gagnon estimated ordinary expenditure for the year beginning April 1 will amount to \$289,175,427 compared with \$255,099,660. Capital expenditures were estimated at \$56,465,000 compared with \$50,096,000. Public debt charges will amount to \$28,461,000 compared with \$26,006,000.

In a budget speech to be delivered sometime in February Mr. Gagnon will outline how he plans to raise the revenue to meet the record expenditures.

The estimates provide for increase expenditures for education, health, agriculture, colonization, roads and public works.

Expenditures for education were increased to \$57,381,867 from \$45,569,000 and for health to \$65,281,000 from \$60,012,000.

spending leave at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Cheverie of Souris. "Charlie" will be stationed in Winnipeg when he returns to duty on January 20.

Mr. Hubert Mallard of London, Ontario, is spending some time at his home in Souris.

Sincere sympathy is extended to the relatives of the late Elizabeth Brennan who passed away recently at her home in Malden, Mass.

Mr. Grant Cheverie and Betty Cheverie, accompanied by a friend, Leonard Osborne, have returned to their homes in Saint John, New Brunswick, after spending some time visiting relatives and friends in Souris.

BARGAINS for the LADIES!

- RACK (2nd floor) WOMEN'S PUMPS \$2.99
- RACK (2nd floor) STRAPS & OXFORDS \$4.99
- CHILD'S AND MISSES' OXFORDS—All Sizes 8-4 \$3.29
- MAIN FLOOR —
- SPECIALS ON NYLON OVERSHOES and CHILDREN'S OVERSHOES
- SILVER SANDALS ONLY \$3.99
- TEEN-AGERS LOAFERS and STRAPS
- BOYS' SHOES \$3.99 — SLIPPERS 1/3 OFF

LePage's January Sale

Protestant Orphanage Contributions

- Kelvin Grove, Collectors Mrs. Frank Baglote and Mrs. Robert Hogg. \$2.00 each; Samuel Waugh, Harold Laird, Robert Hogg. \$1.00 each; Sterling Miller, Frank Glover, Morris Smith, Erskine MacMurdo. Mrs. Percy MacMurdo. Mrs. James Stewart, Ralph Moore, Morris Casley, Leaman Casley, Frank Baglote. .50 cents each; Douglas Webster, Arnold Walker, Eric MacMurdo, Vernon Miller, Mrs. Lorne Cronier, Mrs. Horace Paynter, John Picketts, Crawford Picketts, Scott Clark. Total, \$20.50.
- Springfield, Collectors Lena MacKay and Carolyn Seaman. \$1.00 each; Mrs. William Haslam, Mrs. Gert Loo, Mrs. Basil Haslam, Mrs. Samuel Gillespie (Sr.), Mrs. Clair Haslam, Mrs. Robert Howard, Mrs. Cedric Seaman, Mrs. Nelson Matheson, Mrs. Sutherland MacKay, Mrs. John Hicks, Mrs. Roland Matheson, Mrs. Reginald Haslam. 50c/Edison Jewell. .50 cents each; Mrs. Claude Barrett, Mrs. Samuel Gillespie (Jr.), William Constable, Miss Ada MacKay, Mrs. Herbert Profit. Total, \$17.10. Collected by Mrs. Clarence Haslam. \$1.00 each; Mrs. Keith Mayne, Mrs. Allison Mayne, Mrs. Morris Sinclair, Mrs. Crawford Sinclair, Mrs. Clarence Haslam. 50 cents each; Mrs. Leth Paynter. Total, \$5.50. Grand Total, \$22.60.
- Grandview, Collectors Mrs. Margaret Gillis and Ruth MacLean. \$1.00 each; Mrs. Alex A. MacPhee, Mrs. Everett MacPhee, Mrs. Nell MacBeth, Mrs. Margaret Gillis, D. R. Gillis Elizabeth Gillis, Mrs. L. D. MacPherson, Mrs. J. A. MacLean, Alex F. MacPhee, Mrs. E. MacPherson, Bruce MacLeod, Mrs. Arthur MacPherson. 50 cents each; Mrs. Lloyd MacPherson, Harold Behm, Mrs. Malcolm MacLeod. 25 cents; Miss Gertie Moore. Total, \$13.75.
- North Carleton, Collector Mrs. Roy Townshend. \$2.00; Mrs. Blanche Harper. \$1.00 each; Mrs. Reginald MacFarlane, Mrs. Norman MacFarlane, Mrs. Hudson Lowther, Mrs. Allison Harper, Mrs. Stephen Huestis. 60 cents; Mrs. George Parker. 50 cents each; Mrs. Roy Townshend, Mrs. Wilbur Wright. Total, \$8.60.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of my friend Bobby Mann who departed this life January 12th, 1954. I often shed a silent tear, Always wishing that you were here, You are happy, this I know, But you were my friend, and I miss you so. Always remembered by Buster.

In loving memory of my darling sister Rubina Kathleen Mobbs who departed this life January 4, 1954. Call not back the dear departed, Acheoned safe where storms are o'er, On the border land we left them soon to meet to part no more, When we leave this World of changes when we leave this world of care, We shall find our darling loved ones In our Father's Mansion fair, Lovingly remembered and sadly missed by her sister, Lela Alice Youland.

CARDS OF THANKS

The family of Mrs. William Waddell wish to thank all those who sent cards, telegrams, gifts, fruit and treats, also all who visited her and in anyway helped to make her one hundredth birthday a happy one. Wilbur Waddell

I wish to thank all the boxholders on my route for all their lovely gifts, treats, and money I received at Christmas time. Wishing you all the best of everything in the new year. I thank you, Wyman Waddell Albany R.R. 1

MIND ELSEWHERE

LONDON (CP)—A Richmond district motorist fined £1 for careless driving explained he had just bought an engagement ring and "felt a little pizillated."

City and Central Guardian

- WEEK OF PRAYER** Service to-night 8 p.m. Zion Church, Rev. G. Howard Christie. Welcome.
- WATCH PAPER** for date of Fire Sale. Storey Electric.
- "CRASWELL** for better photographs".
- JUST ARRIVED!** New reversible and tweed skirts. Kennedy's Ladies' Wear.
- MEMBERS** of Miss Jackson's Physical Fitness Class! Classes will commence Wednesday, February 1.
- LONG PLAY** Varsity Records. All your favorites in Classics with a sprinkling of popular for only 99 cents. This comprises only a small part of the best selection of records that we have ever offered. Miller Brothers Ltd., 147 Great George St.
- 1-3 OFF** all coats and dresses Kennedy's Ladies' Wear.
- WE NOW** do fumigation. Reliable Window Cleaners. Phone 8054.
- BURNS' ANNIVERSARY** Concert, January 25-26. Prince of Wales Auditorium.
- WE TREAT THE SICK WELL.** Giggy's Pharmacy, open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- ISLAND GRILL.** Queen Street, Dial 3228. Serving full course dinners. Specializing Chinese dishes.
- A CAPACITY** audience for "My Chérie Angola". Queen Charlotte Auditorium, Tuesday, Jan. 17 at 8:15. This play is open to the public. Admission, adults 75c, children 35c. Memberships honored.

Complimentary Dinner

Tendered by the
 Prince Edward Island Liberal Association
 In honor of
HON. WALTER HARRIS
 Minister of Finance



MONDAY, JANUARY 23rd, 1956
 Reception—5:30 to 6:30 P.M.
 DINNER—6:30 P.M. Sharp
 At the Charlottetown Hotel

Tickets—\$2.00 each for Ladies and Gentlemen may be obtained from the Provincial President or the Secretary, or the members of the Executive or Fifth Queens Liberal Association.

BENJAMIN ROGERS—President
FREDERIC A. LARGE—Secretary

A TITANIC NEW WINTER STOCK LAID ON THE BARGAIN BLOCK

- New shipment of Men's SUBURBAN COATS, including Tweeds and Fleeces. Values to 29.50. SALE**
12.95 to 18.95
 Also Boys' SUBURBAN COATS All Sale Priced
- New shipment Men's SUITS, all wool yarn dyed worsteds & nylon blends, etc. Values to 59.50. SALE—**
24.50 and 29.50
- Men's all wool Tweed TOP-COATS. Heavy quilted zip-in lining, including gabardines. Regular 34.50. SALE—**
18.95
- Men's Station Wagon COATS, quilted and sheepskin lined. Regular 29.50. SALE—**
16.95 and 19.50
- Men's SUITS to 39.50—SALE PRICE**
12.95 & 19.50
- Men's Dress and Wool GLOVES to 2.95**
Sale 1.00
- Men's Zipper Jersey Cloth O'SHOES Regular 5.95.**
3.99
- Men's Dress SHIRTS to 4.95.**
Sale 1.49
- Boys' JACKETS & BREECHES to 5.95**
Sale 2.00
- Boys' PYJAMAS. Reg. 2.95.**
Sale 1.99
- Men's Wool and Silk SCARF to 2.95.**
Sale 1.00
- Ladies' COATS in fitted & box styles, including deep pile fabric and Station Wagons, values to 49.50. SALE—**
15.00
- Group of Ladies' COATS in finest Elysians. Sizes 8 to 26 1/2. Regular 69.50. SALE—**
39.50 and 49.50
- Girls' COAT SETS. Sizes 2 to 6x. Values to 22.50. SALE—**
12.95 and 14.95
- Ladies' DRESSES in Taffeta-Crene, etc. Values to 8.95. Sale**
3.00 and 5.00
- Rack of Ladies' SKIRTS in wool plaids or plain materials. Regular 6.95. SALE—**
3.95
- One Rack Girls' DRESSES & BLOUSES regular to 2.95. EXTRA SPECIAL—**
1.00
- SNOW PANTS. Nylon gabardine or Frieze Cloth, 3-14. SALE**
1.95 & 2.95
- Ladies' HOUSECOATS in Corduroy or Silk Bengaline. Values to 10.95.**
Sale 4.00
- Ladies' BLOUSES, including plaid flannel, long sleeves. Reg. 3.95. SALE**
1.49 & 2.49

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Silver Seal MOLASSES, qt. . . . 29c
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Lunch Tongue, tin 55c
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WAX BEANS, 2 tins 29c
 Bright's Choice
PEACHES, 2 tins 45c
 Sunlight
SOAP, 4 bars 45c
 Kraft—8 Oz.
CHEESE WHIZ, jar 36c
 Fluffo
SHORTENING, 2 lbs. 59c
 Pictou
PEAS, 2 tins 35c
 Shinola
FLOOR WAX, tin 39c

MAPLE LEAF "A" LARGE EGGS, doz. 49c

FRUIT & PRODUCE
 Large Juicy Florida
ORANGES, 2 doz. 59c
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GRAPEFRUIT, 6 for 45c
 Large Red MacIntosh
APPLES, doz. 35c
 Large No. 1 Table
ONIONS, 3 lbs. 23c

Brilliant Yellow SUGAR, 5 lbs. 43c
 Colgate's Regular 33c Tube
TOOTH PASTE, 2 for . . . 49c
 Choice Grade "A" Young and Tender
CAPONS, lb. 49c
 Freshly Ground
HAMBURG, lb. 31c
 Tasty Rib
CORNED BEEF, lb. 29c
 Half—2 to 3 Lbs.
COTTAGE ROLLS, lb. 59c
 Peameal
BACK BACON, lb. 57c
 Pre-Cooked (Heat and Serve)
FISH STICKS, pkg. 39c
 Choice Grade "A"
FOWL, lb. 39c
 Tender Loin
ROAST OF PORK, lb. . . . 45c
 Fresh Loin
PORK CHOPS, lb. 49c

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