

Marriages Show Increase

OTTAWA (CP)—There were fewer births and deaths but more marriages in Canada in July this year than there were last year, the bureau of statistics reported here.

Births numbered 35,335, marriages 17,291 and deaths 11,633, according to registrations at provincial offices. Figures for July last year were 30,598 births, 16,375 marriages and 11,673 deaths.

Totals for the first seven months of the year were 249,650 births, 89,738 marriages and 85,602 deaths this year, compared with 270,499 births, 68,570 marriages and 86,910 deaths in the first seven months of last year.

SWEDISH MADE FIRST BILL
A Swedish banker, John Palmstruch, issued Europe's first paper money in Riga, Estonia, in 1661.

W. Germany To Direct 'Frank Words' At Can.

FRIEDRICHSHAFEN, West Germany (Reuters)—Chancellor Ludwig Erhard said here the West German government intends to address "frank words" to Canada and Britain in an effort to clarify differences over Western security.

Erhard said that, on his instructions, Foreign Minister Gerhard Schröder has been in contact with the Canadian and British governments in an attempt to clarify important questions.

"We want no atomic weapons, but we want a guarantee for our security," he said.

Erhard's statement, made to the news agency Deutsche Presse-Agentur, followed recent concern by Bonn leaders over Britain's announced intention to remove Corporal nuclear missiles from its Army of the Rhine.

Alarm also has been expressed over a Canadian proposal at the Geneva disarmament conference that the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union should hold discussions to ally Soviet suspicions of the proposed NATO nuclear force.

Erhard, on a campaign tour for the Sept. 19 general election said his government regards itself as responsible for the security of the German people, who are part of a firmly established Atlantic community.

SEEK CLARIFICATION
The government would therefore have frank words to address to Canada and Britain because it believes that "in this important sphere, important questions must be clarified."

An internal squabble between Erhard and former chancellor Konrad Adenauer in the ruling Christian Democrat party continued to be the dominant issue as the election campaign reached its halfway mark.

Erhard, facing a two-pronged attack from the 89-year-old Adenauer, appeared to have yielded some ground with his statement that the government would have to address frank words to Canada and Britain to clarify differences over defence strategy.

Already Adenauer, still party chairman, appears to have forced Erhard to move closer to his views on suspected dangers in British, Canadian and also American moves in the disarmament and defence fields.

Erhard has not responded to the other prong of the attack—Adenauer's thinly veiled advocacy of a post-election coalition with the Social Democrats.

Our War Aim Is Peace Says Rusk

WASHINGTON (AP)—U.S. State Secretary Dean Rusk said "our war aim is peace" in Viet Nam and Washington is looking for a key signal that the Communists want peace too.

"Thus far my own antennae have not picked up the key signal, but the antennae are very much alert," Rusk said.

The state secretary spoke at a press conference amid a flurry of reports and rumors about efforts by third parties to bring about peace talks on Viet Nam.

Rusk said he welcomes the third-party efforts because "we are interested in what anyone develops in that direction" even though nothing seems to have come of them yet.

He said there has been no response from the Communists yet that clearly indicates a desire on their part for peace negotiations.

Basically, he said, the essential difference between the two sides remains this:

"The other side appears to be determined to take over South Viet Nam by force and control its future, and we are determined not to let that happen."

Solution Found For Cell Water On Space Trips

HOUSTON, Tex. (AP)—Astronauts on future U.S. space flights will have a simple way of taking care of the excess fuel-cell water which was a major problem on Gemini 5. They will drink it.

The water produced by Gemini 5's fuel cell threatened to "drown out" the eight-day mission. It caused the astronaut to fly most of the time powered-down because the more electricity that is used from the cell, the more water it produces. Excessive production, if not drained off, can ruin the fuel cell.

Original plans called for Gemini 5 space twins, L. Gordon Cooper Jr. and Charles Conrad Jr., to drink the water, but pre-launch tests showed that the liquid produced by the fuel cell was not drinkable.

Engineers at the Manned Spacecraft Centre are developing a filter system that will purify the water, making it potable.

William Dusenberry and Roland Rice, space centre fuel cell experts, said the new system would be ready for use on Gemini 7, a 14-day flight expected late this year.

Whatzits From 200 BC Unearthed

GALIANO ISLAND, B.C. (CP)—Some "whatzits" and a few "microblades" dating as far back as 200 BC have been unearthed by archeologists on this tiny island off the southern coast of British Columbia.

Donald Mitchell, field director of the expedition financed by the B.C. Archeological Sites Advisory Board and the University of Victoria, says human bones have also been found.

So far, it appears the bones, uncovered in burial plots, are not nearly as old as the objects, he says.

He describes "whatzits" as well-polished stone artifacts of unknown use.

Microblades, produced only by highly skilled people, were probably detached from cylinders of quartz crystal or obsidian with the aid of an antler punch and a small hammer stone.

About 400 artifacts from the Indian site have been dug out so far.

Britain's Critical Situation Could Improve Soon—Wilson

LONDON (Reuters)—Prime Minister Wilson said here that Britain's critical balance-of-payments position might be improved upon sooner than expected.

The prime minister, looking fit and tanned on return to the British capital after a family vacation in the Scilly Isles, said that in the last month "some evidence has come in that the target we set ourselves for reducing the balance of payments this year looks like being improved upon."

Wilson said Britain could not succeed in bringing its balance of payments into line "if we picture into sharper focus."

CRITICIZES STRIKES
Wilson, who may be forced into a general election early next year because of the state of the British economy, criticized what he termed Britain's "self-inflicted wounds"—the recent rash of wildcat strikes in the auto industry, the worst to hit Britain in the last 20 years.

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He decided to invite union officials and employers in the auto industry to attend talks with him on their problems.

are going to have unofficial strike activity."

The leader of the ruling Labor party, who came to power last October with a narrow victory over the Conservatives, also faces other problems, among them rising unemployment, a revolt within his own party over immigration, and a critical by-election before Parliament reconvenes from summer recess Oct. 28.

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