



ORDEAL OVER FOR GRISSOM FAMILY

Mrs. Betty Grissom, wife of Virgil I. Grissom, pilot of the Gemini space flight, and the couple's two sons, Scott, 14, and Mark, 11, right, are a happy trio as they face the battery of newsmen at their home in Houston, Texas, after the flight was over. The family came out on their front lawn to meet the news media which swarmed in front of the house since before the start of the flight. (AP Wirephoto)

THE UNHAPPY WARRIOR

History Will Show His Effectiveness

By PETER C. NEWMAN

Lester Pearson has been Prime Minister of Canada for a hundred weeks.

Within the next month, he must decide whether to risk his record on a spring election in the hope of gaining a majority mandate.

Any assessment of these hectic two years of the Pearson stewardship is complicated by the fact that it's far too early to judge the effectiveness of his most significant legislative strides. Only the unfolding of history will show, for example, whether his dismantling of Ottawa's fiscal powers "saved" Confederation, or turned out to be too great a price to pay in terms of lost political and economic viability.

While such questions are as yet unanswerable, it's fair to suggest that Pearson's largest achievement has been his temporary taming of the hysteria of Quebec separatism unleashed just as he was taking office.

His assessment of the potentially explosive demands of French Canada must be judged a success, when compared with what might have happened had John Diefenbaker been re-elected in 1963. The Conservative leader has been unable to satisfy, or even comprehend, his own small band of followers from Quebec and the larger aspirations of the province appear to be completely alien to him.

Pearson's successes have also included the world of diplomacy: our relations with the U.S. and the U.K. have been redeemed from their angry disarray of the Diefenbaker years.

MAJOR COMMITMENTS
Although their parliamentary performance has included some embarrassing pitfalls, the Liberals' legislative record is astonishingly long—particularly for a minority government.

Some 26 of the 34 major commitments Pearson made to the electors of Canada during the 1963 campaign are now at some stage of implementation.

At the same time, the Pearson government has failed to live up to its billing as a team of supremely efficient administrators who could return to Diefenbaker stability to the management of the nation's business. The swarm of scandalous allegations that have been made against individual ministers and their assistants remain largely unresolved. Until the Prime Minister can clear the air—either by disproving the charges that have been made, or by divesting himself of the services of the Liberals involved—he can hardly justify his claim for majority support from the nation's voters.

What seems to be required is a drastic change in the way he judges his colleagues, because he believes that great movements in a nation's history hinge, not on day-to-day events, but on the nature of men's commitments. Pearson has tended to divide all politicians into two mutually exclusive groups: those who are intellectually honest and those who are not. He has automatically supported every action of the ministers he considers to be intellectually honest, particularly when they are attacked by Conservative opponents whose intellectual standards he distrusts.

NECKY SHUFFLE
Events of the past few months have made it obvious that Pearson will have to toughen up his criterion of ministerial selection. The real test of Lester Pearson's leadership will be the extent of his next-cabinet shuffle.

His own idea of how politics should be conducted in this country was outlined in a major speech to the Toronto and District Liberal Association, on March 14, 1964, when he pledged himself to a "new politics."

PEARSON SERIES APPEARS DAILY

This is one of a series of 10 articles on Prime Minister Pearson appearing daily in The Guardian and written by Ottawa correspondent Peter C. Newman who also wrote "Renaissance in Power on the Diefenbaker Administration."

Just as John Diefenbaker clearly represented the rural Canada of the first of these eras, Lester Pearson belongs to the second, international phase. The final measure of his success will be his ability to transcend his time and become identified in action as well as spirit with solving the many dilemmas of the contemporary, "dangerous era" of Canadian politics.

The achievement of such a breakthrough may require a change of emphasis in Pearson's approach to his office. The nation's history has shown the office of Prime Minister to be an immensely important command post with a large internal potential of decision-making which can alter the march of great decisions of the coming months, Pearson may have to become much bolder in exploiting his authority.

In the recent past, he had demonstrated an absence of personal intensity in the exercise of his power, as if to do so would somehow compromise his own regard for himself.

Only Lester Pearson can say whether he would rather be himself than a memorable Prime Minister of Canada. But the vast majority of his supporters and sympathizers see no reason why he can not be both.

This was the last of 10 articles in a series on Prime Minister Lester Pearson.

ed from World War II as the busy midwife of NATO and the cool supervisor of UN truces; and the dangerous era (starting in 1957) when Canada's middle-power role was devalued, the Quebec revolution shattered domestic tranquillity and our politics lost their long-vaunted stability.

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Commonwealth Is Described Largely Canadian Invention

By HAROLD MORRISON

LONDON (CP) — Canadian diplomat Arnold Smith maintains the Commonwealth is largely a Canadian invention, "developed for our national purposes" and shaped in part to make it more acceptable to the French-speaking element in Canada and other non-Anglo-Saxon persons in the 21-country partnership.

Smith, assistant deputy external affairs minister and a candidate to head the proposed new Commonwealth secretariat, also says he believes Canada in the future will provide more aid and diplomatic representation among French-speaking countries.

It is understandable, he told the Canadian Universities Society in Britain in a lecture, Monday night, that many Canadian French-speaking compatriots feel that the proportion of Canadian aid given to French-speaking countries is less than it "should" have been. "Considering the proportion of Canadians of French culture and the amount which they contribute to our economy."

"It is also reasonable that many of them feel that we have less than sufficient diplomatic missions in French-speaking countries."

"I hope and believe that both these complaints will be met as we develop our external relations."

The former ambassador to the Soviet Union, who said he once persuaded Nikita Khrushchev to stop trying to drive a wedge between Canada and the United States, emphasized that he was speaking as an individual and not as spokesman for the Canadian government.

Smith traced the evolutionary stages of the Commonwealth,

maintaining it began a century ago with the determination of Canadians to become independent of Britain but still maintain the benefits of co-operating with the mother country.

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