





# St. Laurent...

(Continued from last week)  
that an historical museum be established.

The government examined this matter and concluded that the scope and functions of the National Museum should be broadened in order to strengthen our national life. As a result, two Museums will be created in the near future. One will be called the "Canadian

Museum of Natural History". It will take over and expand research into the natural sciences and the natural science exhibitions of the existing Museum. The second one — to be called in English the "Canadian Museum of Human History" and in French, "Le Musée de l'Homme du Canada" — will portray the development, history and activities of man in the Canadian environment. This Museum will also embrace the National War Museum. Both new Museums will have a challenging role; it will be to portray the natural and human resources of the whole Canadian nation as it develops and moves forward. The public will be able to see these portrayals in central museums and by exhibits travelling across the country; in this way our people may get a better understanding of the factors which affect materially and spiritually the development of every sector of the nation.

The Royal Commission also recommended that annual grants be offered to support the work of the universities on the basis of the population of each of the provinces and, within each province, to each university in proportion to the student enrolment. These grants were provided by Parliament in 1951 and each year since on the basis of 50 cents per capita.

I have already explained why the federal government had the right to offer such assistance. I feel that it is not only its right but its duty to do so. It is now widely known that all Canadian universities are going through financial difficulties which prevent their adequate development. They need new accommodation and new facilities very badly, and university teachers are not adequately paid for their most valuable services. Moreover, our universities can rightly claim that they render essential services to the nation as a whole and to the Canadian government in particular. As the Massey Commission pointed out, the universities are now the re-



A renewed labour contract — providing for substantial increases in wage rates and other benefits — has just been signed in the Maisonneuve Room of Labatt's Brewery Limited at Ville LaSalle, Que. From left to right: K. D. McNamara, Plant Manager; R. Goedike, Representative of the International Union; G. J. Valiquette, Personnel Manager, and E. Gariepy, President, Local 313, Montreal, Quebec and International Union of United Brewery, Flour, Cereal, Soft Drink and Distillery Workers of America.

crucial grounds for a great number of positions in the federal civil service and in the commissioned ranks of the armed forces.

Rather than providing financial assistance to universities, the federal government could, as some people might suggest, set up its own colleges to train future public servants. Some other countries have done so, and we in Canada have several colleges which provide personnel for the commissioned ranks of the armed forces.

The setting up of colleges would undoubtedly cost the government, and therefore the Canadian taxpayers more money than would the provision of reasonable assistance to universities for their services. Moreover, that course would be undesirable for another more serious reason. If we want to preserve our democratic way of life, and if we want to prevent the public service from becoming a bureaucracy, it is essential that the public servant should be drawn from and well integrated into the

community in order that he may understand and appreciate its human problem in the light of his own experience. He should really feel that he is the same kind of a Canadian as those whose community affairs he is helping to manage. He would not be well fitted for that role if he were to be isolated from the community and from the other students of his generation during the period of his training.

I have visited some countries where the personnel of the government and of the civil service constitute a class regarded as somewhat above the hoi polloi of the general public. I think our brand of democratic institutions is better suited to our way of living and I hope that brand will continue to be preferred to any ivory tower set up.

And I wish to add that I have no intention of posing as a benefactor of our universities and other cultural organizations. I happen to be the head of a government that does not manufacture the money it spends. It digs down in the pockets of all Canadian taxpayers to get it, and we of the government are merely trustees on behalf of all those Canadian taxpayers. The proposals I am putting forward, I look upon as a good sound investment of the taxpayers' money and so do my colleagues.

My colleagues and I feel that the annual federal grants to universities should be continued and increased and we are prepared to recommend to Parliament at the next regular session that they be doubled.

As you know, according to the present formula, these grants are distributed by the Federal government directly to individual universities recognized as such by the Provincial governments. In the province of Quebec, the authorities saw fit to allow this aid to be accepted for the first year only, because they feared that this was a

first step towards encroachment on the exclusive jurisdiction of provincial legislatures in the field of education. It was also feared in certain circles that the Federal government might interfere with the freedom of universities. That was certainly not our intention nor do I think it could happen.

In order to dissipate these fears and to make it abundantly clear that we do not intend to tamper with the freedom of any individual institution, we are proposing to hand over the monies voted by Parliament each year for that purpose to the National Conference of Canadian Universities which would divide it up and distribute it. In this way, the Federal government would have no contact with any individual institution. We think that this system will prove a sufficient guarantee for all our universities which should be completely free from any kind of interference. If the N.C.U. decides to assume this new responsibility, we will ask for authority to enter into an agreement with the Conference in order to carry out this arrangement.

We propose to hand over the money to the N.C.C.U. to be allocated as if all eligible institutions were to accept their share of the total amount. If any one of them should feel that it cannot accept this assistance for the time being, we would propose to provide in our agreement with the N.C.C.U. that the money allocated to that institution be held in trust for it until it sees fit to ask for it. In this way, no institution would be penalized in the future for a previous refusal of the grants, and there would be no unjust discrimination against any group of taxpayers in Canada in this respect.

You will also recall that the Massey Commission made a very important recommendation with regard to the establishment of a Canada Council for the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. According to that recommendation, the functions of the Council would be to stimulate and to help voluntary organizations in the fields of the arts, the humanities and the social sciences, to devise and administer a system of scholarships in these fields, to foster Canada's cultural relations abroad and to form the functions of a national commission for UNESCO.

My colleagues and I have considered this proposal very carefully — some of our critics would even say that we have studied it for too long — and we are now prepared to recommend the creation of the Canada Council to Parliament at its next regular session.

We want this Council to be as independent as possible from the government. We are in favour of government support for the arts, the humanities and the social sciences but without government control. Moreover, we expect that, if the Council is constituted as an independent body, private individuals and industries will be disposed to make contributions to the financing of its activities because they also have responsibilities in this field. In order to achieve this objective, we will ask Parliament to approve an endowment of \$50 million for the Council in order to enable it to finance its activities from the annual income to be derived from the investment of that capital.

We would also propose to add another function to those envisaged by the Massey Commission for the Council. It would consist of making capital grants to universities in Canada equal to 50 per cent of the cost of specific building or capital equipment projects, with appropriate regard to the popula-

tion of each province. For that purpose, we would recommend another appropriation of \$50 million to be given to the Council and to be thus distributed by it over a period of ten years. According to reliable forecasts, it is estimated that our universities will have to devote more than \$850 million to capital expenditures during the next ten years and we feel that it is our duty to assist universities to meet this urgent need and to encourage others who may be also dependent on the services of university graduates to do likewise.

We hope that this contribution of \$100 million to the Canada Council, the increase in the annual grants to universities and the continuation of our other programmes in the cultural fields will be viewed as a substantial recognition by the Canadian government of the great contributions that our universities, our humanists, our scientists and our artists are making to the proper development of our great country. We do not consider for a moment that our assistance should be looked upon as the true measure of the value of all the immense services which are being provided through the universities or of the extent of their pressing needs. We are confident that all provincial governments will continue to increase the important contributions they are already making in these fields. We know also that individuals and private industry are well aware of the crucial problems that Canada has to face at this stage of our cultural development. Through the N.C.C.U. and the Canada Council, adequate channels will now be provided to make assistance available and through them we hope many others will find it convenient to do their share.

I have already spoken at considerable length, but before an audience such as this, if I were to sit down without some sort of peroration, you might feel I had entirely forgotten what I was taught in college about the proper structure of short speeches.

So I drafter a short peroration and I feel I should inflict that too upon you. Here it is.

My colleagues and I are convinced that these proposals will contribute to the filling of a gap in our national way of life and will help to solve "Canada's crisis in higher education".

I have already indicated that in our view our cultural progress has lagged behind our industrial development. We are not, however, the only country to suffer from that imbalance. The French philosopher Henri Bergson, in 1932, noted the same disequilibrium throughout the whole world and I think some lines of his analysis are worth quoting:

"In ending us with an intelligence that is fundamentally inventive, Nature has really prepared us for an extension of our capacities. But machines run by oil, coal and electricity, converting into motion potential energy accumulated over millions of years, have given to our area an extension so vast and a power so formidable, so disproportionate to its size and strength, that surely nothing of this kind had been provided for in the structure of our species. . . . Now, in this body that has grown out of proportion, the soul remains what it was, too small now to fill the body, too feeble to control it. Hence the gap between them; hence the formidable problems in the social, political and international spheres, problems which are many manifestations of that gap and which give rise today to so many disorganized and ineffectual efforts at solutions. . . . the overgrown body awaits an extension of the soul."

I think you will agree that indeed, the world today needs abundant sources of intellectual and moral energies. Canada wants to be one of those sources, and it has already begun to be one of those sources in several international organizations. With that purpose in mind, we must further develop and enrich our own national soul; we must achieve in our country that broader outlook and that deeper insight into the things of the mind which will enable us better to deal with the problems of the present. And that requires us to take into account the experiences — yes even the mistakes — of past generations since the beginning of man's social development. We must acquire a better appreciation of

the dazzling possibilities for future generations when the practice of the fundamental principle of good human relations, "love thy neighbor as thyself" will be regarded not only as a command to be obeyed but rather as a privilege to be enjoyed and to be treasured beyond the importance attached to the possession and control of mere mate-

rial things, however useful those things may be to satisfy the needs of the material side of our human nature. If we diligently seek the development of the nobler side of our human nature, may we not hope, like he who really seeks the kingdom of his Sovereign Lord and His Justice, that all those material things shall be added unto us.

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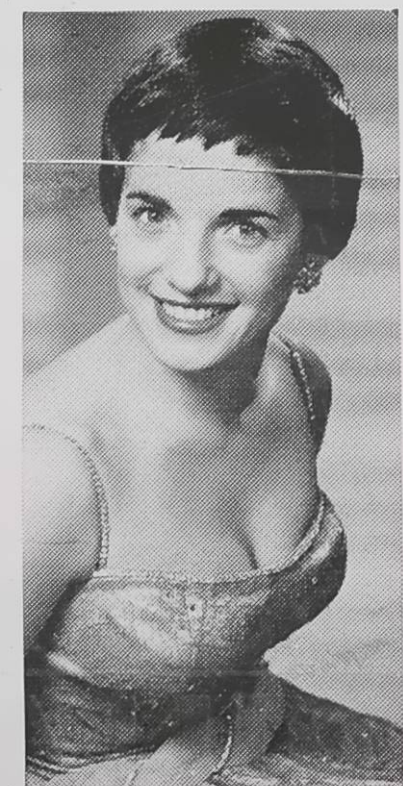
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