

Minority Government History May Repeat With Fall Election

By KEN KELLY
OTTAWA (CP)—The history of the previous minority Parliament may be repeating itself now in at least two significant ways. The result could be a general election this fall—the third in as many years.

The two circumstances that mark this Parliament as similar to the last one are these: A major national issue has developed. The government needs temporary spending authority to pay its bills for July. In the last Parliament, the major issue was acquisition of nuclear arms. It came to a head in January and February of 1963, and ultimately led to defeat in the Commons for the minority Progressive Conservative government.

But, if nuclear arms hadn't

been a complicating factor in bringing about an election, the minority government's need for interim spending authority would have. Many Liberals in opposition during the period made no secret of their intention to block interim supply, thus paralyzing government and forcing an election.

Only the issue and the main contending parties are different in this Parliament. The Liberals are the minority government this time. They have brought before Parliament a proposed Canadian flag. It has become a major parliamentary issue and, it appears, a major issue among Canadians generally.

By about July 13, the government is going to need parliamentary authority to pay its bills for the month of July.

These circum stances are made to order for any party, or even just a score of Members of Parliament, to force an election. Many MPs from all parties feel Opposition Leader Diefenbaker may try to use them to that end.

Recognition of the possibility of forcing an election has been a key factor in efforts of New Democrats to win support for a flag design different from that proposed by the government.

They also hope Liberals who see the election possibilities will not want an election will give the nod to Mr. Pearson to back the one-leaf design.

EXPECT MOST VOTES
They expect it to get most of the votes from the other two parties in the Commons—Social Credit and Creditives.

Thus the NDP is holding out the one-leaf design as a way to take the heat of the flag issue. Whether they succeed in diverting Parliament from a course which could lead to another election may depend on the other parties.

If it calms the tensions of the flag issue and brings overwhelming pressure inside and outside Parliament against an election, the tactical problems of the government in the next four weeks probably will be solved.

The flag debate is scheduled to run continuously, except for an interruption later this week to get parliamentary approval for a constitutional amendment involved in the proposed Canada Pension Plan.

Eighteen debating days—Barling a government move for

extra sessions—reports remain until July 13, roughly by the deadline, give or take a day, for approval of interim supply to pay July bills.

Thus a determined group, by debating at length either the flag or interim supply, could snare the government over the cliff into an election.

CYCLONE KILLS 10
NEW DELHI (AP)—Reports reaching New Delhi Sunday said a cyclone ripped in off the Gulf of Cambay near Jafarabad on India's southwest coast last Thursday, killing at least 10 persons and destroying many homes.

FM Station Bid Is Made
OTTAWA (CP)—A bid for a new frequency modulation radio station at Saint John, N.B., went before the Board of Broadcast Governors.

Fundy Broadcasting Company Limited, which operates radio station CFBC, said the proposed FM station would have stereophonic transmissions from its inauguration. Nearly all its programming would be separate from that of CFBC.

The board will announce its recommendation later.

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