

Pearson Sees Rhodesia Key To Commonwealth

MONTREAL (CP) — Prime Minister Pearson said here the Commonwealth will stand or fall on the solution of the Rhodesian problem.

A persisting division on racial lines within the Commonwealth would present "grave difficulties" in the way of remaining any kind of association.

Speaking to the Commonwealth Day dinner of the Royal Commonwealth Society, Mr. Pearson said the old imperial heritage is no longer strong enough to hold nations together. The white supremacist regime of Ian Smith in Rhodesia had broken an evolution of African colonies based on the rule of the majority.

"The African majority now is asking whether the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries will allow the illegal white regime to get away with it."

"If there is not an answer to satisfy all members the association is not likely to remain a multi-racial Commonwealth."

He said it would be "a great mistake" to use force for the compulsory sanctions being considered at the United Nations to bring down the Smith regime. He urged "a little more patience" in continuing existing voluntary sanctions.

"A lasting and good solution is worth waiting for."



The People's Premier

"One of the rare men in public life . . . Walter Shaw.

"No one in Prince Edward Island knows the province so well, nor does anyone else know so many of its people—men, women and children. He can call upon experience spanning many years. His knowledge of our changing patterns of life is unique. He has seen it happen. He is part of all that he has met.

"Yet this man . . . a most senior legislator . . . a most experienced man—is ever alert, ever progressive. Never does he seek to apply to today the ways of yesterday. His government has done many great things for our people—roads . . . industries . . . development. But what means most to him is what has been done for the young. He points with greatest pride to the educational program . . . to new schools . . . new opportunities and a brighter future for those upon whom we must all base our hope and trust . . . the very young.

"Walter Shaw is the progressive leader . . . the leader who builds new programs to create a bright future for places where the heavy hand of the past has lain too long. How fortunate that in these days when the Maritimes must help themselves more than ever before, we have a strong man at the helm . . . a man who sees ahead . . . a man of strength who draws strong men to him . . . a man of charm . . . a man of warmth. In short, a man who as much as anyone can, personifies the typical Islander."

Dief Defends Handling Of Gerda Case

OTTAWA (CP) — Opposition Leader Diefenbaker defended his handling of the Gerda Munsinger case and said the inquiry into it was "simply a case of a government trying to get Tevigne upon the Opposition."

Mr. Diefenbaker, on the nationwide CBC television program "The Nation's Business," said the Munsinger case was supposed to involve security matters.

"Yet the prime minister, securing the report on this case which he now says is so dangerous to the security of Canada, brooded over it for a period of 14 or 15 months and did nothing about it until it was usable as a threat against the Opposition." The inquiry, headed by Mr. Justice W.F. Spence of the Supreme Court of Canada, concluded hearings Tuesday.

Mr. Diefenbaker said he has the highest respect for the courts, but when a judge becomes an inquiry commissioner he ceases to be a judge.

NOTHING TO HIDE

Mr. Diefenbaker said neither he nor David Fulton, his justice minister when the Munsinger case was investigated by the RCMP, have nothing to hide.



Slowdown On Steel Plant Is Explained

By CLAUDE HENAULT
QUEBEC (CP)—Planning of Quebec's proposed steel plant has not been slowed by lack of finances but by technical and marketing considerations, Premier Jean Lesage said here.

Specifying that the plant would, as originally envisaged, have "cost less than \$300,000,000," Mr. Lesage said at a press conference that the figure showed "this was not to have been either a giant complex or a backyard plant or foundry as some recent statements would have one believe."

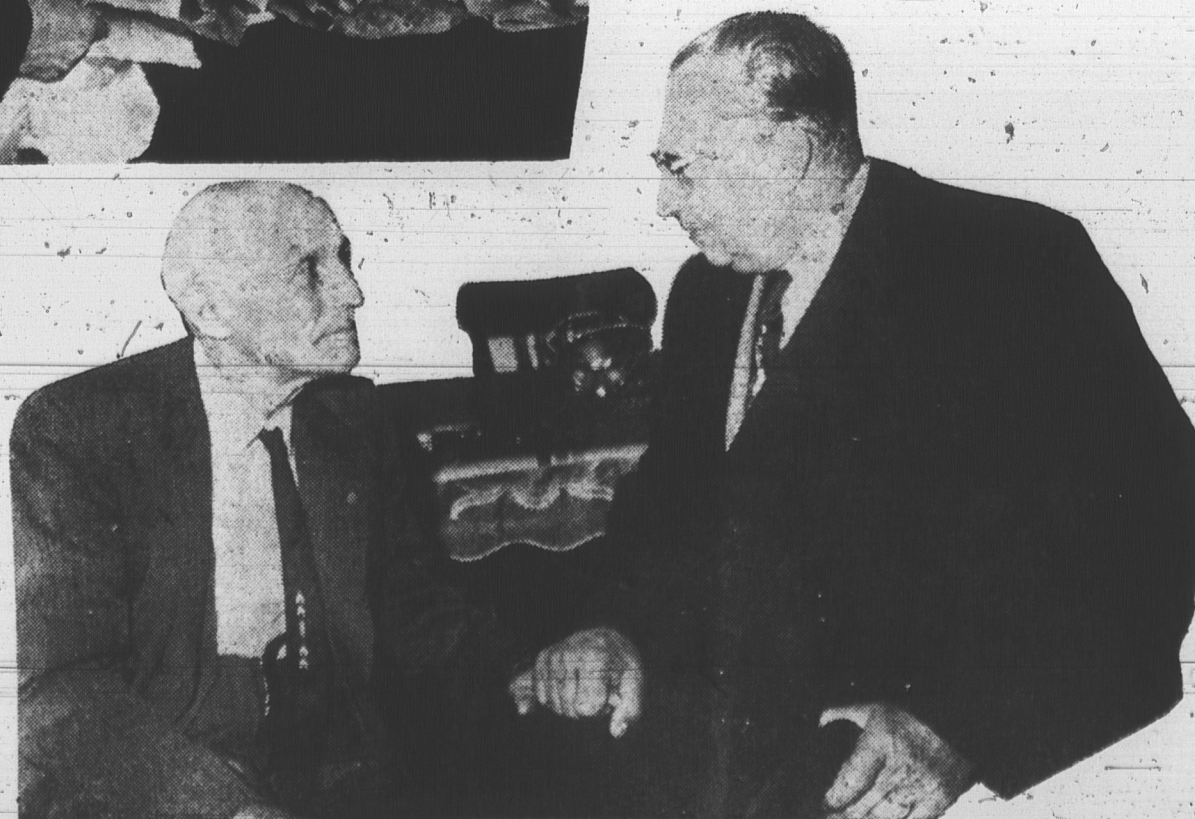
The province was faced with deciding between "a steel plant designed principally for the Quebec market and a larger one, perhaps more highly specialized, but in any case capable of catering more particularly to foreign markets."

"The decision depends not only, or even principally, on available funds, but also on sales experience or techniques and the rapidity of market penetration."

These technical matters, he said, were being dealt with by the board of directors of Sidbec, who are to submit a report to the government, making their recommendations about the size and type of plant, "within a few weeks."

Commenting on published reports that the government was backing out of the project to build the plant, the proposed location of which is at Becancour, Que., near Trois-Rivieres, Mr. Lesage said:

"There is not the slightest doubt that the government must and will share in financing the plant, the only question is the extent of its participation. That will depend essentially on the size of the project and the stages of construction envisaged."



Of the Island...

For the Island...

KILLS SON, HIMSELF

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (AP) — Cecil Clark, 34, stabbed his 16-month-old son to death with a rusty bayonet Thursday and then took his own life by hanging. Police said Clark plunged Robert, as the child slept, the foot-long knife into his son, Robert, as the child slept. Three other children, aged 7 to 11, discovered the bodies when they awakened. Clark's wife left home last Sunday with another man, police reported.