

to provide adequate maintenance of special payments to Newfoundland beyond 1968.

However, the prime minister made it clear he is ready to face the tough decisions along with the popular, easy ones.

"Those decisions have to be made, not in accordance with the wishes of some of the people at the moment, but in the context of the common interest of the nation as a whole."

Summing up what he sees as his government's accomplishment in this country—a new realization of Canada's destiny.

The government's national development policy "has advanced further than I thought it would in two years."

On the foreign front, there was a more co-operative relationship with the United States in solving problems and Canada's position within the Commonwealth had been advanced.

Mr. Diefenbaker sets a stiff pace for his cabinet colleagues. His office staff says cabinet meetings are far more numerous than under the Liberal government—about 150 last year and more than 75 so far this year, compared with some 90 meetings of the Liberal cabinet in 1955.

Seldom does the prime minister have any free time at the office. Apart from Commons attendance he faces an almost steady round of callers, the most frequent of whom are cabinet members dropping in for an impromptu discussion of some problem.

There aren't as many casual visitors in his office with whom to swap yarns.

His old Saskatchewan friends never are turned away when they call, but their visits are shorter than they used to be.

As one of his staff puts it: "Of

course he doesn't sit around and chew the rag with old friends as much as he used to. He couldn't, and still get through the list of appointments he has every day."

One of the most often-heard criticisms of Mr. Diefenbaker is that he runs a one-man government.

A Liberal MP, in private conversation, put it this way: "A cabinet minister can never call his soul his own—he never knows when he will be over-ruled."

The traditional cabinet secrecy, and the principle of outward cabinet solidarity, don't allow proof of this assertion.

Mr. Diefenbaker says it's his job to know about the major de-

cision being made in every department of government.

"The day a prime minister doesn't know what's going on he won't be discharging his responsibility."

He spends a good deal of time in the Commons. He is quick to intervene in political argument and he gets into almost every major debate. Inevitably he is contrasted with former Prime Minister St. Laurent, who usually let his ministers carry the ball and who seldom made a sharp retort.

Conservative MPs explain it by saying Mr. Diefenbaker is the type of man who can't sit still

long when the government is under fire. For years he was prominent as a courtroom defence lawyer.

"There aren't many debaters on our team in the cabinet," one MP said. "Mr. Diefenbaker is carrying a larger load of debate than he will in a few years when his colleagues have found their feet."

He has shown a sure instinct in spotting the political implications of opposition questions and statements, and is quick to launch a counter-attack, usually with obvious enthusiasm.

One experienced Liberal member described it as "a kind of willingness to get into dogfights,

even with backbenchers, that is new in my experience." He suggested this doesn't go over well with the public.

A CCF member said: "He campaigns in the House as though he were still leader of the opposition."

PRIME MINISTER Diefenbaker puts in a 16-hour day at his office in Ottawa but once in a while he likes to relax and go fishing. This photo was taken during a fishing trip in the Yukon

last September. Last year he used to get away frequently for fishing in the early morning at Harrington Lake in the Gatineau hills north of Ottawa but this spring he had made only two

fishing excursions. He told a reporter "You've got to be able to relax. I can do a lot of work, thinking things over and making notes, when I'm out there muck-

Diefenbaker Works Hard But Knows How To Relax

By ALAN DONNELLY
Canadian Press Staff Writer
OTTAWA (CP) — John Diefenbaker has reached his second anniversary as prime minister, proud of his government's record and confident of the future.

"It seems longer than two years," he said, leaning back at the big desk in his oak-paneled office near the Commons chamber. "I've been very busy."

Two years in office apparently haven't slowed the pace kept by the 63-year-old prime minister, or brought any reduction in his heavy work load.

He frequently puts in a 16-hour day, starting to work on his own before breakfast at his official residence. On June 10, the second anniversary of the election that

brought his Progressive Conservative government to office, he was up and working at 5:40 a.m.

HEALTH IS GOOD
He says his health is excellent, though he worries about the fact his weight, 175 pounds, is 12 pounds more than when he was in opposition.

"I have more energy today than I had 10 years ago," he said in an interview.

Stiffening political attacks in recent months, both inside and outside Parliament, have faced the tall Saskatchewan lawyer who in 1957 led the Conservatives to victory after 22 years in opposition.

But Mr. Diefenbaker — who, even his opponents admit, is a highly capable politician — gives

as good as he gets in the Commons political warfare. Some critics say he hits harder than a prime minister should when the cross-fire crackles in the chamber.

"I like the House of Commons when it's like that — when it's alive," he said. He left the impression that if he weren't prime minister he would make it even livelier.

TOUGH DECISIONS
His government recently has made some difficult decisions which brought criticism, instead of the praise that greeted the tax cuts, pension increases and other benefits during the early months in office. There was the cancellation of the Arrow jet intercep-

tor, for instance, and the refusal

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