

## PART V.—CANADIAN CHRONOLOGY

Events in the general chronology from 1497 to 1866 are given in the 1951 Year Book, pp. 46-49; from 1867 to 1953 in the 1954 Year Book, pp. 1259-1264; for 1954 in the 1955 Year Book, pp. 1329-1330; for 1955 in the 1956 edition, pp. 1233-1234; for 1956 in the 1957-58 edition, p. 1270; for 1957 in the 1959 edition, p. 1240; for 1958 in the 1960 edition, pp. 1255-1256; and for 1959 and 1960 in the 1961 edition, pp. 1241-1245. References regarding federal and provincial elections or changes in legislatures or ministries are not included in the following listing but may be found in Chapter II on Constitution and Government or in Appendix I.

## 1961

**January:** *Jan. 2*, Remainder of Polish treasures, stored in Quebec Provincial Museum since September 1939, left Canada on return journey, arriving in Gdynia, Poland, *Jan. 17*. *Jan. 3*, Formal termination of U.S. diplomatic and consular relations with Cuba; Canada's relations to continue. *Jan. 12-13*, Third Federal-Provincial Constitutional Conference reached general agreement with respect to amendment of BNA Act. *Jan. 16*, Canada-India nuclear plant, a gift to India by Canada under the Colombo Plan, formally opened. *Jan. 17*, Columbia River Treaty signed in Washington by Prime Minister Diefenbaker and President Eisenhower. *Jan. 20*, John Fitzgerald Kennedy inaugurated as President of the United States of America. *Jan. 27*, The City of Montreal given authority by the Quebec Government to proceed with construction of a subway. *Jan. 31*, Iranian Deputy Prime Minister Teymour Bakhtiar met with Prime Minister Diefenbaker and External Affairs Minister Green for informal discussions in Ottawa.

**February:** *Feb. 2*, Announcement of sale of 40,000,000 bu. of grain to Red China for \$60,000,000. *Feb. 3*, Federal Government approval of the merger of the Canadian Bank of Commerce and the Imperial Bank of Canada, to be known as the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. *Feb. 10*, Frank Howard, M.P., 'named' in a vote of 149-7 and suspended from the House of Commons for one day. *Feb. 14*, Russia withdrew recognition of Dag Hammarskjöld as Secretary-General of the UN following the slaying of Congolese Premier Lumumba. *Feb. 16*, The 1961 World Figure Skating Championships cancelled following the tragic plane crash near Brussels in which the entire U.S. figure skating team and its coach lost their lives. *Feb. 20*, Prime Minister Diefenbaker held brief talks with President Kennedy in Washington on international matters. Death in Saskatoon of Mrs. Mary Florence Diefenbaker, mother of Prime Minister Diefenbaker. Announcement of federal plan to conduct aeromagnetic surveys to pinpoint mineral wealth of the Canadian Shield; \$18,000,000 to be spent by the federal and provincial governments over the next 12 years. *Feb. 21*, An Ontario Royal Commission report tabled in the Legislature endorsed fluoridation of water to reduce dental decay and recommended project assistance be given to municipalities. *Feb. 22-26*, Fourth meeting of the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group at Ottawa and Quebec to discuss matters of common interest including defence, trade, boundary matters, cultural relations and foreign policy. *Feb. 23-24*, Federal-Provincial Fiscal Conference held in continuation of talks seeking agreement on new tax-sharing policy. *Feb. 25*, Winners of the Governor General's Literary Awards for 1960 were announced: Brian Moore (fiction); Margaret Avison (poetry); Frank Underhill (non-fiction); Anne Hébert (poetry in French); and Paul Toupin (non-fiction in French). Maria and Otto Jelinek, Oakville, Ont. won the "pair" North American free-skating title at Philadelphia.

**March:** *Mar. 2*, Eighty-five scientists from the ten provinces and the Yukon Territory met in Ottawa for a week-long discussion on agricultural research, the first meeting of its kind. *Mar. 4-7*, Prime Minister Diefenbaker visited Belfast, Northern Ireland, and Dublin, Ireland, the first visit to these cities by a Canadian Prime Minister while in office. *Mar. 8-17*, Annual Conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers held in London, Canada's Prime Minister attending accompanied by Secretary of State Dorion and Justice Minister Fulton; the South African policy of apartheid was censured by Prime Minister Diefenbaker, strongly supported by leaders of Ghana, Malaya, India and Ceylon; South Africa's decision to quit the Commonwealth on May 31 resulted. *Mar. 7*, Fifteenth session of the UN Assembly resumed, attended by the largest gathering of representatives (99 member states sent delegations). *Mar. 7*, Earl Mountbatten of Burma, Chief of the British defence staff, arrived in Ottawa for discussions with Defence Minister Harkness and Canadian Chiefs of Staff. *Mar. 10*, Centennial of the birth of Canadian poet E. Pauline Johnson. *Mar. 13*, Major General Jean Victor Allard became the first Canadian officer to be named to command a British Army Division. *Mar. 14*, Establishment of a graduate students' centre at the University of Toronto, to be known as Massey College, a gift of the Massey Foundation. *Mar. 15*, Livingston T. Merchant reappointed United States Ambassador to Canada. *Mar. 16*, Bernard (Boom Boom) Geoffroy scored his 50th goal, tying the National Hockey League one-season record set by Maurice (Rocket) Richard. *Mar. 29*, France informed UN that it would not pay any part of the costs of military operations in the Congo; Britain and Canada undertook to pay all commitments to alleviate the financial crisis. Dr. J. M. Harrison, Director of the Geological Survey of Canada, elected President of the newly formed International Union of Geological Sciences in Paris.

**April:** *Apr. 5*, Report of the Royal Commission on Transportation tabled, recommending that the Federal Government pay the two major railways annual subsidies of about \$40,000,000 and allow them greater leeway in abandoning uneconomic services. *Apr. 7*, Death of Jackson Dodds, former joint General Manager of the Bank of Montreal and Honorary President of the National Council, Boy Scouts of Canada. *Apr. 9-10*, British Prime Minister Macmillan, accompanied by his wife, Lady Dorothy, visited Ottawa for discussions with Prime Minister Diefenbaker and the Canadian Cabinet. *Apr. 12*, First flight of man into space accomplished by Yuri Gagarin, Soviet Air Force Pilot; flight lasted one hour and 40 minutes. *Apr. 13-15*, His Excellency Constantine Caramanlis, Prime Minister of Greece, accompanied by Mrs. Caramanlis, made official visit to Ottawa. *Apr. 15*, Air Marshal W. A. Curtis elected First Chancellor of York University, Toronto. The Canadian section of the Seafarers' International Union of North America established its independence of the parent U.S. organization and