

responsibility for the initiation of taxes and the recommendation of expenditures. Following established precedent or convention, it is always responsible to the Commons. When the Cabinet (the Government) loses the confidence of the House, it must either resign or request a dissolution from the Governor General. If it resigns, the Governor General may call on the Leader of the Opposition in the Commons to form a new Government. Alternatively, if a Government that has lost the confidence of the House is granted a dissolution and is defeated in the ensuing general election, then, should no clear majority be indicated, the Government may decide (1) to remain in office and seek a vote of confidence in the House when it meets or (2) to resign immediately with the consequent result that the Governor General will ask the leader of the party with the highest number of members returned to form a new Government. These alternatives may also eventuate as a result of a general election subsequent to the normal dissolution of Parliament at or near the close of its statutory life.

The primary responsibility of the Governor General in either of the above circumstances is to provide the nation with a Cabinet or Ministry capable of conducting Her Majesty's Government with the support of the House of Commons.

The Prime Ministers since Confederation are listed in Table 3 and the members of the Ministry as at Sept. 30, 1967 in Table 4. Sessional and other allowances received by Cabinet Ministers are given at pp. 88-89.

**3.—Prime Ministers since Confederation, 1867**

| Ministry | Name  | Length of Administration   |
|----------|---|--|
| 1        | Rt. Hon. Sir JOHN ALEXANDER MACDONALD.....    | July 1, 1867 — Nov. 5, 1873  |
| 2        | Hon. ALEXANDER MACKENZIE.....                 | Nov. 7, 1873 — Oct. 16, 1878   |
| 3        | Rt. Hon. Sir JOHN ALEXANDER MACDONALD.....    | Oct. 17, 1878 — June 6, 1891   |
| 4        | Hon. Sir JOHN JOSEPH CALDWELL ABBOTT.....     | June 16, 1891 — Nov. 24, 1892  |
| 5        | Rt. Hon. Sir JOHN SPARROW DAVID THOMPSON..... | Dec. 5, 1892 — Dec. 12, 1894   |
| 6        | Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL.....                | Dec. 21, 1894 — Apr. 27, 1896  |
| 7        | Rt. Hon. Sir CHARLES TUPPER.....              | May 1, 1896 — July 8, 1896   |
| 8        | Rt. Hon. Sir WILFRID LAURIER.....             | July 11, 1896 — Oct. 6, 1911   |
| 9        | Rt. Hon. Sir ROBERT LAIRD BORDEN.....         | Oct. 10, 1911 — Oct. 12, 1917<br>(Conservative Administration)                           |
| 10       | Rt. Hon. Sir ROBERT LAIRD BORDEN.....         | Oct. 12, 1917 — July 10, 1920<br>(Unionist Administration)                               |
| 11       | Rt. Hon. ARTHUR MEIGHEN.....                  | July 10, 1920 — Dec. 29, 1921<br>(Unionist—"National Liberal<br>and Conservative Party") |
| 12       | Rt. Hon. WILLIAM LYON MACKENZIE KING.....     | Dec. 29, 1921 — June 28, 1926  |
| 13       | Rt. Hon. ARTHUR MEIGHEN.....                  | June 29, 1926 — Sept. 25, 1926   |
| 14       | Rt. Hon. WILLIAM LYON MACKENZIE KING.....     | Sept. 25, 1926 — Aug. 6, 1930  |
| 15       | Rt. Hon. RICHARD BEDFORD BENNETT.....         | Aug. 7, 1930 — Oct. 23, 1935   |
| 16       | Rt. Hon. WILLIAM LYON MACKENZIE KING.....     | Oct. 23, 1935 — Nov. 15, 1948  |
| 17       | Rt. Hon. LOUIS STEPHEN ST. LAURENT.....       | Nov. 15, 1948 — June 21, 1957  |
| 18       | Rt. Hon. JOHN GEORGE DIEFENBAKER.....         | June 21, 1957 — Apr. 22, 1963  |
| 19       | Rt. Hon. LESTER BOWLES PEARSON.....           | Apr. 22, 1963 — ...  |