

received the 1975 National Press Club award for outstanding contribution to Canadian journalism. *Feb. 25*, A trade surplus of \$472 million for 1974 was Canada's lowest since 1966 and was one quarter of the \$1.9 billion surplus for 1973, Statistics Canada reported. *Feb. 26*, A basically nutritious diet for a four-person family should cost \$2,000 annually, but most families were spending \$3,000, according to the Food Prices Review Board. Newfoundland's Premier Frank Moores said in a speech from the throne that the federal government should declare a fishing limit of 200 nautical miles (370 km). Transport Minister Jean Marchand resigned as Quebec leader of the federal Liberal party. *Feb. 28*, The House of Commons passed a bill granting the Northwest Territories a second member of Parliament. Premier David Barrett introduced the 1975-76 British Columbia budget indicating projected expenditures of \$3.2 billion, an increase of 48.3% over estimated spending for 1974-75.

March

Mar. 3, In Yellowknife, Justice Thomas Berger of the British Columbia Supreme Court opened public hearings into environmental, social and economic implications of a proposed \$7 billion, 2,600-mile (4,184 km) Mackenzie Valley gas pipeline. A working paper to settle Yukon Indian land claims was outlined in Whitehorse by Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Judd Buchanan. *Mar. 6*, Social and medical community services, needed by most elderly people to ensure that they did not become isolated and neglected, were lacking in Canada, according to the Canadian Council on Social Development. *Mar. 11*, The Canadian Manufacturers' Association expressed the view that 1967 legislation giving public employees the right to strike "was an experiment that didn't work", and urged the government to rescind the right. *Mar. 12*, Finance Minister John Turner told the House of Commons that high wage settlements, running at roughly more than twice the rate of settlements in the United States, were "the most disturbing feature" of the current economic situation. In Ottawa 14 individuals and 13 companies were charged with conspiring to defraud the federal and Ontario governments and the Hamilton Harbour Commission of \$4,052,000 between 1969 and 1973. *Mar. 15*, Prime Minister Trudeau returned to Ottawa from a 16-day European tour with support in principle for closer ties between Canada and the European Economic Community. *Mar. 21*, Mel Hurtig, Edmonton, said that Canadian high schools failed to teach the Canadian political system; in a national survey of 3,100 high school students, 62% failed in half the answers to a 40-question questionnaire. *Mar. 24*, Royal Assent was given to a bill making the beaver the official symbol of Canada. For the fifth consecutive year Anne Murray received the Canadian recording industry's Juno award as the top female artist. *Mar. 25*, Gross spending estimates totalling \$8.195 billion for the 1975-76 fiscal year, a

13.1% increase over 1974-75, were tabled in the National Assembly in Quebec. *Mar. 26*, Premier Peter Lougheed's PC government received an overwhelming mandate in the Alberta provincial election, taking all but six of the 75 seats in the legislature. Ed Broadbent, parliamentary leader of the NDP, said that he would seek the federal NDP leadership. Labour Minister John Munro announced an increase in the federal minimum wage to \$2.60 an hour on July 23 from \$2.20. *Mar. 27*, Potato farmers in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, plagued by over-production and a depressed market, would have most of their losses covered by the federal government, Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan announced.

April

Apr. 2, The CN Tower, tallest free-standing structure in the world at 1,815 ft 5 in. (553 m), was completed in Toronto. *Apr. 3*, A record \$2.119 billion in unemployment insurance benefits was paid out in 1974, an increase of about 6% over 1973, Statistics Canada reported. *Apr. 4*, The minimum wage in Quebec would be increased to \$2.60 an hour from \$2.30 effective June 1, Premier Bourassa announced. With one death sentence before the federal Cabinet and seven others under appeal in the courts, Solicitor General Warren Allmand said he was more convinced than ever that capital punishment was not the answer to murder. *Apr. 8*, The national seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate jumped to 7.2% in March from 6.8% in February with the unemployment rate in central Canada the worst since 1961, Statistics Canada reported. Bell Canada president Jean de Grandpré told the annual shareholders meeting that Bell Canada must have rate increases or users of its telephone and other services would face "a deterioration of services". *Apr. 10*, Prime Minister Trudeau and the 10 provincial premiers failed to reach an agreement on the future domestic price for oil at a two-day first ministers' conference on energy in Ottawa. *Apr. 11*, Canada had a record deficit of \$1.33 billion in automotive trade with the United States in 1974, more than triple the 1973 deficit of \$440 million, Statistics Canada reported. Canada would give \$280 million in food aid to the world's starving peoples in the 1975-76 fiscal year, an increase of 41.4% from the previous year, External Affairs Minister Allan MacEachen announced. Thomas Alexander Crerar, 98, senior privy councillor in Canada, died in Victoria, BC; he had served in the governments of Robert Borden and Mackenzie King. *Apr. 14*, Premier William Davis appointed an Ontario royal commission in Toronto to study the exploitation of violence in the communications industry, with former federal Liberal Cabinet Minister Judy LaMarsh as chairman. *Apr. 15*, The House of Commons miscellaneous estimates committee approved an amended version of the government's salaries bill that would increase immediately the incomes of members of Parliament by 33.33%. *Apr. 18*, A seven-week strike by 1,600 Ottawa public high