current rates of consumption. Total production of the economy dropped by 1.4% during the first three months of 1975, the worst quarterly decline in the GNP since it fell 1.5% in the first quarter of 1961, Statistics Canada reported. June 16, Transport Minister Jean Marchand unveiled a new federal transportation policy with proposed expenditures up to \$45 billion over 15 years; the aim of making advanced transport systems pay their own way would mean rapidly rising travel and shipping costs to consumers. June 17, A Paris court ordered the French government to compensate Canadian David McTaggart for the deliberate ramming of his protest ship Greenpeace III by a French naval vessel in the South Pacific in June 1972. June 18, The Anglican Church of Canada accepted the ordination of women into the priesthood. June 19, The Petroleum Administration Act, giving the federal government the power to set oil and natural gas prices, was given Royal Assent. The World Conference on International Women's Year opened in Mexico City, with Canada's delegation chaired by Coline Campbell, MP, parliamentary secretary to the minister responsible for the Status of Women, Marc Lalonde. June 20, The United States Air Force would close its base at Goose Bay, Labrador, when the current three-year lease expired June 30, 1976, the federal ministry of transport announced. June 24, The general council of the Canadian Medical Association reaffirmed its position that the decision to perform a therapeutic abortion be left up to a woman's individual doctor. June 25. The Ontario Association of Police Chiefs recommended stricter federal gun controls including a mandatory three-year jail term for anyone using a gun in a crime. Beryl Plumptre, chairman of the Food Prices Review Board, urged the formulation of a long-term national food policy that would coordinate dozens of policies operating at provincial and federal government levels. June 26, A Prince Edward Island law forbidding non-residents from owning more than 10 acres (4 ha) of land was upheld unanimously by the Supreme Court of Canada.

July

July 3, The Canadian editions of Time and Reader's Digest would lose their special tax status Jan. 1, 1976, although legislation affecting them would be delayed, Secretary of State Hugh Faulkner said. (See Appendix 2, Chapter 106.) July 5, Joey Smallwood, former premier of Newfoundland, was elected in St. John's as leader of the newly formed Liberal Reform Party of Newfoundland and Labrador. July 7, Ed Broadbent, MP for Oshawa-Whitby and NDP parliamentary leader, was elected national leader of the NDP at the party's leadership convention in Winnipeg. Ontario Treasurer Darcy McKeough brought down a \$178 million mini-budget aimed at stimulating the province's sagging automobile and housing industries. July 9, Canada and Iran signed agreements covering a record \$1.3 billion-worth of business; Industry, Trade and Commerce Minister Alastair Gillespie said that figure could go to \$2 billion or higher. July 10, The Economic Council of Canada recommended that Canada vigorously pursue a free trade arrangement covering all countries. July 16, Rapidly dwindling natural gas supplies would require the government to reduce exports to United States markets and to restrain domestic consumption until new frontier supplies were available, Energy Minister Donald Macdonald said in the House of Commons. July 17. Manitoba's minimum wage for workers over 18 would rise to \$2.60 an hour from \$2.30 effective Oct. 1, Labour Minister A.R. Paulley announced. Prime Minister Trudeau sent congratulations to the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union on the historic linkup of the Apollo and Sovuz spaceships. July 18, Government screening of new investment by foreign-owned businesses would begin Oct. 15 when the second part of the Foreign Investment Review Act became effective. Alastair Gillespie announced. July 21. A bill to create a federal human rights commission with powers to investigate and prevent discriminatory practices by businesses under federal jurisdiction was introduced by Justice Minister Otto Lang. July 23, Federal Fisheries Minister Roméo LeBlanc announced in the House of Commons that the Soviet Union's Atlantic fishing fleet would be barred from Canadian ports because the "Soviet fleet has consistently overfished certain quotas." Sophia Rayburn, 108, the oldest known native-born Canadian, died in Orangeville, Ont.; she was born only four days after Confederation.

August

Aug. 5. Secretary of State Hugh Faulkner announced that Famous Players Ltd. and Odeon Theatres Ltd. would invest \$1.7 million in Canadian feature film production and show at least four weeks of Canadian-made movies in all their theatres. Aug. 7, At a news conference Prime Minister Trudeau said Canada would continue to press for an economic coastal zone of 200 nautical miles (370 km) through international agreement rather than unilateral declaration which could only be enforced by going to war. Aug. 8, Higher prices for food and fuel pushed the consumer price index up sharply by 1.4% during July, Statistics Canada reported. Aug. 11, United States Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said in Montreal that the US supported Canada's reluctance to declare unilaterally an offshore economic zone of 200 nautical miles (370 km). Aug. 12, The Food Prices Review Board recommended government study of health hazards due to levels of sugar consumption, averaging 100 pounds (45 kg) a person per annum, with a view to curbing sugar use if dangers were found. Aug. 19, Provincial health ministers urged a national conference on health and finance before the end of September to discuss the federal government's decision to cut back on medical care plan financing. In its fourth annual report, the Law Reform Commission of Canada called for an overhaul in the way Canadians handle their criminal justice system; it noted that Canadian