

# Meaning of Canadian Election In Northwest Remains Mystery

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Washington (Special) — The meaning of the Canadian election results as far as the Pacific Northwest is concerned is a mystery here in the capital. Informed speculation is that all that government officials have to rely upon as they attempt to anticipate developments on such vital matters as the pending Columbia river power treaty and the manipulation of Canadian currency which has sorely affected the Northwest lumber industry.

Speculation on the treaty ranges from pessimism on Capitol Hill to restrained optimism at the State Department.

The treaty was held back from parliamentary debate and a vote of ratification by the Diefenbaker government during the past year and a half since it was signed because of an internal Canadian dispute over whether any of Canada's share in the power benefits should be sold to United States customers. The federal government opposed this idea, except on short term contracts, but the provincial British Columbia government of Premier W. A. C. Bennett wanted to make 20-year pacts with Bonneville Power Administration to swap kilowatts for dollars needed to pay for further hydroelectric development on the Peace river, an all-Canadian project.

## University Offers Production Class

Eugene — The intricacies of television production, from the cameras to handling sound, are being learned this month by 21 "students" enrolled in the fourth summer workshop of Educational TV at the University of Oregon.

The remainder of the year, most of the "students" are teachers, housewives, and school administrators. A few are graduate students.

Their interest in the program stems from a number of different factors. Some of the women are enrolled because they will be directing various public service television programs for their service clubs. Several other participants represent school systems that are contemplating in-school television instruction in the near future. And still others, such as the Portland State teacher of a theoretical course in television, are interested in the academics of educational television.

**Active Workshop**  
The ETV workshop is an active one. At its third session, the class "produced" an interview show, with students filling the roles of cast, crew and guests.

Divided into three groups — control room, studio and camera — the students did all the work, with supervision from workshop director E. A. Kretsinger, associate professor of speech at the University of Oregon; Arthur J. Jacobs, instructor in speech at the University; and Dale Wyle, graduate assistant.

After a demonstration of equipment and explanation of production, students donned earphones, practiced the techniques of "dolly"ing the camera, using the zoom lens, switching from camera one to camera two, working the sound and controlling production from behind the glass wall of the control room.

"Show Boat" Except  
Less than a week after this first "show," the class will begin planning for two programs which will be produced on two television stations, KOAC and KEZI. One program will be an interview

tion outcome was indecisive and that a minority government will be ineffective and possibly unwilling to deal with the treaty matter before another election is held.

Optimism, on the other hand, stems from a belief that Prime Minister John Diefenbaker will have to placate the Social Credit party, which holds 30 seats, in order to gain the cooperation he needs to conduct a minority government. Social Credit party leader Robert N. Thompson has indicated his party will help prop up the Conservatives until they consider the time ripe for a new election.

B. C. Premier Bennett, an astute, bold politician, may have some new trump cards to play on the treaty as a result of this dependence which the government will have upon his party. Bennett is thought here to have ingratiated himself with Social Credit's national leadership by campaigning for party candidates in Quebec province, where Social Credit made its major gains in the recent election.

Whether Bennett can call the shots completely on ratification of the treaty when Parliament is called back into session later this summer remains to be seen. American officials, meanwhile, are maintaining a watchful but discreet silence. No effort apparently is under way at this time to nudge the Canadians to act soon.

The problem of the value of the Canadian dollar appears to be the more pressing issue, on both sides of the border. The Diefenbaker government some time ago pegged the price of the Canadian dollar at 92½ cents in American money in an effort to stimulate exports and diminish imports. This decline in the value of the Canadian dollar has contributed to the ability of British Columbia lumber operators to sell their

plywood and lumber more cheaply than Northwest mills in the United States from New York to Los Angeles.

In the election campaign the cheapened dollar was berated as a "Diefenbuck" by opposition party candidates, who sought to capitalize on a certain emotional resentment among some Canadians that their country's prestige and economic status was somehow reduced by this deliberate devaluation of their dollar. Opposition candidates carefully avoided saying where they would set the exchange rate, however; and some observers recalled that the Liberal Party had previously favored dropping the dollar to 90 cents.

Yet during the campaign the Liberals flooded the country with "Diefen dollars" repayable by the "Bank of Canada"; and when Diefenbaker appeared in Vancouver, B.C., May 30, hundreds of those phony campaign dollars were hurled on the stage as organized hecklers howled him down when he tried to address a crowd of 8000.

Canadian officials are alarmed over an estimated \$300,000,000 drain on Canadian reserves in recent weeks, apparently due to speculation by importers and exporters who are gambling that the Canadian dollar's value will drop still lower. Finance Minister Donald Fleming said during the campaign that the Conservatives would hold the dollar at its present level at all costs.

No one here is predicting what consequences devaluation will have on the overall trade pattern between the two countries. Since the end of World War II, Canada has had an unfavorable balance of trade with the United States of over \$1 billion a year on the average. This has been made up in the main by the flow of American capital into Canadian investment opportunities at the rate of about \$1 billion annually.

Last year the trade across the border in both directions amounted to just over \$7 billion, with the United States still in the more favorable position by selling Canada \$507 million more than she sold to the United States.

The theory behind devaluation was that it would make Canadian commodities cheaper than American commodities, thus more appealing to consumers. But some officials here have doubts that devaluation in the long run will work much of an advantage. They have observed that the prices of numerous Canadian commodities have been rising, and they speculate that labor unions spurred by international officials — will push for higher wage demands, further nudging Canadian prices upward.

But what the minority Diefenbaker government will do about these conditions in its effort to restore confidence in the Canadian economy is what Washington officials are waiting to see.

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