

L.T. OLDS - MONDAY, April 8, 1963

Good Evening Everybody:

There isn't even a trend, yet in the exciting elections north of the border today. All day millions of Canadians have been casting their votes, at polling stations all the way from Goose Bay Labrador to Vancouver Island, from Halifax to the Yukon, six time zones - in the great nation of Canada, which geographically is larger than all 50 of our states.

But, there are lots of guesses as to the outcome. Many observers are saying that Lester Pearson's Liberal Party will win out. The Liberals who are in favor of accepting American nuclear warheads. And that was the issue that led to the downfall of the Diefenbaker government - that precipitated this election.

The Prime Minister, as you have heard and

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read, has been striking back, trying to hold on to his office - by means of what his opponents call an "anti-American" platform - which Diefenbaker calls "pro-Canadian".

Some Canadian experts believe that the two major parties will be so nearly balanced that to splinter parties - minorities - will go decisive power in the Ottawa Parliament, no matter who becomes Prime Minister. One of these is the Social Credit Party - based in Quebec, the so called - "funny money men".

But tonite no one knows who is the winner in one of the most exciting Canadian elections of our time.

LAOS

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The crisis in Laos may reflect the crisis - in the Communist bloc. Red China, trying to oust the Soviet Union - from leadership in Asia. Fomenting the Laotian fighting - in spite of Moscow. Putting Khrushchev on the spot - for real. Because Russia and Britain are co-chairmen of the international group - whose business it is to supervise the peace in Laos.

In any case, our government is taking - a serious view of the crisis. The State Department charging - that the Laotian Reds began the battle, ~~And that they~~ are being reinforced by guerrillas - from Red North Viet Nam. We're asking the Russians and the British - to do something ~~and~~ do it - in a hurry.

~~The~~ Reason for haste? - ~~is that~~ The Laotian insurgents have driven the loyalist army from its headquarters, ~~And~~ appear to be launching a massive drive - for control of central Laos. The most severe fighting, tonight - on the Plain of Jars. ~~The~~ Situation grave - so we are told.

SEATO

Secretary of State Dean Rusk considers this Communist threat a major threat to peace. Rusk warning members of the South East Asia Treaty Organization, meeting in Paris today, that America has a "vital interest" in keeping South Viet Nam independent. Britain and France, in complete agreement on this, are backing us to the hilt.

DE GAULLE

Signs of a thaw today in the somewhat chilly atmosphere between France and America. That coldness has been due to differences of opinion on nuclear armament, and on Britain's entry into the Common Market.

President De Gaulle meeting with Secretary of State Dean Rusk this afternoon for discussions which experts think may help straighten things out. His Foreign Secretary, Couve de Murville, also inviting British Foreign Secretary Lord Home to talk things over. The French saying De Gaulle is putting on a "charm campaign" - during the Rusk visit, because he wants to show his partners - especially America - that he is a member in good standing of the Western Alliance, in spite of all differences.

McNAMARA

Defense Secretary McNamara was most emphatic today in telling Congress to cut the Defense Budget - rather than tamper with our programs for helping promote - "politically stable governments", south of the border and elsewhere.

Secretary McNamara saying flatly that such programs are - "absolutely essential for our national security".

This confirms what he has said before, that he would rather see a billion dollar cut in the Defense budget.

For instance, Secretary McNamara thinks the unrest in Venezuela and Guatemala - even though the democratic governments have won out in those two nations - is far more dangerous than Communism in Cuba.

POLARIS

The Navy is satisfied tonight - with its launching of an advanced version of the newest A-3 Polaris missile. Calling the shot a "significant success." The thirty-foot rocket fired today - from a land-based pad - some two thousand miles across the Atlantic Ocean. Arriving at its target area in less than twenty minutes. The A-3 - to be the mightiest rocket ever designed for firing from submerged nuclear submarines.

GOLDWATER

In case you have had any doubts about the matter - some Americans are determined to put the Senior Senator from Arizona in the White House. A movement to draft Senator Barry Goldwater - has just been launched in Washington.

CLEVELAND

Another newspaper strike ended today, amid ~~heartfelt~~^{vast} sighs of relief, mutual congratulations - and promises of bigger and better papers. In fact, the same kind of reactions that New Yorkers experienced - last week. Now Cleveland has its newspapers again - for the first time in ^{one} hundred and twenty-nine days.

for over thirty years. The new building. Until - a bus stop was erected there. People in line for the bus - with time to inspect the statues, have been telling Mrs. Garbutt they are shocked - by its lack of attire.

Mrs. Garbutt - fed up with the complaints, says :- "So I ran up the bloomers out of an odd piece of material. I hope everybody's satisfied".

The god Hermes - or Mercury if you prefer - the god of travellers, - not respectable, at least in South Africa.

JOHANNESBURG

Ever hear of a Greek god - in bloomers?
Floral chintz bloomers at that!

In Johannesburg, South Africa, the god
Hermes - is wearing bloomers tonight. How come? It
seems a civic-minded lady, Mrs. Johanna Garbutt - has
just made him a pair.

The statue, standing outside the lady's home -
for over fifty years. No one complaining. Until - a
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BASEBALL

~~Well,~~ ^{quite} At least one pitching arm - wasn't ready for the first game of the baseball season. John Kennedy's opening pitch, a ball - low and outside. But Washington catcher Ken Retzer wasn't going to commit an error - on his first fielding chance. He caught the President's pitch with his bare hand - a few inches from the ground. Otherwise it would have been ^{called a real} ~~the wildest~~ wild pitch. - ~~you ever saw.~~

The players for the Washington Senators and the Baltimore Orioles - a little more proficient. A close ball game - that could have gone either way. But it went to Baltimore - on homers by Jim Gentile and John Powell. The Orioles beating the Senators - three to one.