



# Canadian Monarchist News

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THE MONARCHIST LEAGUE OF CANADA – 39th ANNIVERSARY 1970-2009

# The Right Honourable Roméo LeBlanc, CC, PC 1927 – 2009



*A Tribute written especially for Canadian Monarchist News by the Honourable Marilyn Trenholme Counsell, ONB, former Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick and Senator – “He wanted to take government to the people”*

I am struck by a sense of awe and humility as I express my thoughts and feelings on the occasion of the death of the

Right Honourable Roméo LeBlanc. For myself, and for others who were near and dear to him here in New Brunswick,

especially his son, Dominic, these past days have been ones of gratitude, memories and profound emotion.

I trust my words will reflect the thoughts of other Lieutenant Governors and Commissioners who served during Mr. LeBlanc's time as Governor General of Canada. Like each person he met, each of us was treated with the utmost respect, courtesy and friendliness. There were no barriers between this Governor General and the Lieutenant Governors or Commissioners. He cared for us as human beings and as representatives of the Crown. We were free to call upon him for the wisest of advice or just a few words of reassurance. Our conferences together were serious and they were fun.

When in 1999 I hosted my fellow Lieutenant Governors and Commissioners at Old Government House in Fredericton. Mr LeBlanc was just as happy as I was to welcome everyone to New Brunswick. There were the usual meetings and a formal dinner, but something quite different stands out in my memory. It was the “Maritime Kitchen Party”. We had Acadian Chicken Fricot, baked beans, salmon and lobster, brown bread and Poutine à Trou. When the meal was finished,



The Governor General signs the Book of Condolence for Roméo LeBlanc

the entertainment began with Ivan and Vivian Hicks and the Sussex Avenue Fiddlers. Without a moment's hesitation, Roméo started playing the spoons, Acadian style. It was sheer joy, spontaneous and authentic.

Roméo LeBlanc was a natural story teller. I remember two especially well. When Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness Prince Phillip visited Rideau Hall, he decided to have a BBQ. Those responsible for protocol were hesitant, yet the planning proceeded. It was a great hit with the Royal couple, so much so that Her Majesty

*continued on page 2*

## CHARLES & CAMILLA TO VISIT COAST-TO-COAST IN NOVEMBER

*11 Days – 12 Communities – 4 Provinces*



At the invitation of the Government of Canada, Their Royal Highnesses The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall will undertake a coast-to-coast tour November 2-12. They will visit Newfoundland and Labrador, Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia and the National Capital Region. The visit is being coordinated by the Canadian Secretary to The Queen, Kevin MacLeod, CVO, CD.

Confirmed stops for the Prince and the Duchess include St John's, Cupid and Brigus, in Newfoundland; Toronto, Hamilton, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Petawawa and Ottawa, in Ontario; Victoria and Vancouver in British Columbia; and Montreal and Gatineau (Hull), Quebec. Their Royal Highnesses will travel via Canadian Forces Airbus.

In announcing the visit, Prime Minister Stephen Harper stressed that it was an opportunity, especially for young people, “to learn more about the heritage and traditions of which we are all proud.”



Dundurn Castle. Hamilton to welcome Camilla to ancestors' home.

It will be Charles' 15th homecoming to Canada, but the first visit to the Maple Kingdom for Camilla, whose maternal great-great-great grandmother was Sophie MacNab, a resident of Hamilton, Ontario, and a daughter of Sir Alan MacNab who was Prime Minister of the Province of the Province of Canada 1854-1856. His stately home, Dundurn Castle, is a well-known landmark and tourist destination for visitors to Ontario's Golden Horseshoe region. This association made it inevitable that the City of Hamilton and the Castle, would figure on Their Royal Highnesses' programme, the details of which as of press time had not been announced.

Charles' most recent Canadian homecoming was a visit to Saskatchewan and Yukon in 2001. The visit to CFB Petawawa is expected to focus on his role as Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, to which he will present new Colours, as he will also do for the Toronto Scottish Regiment, whose Colonelcy-in-Chief he inherited from The Queen Mother. The visit to Cupids in Newfoundland reflects Charles' interest in heritage: active archeological sites in the heritage community reflect occupation by John Guy and a group of colonists from 1610.

Latest itinerary and news via [www.monarchist.ca](http://www.monarchist.ca), the Monarchist League of Canada Facebook page, Twitter followers <http://twitter.com/monarchist/> and the Dominion Chairman's Blog at <http://dominionchairman.blogspot.com/>



M. LeBlanc instituted Caring Canadian Award



New Brunswickers pay respects at Lying-in-State

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QUEEN IS HEAD OF STATE**  
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# LEBLANC TRIBUTE

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joined in the square dancing to the delight of all the guests. Other times, he loved to describe the scene at Windsor Castle, when The Queen Mother told stories, played games and danced with guests.

Our esteemed Governor General had a treasure house full of stories from across this great land – east to west, north to south. He had an immense fondness and respect for our Aboriginal Peoples. In 1996, he created National Aboriginal Day. There seemed to be a link in his mind between their hardships and those he had known as a young boy.

The youngest of eight children, whose mother died when he was six, experienced the Great Depression on a small farm in Cormier's Cove. Yet, he was nurtured by loving sisters and dedicated nuns who were his teachers. He became a brilliant scholar and an extraordinarily compassionate man. Until the end, he remained humble and dignified. He was peaceful in his Atlantic Canadian home by the sea.

In his installation address as Canada's 25th Governor General, His Excellency said: "If I am to be known for anything, I would like it to be for encouraging Canadians, for knowing a little bit about their daily, extraordinary courage, and for wanting that courage to be recognized." The Caring Canadian Award which he instituted is a tribute to this great public servant, even as it honours women and men from coast to coast to coast who give so much of themselves, asking nothing in return.

The honours which he bestowed on his fellow Canadians were many. Those that Mr LeBlanc created to celebrate the Millennium speak to his values and his aspirations for the people within this great Country: a special one-time award "The Governor General's History Medal for the Millennium", and the Millennium Edition of the Map of Canada.

This Governor General opened Rideau Hall to the public, held summer concerts and winter parties on the grounds, and took the Vice-Regal New Year's Levee to the provinces. Here at home, he is known as "a man of the people". It was this quality that guided him as the representative of Her Majesty.



Roméo LeBlanc took to this high office a lifetime of writing and teaching – of reflection. He took with him his years of representing those who fish and farm and work in the forests. During his first election campaign in 1972, he said that "he wanted to take government to the people". He became Canada's favourite Minister of Fisheries and Oceans of all time – "the fisherman's Minister".

During these days of mourning, one has only to listen to others to understand the meaning of his life. One said "he was a lion of a man". I smiled, thinking of his

daring in turning the lion on the vice-regal flag into a more gentle creature. Many have said "he was immensely kind". A former member of his staff said "what really stands out was his sense of fairness". Another colleague said "He kept all of his virtues of humility, simplicity and care for the underdog." And in a local newspaper "He broke down the barriers between the Anglophones and the Francophones."

As the first Acadian Governor General, the Right Honourable Roméo LeBlanc gave great honour to his fellow Acadians, especially in welcoming President Jacques Chirac to his native village in 1999 during the Sommet de la Francophonie. And at the end, his state funeral in this village of Memramcook, where Acadian culture flourishes, concludes a proud chapter in Acadian history.

He instilled in all of us a greater understanding of who we are and how we can share Canada. "When we talk among ourselves all we get back are echoes. But when we talk with others of a different mind we are made to think. And it is in thinking that we learn and in learning that we grow. But we only grow if we take time to quietly and carefully listen to each other."

I believe this is the challenge Roméo LeBlanc leaves to each of us – to talk, to listen, to learn and to grow. He was a peacemaker, even as he paid great tribute to the men and women in the Canadian Armed Forces, to our peacemakers and to our veterans. He was the voice of minorities and he reached out to his fel-

low Canadians like few others.

Speaking to the Empire Club in 1996, this beloved man said: "I am told that there is a proverbial phrase among the Inuit: 'A long time ago, in the future.'" He concluded: "Let the children see our history, and maybe it will help to shape the future." The Right Honourable Roméo LeBlanc's life is now part of our history. May we uphold his values and his vision to shape a better future for our fellow citizens, for Canada and for the world. And may we remember always to be kind to each other.

During these days of mourning for our loss, one has only to listen to his neighbours to grasp a sense of the true meaning of the life of the Right Honourable Roméo LeBlanc.



*Shown here reading her first Speech from The Throne, the Hon Marilyn Trenholme Counsell served as New Brunswick's Lieutenant Governor 1997-2003, after which she was summoned to the Senate of Canada.*



## REVISED COST OF CANADA'S CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY SURVEY

### NOW READY ON-LINE AND FOR DISTRIBUTION HOW TO REQUEST YOUR PRINT COPY AT NO CHARGE

As readers of *CMN* with email addresses known to the Monarchist League of Canada will already be aware, after issuing the 2009 *Cost of Canada's Constitutional Monarchy Survey* a few months ago, serious errors in the detail – although not in the overall calculations of cost – came to light which resulted the League's apologizing to Their Honours, the Lieutenant Governors of the provinces for which inaccurate information had been printed, and undertaking a complete revision of the study to make sure it was as accurate as possible.

This process has now been completed, and the revised study (numbered as issue 29-A of *Canadian Monarchist News*) appears online ready for reading or printing by users via the League's website, at [www.monarchist.ca/new/docs/cc2009.pdf](http://www.monarchist.ca/new/docs/cc2009.pdf). Old print copies should now be destroyed.

We will shortly proceed to print "hard" copies of the new Survey, in numbers sufficient for anticipated distribution to new members and existing members requesting copies over the next three years, as well as to MP's and Senators and to those of you who would like a copy – at no charge – for your own use. You may request this copy by emailing [domsec@sympatico.ca](mailto:domsec@sympatico.ca) (kindly providing your name and address in label format). **Please make your request no later than November 15**, as we wish to go to press before the Holiday Season. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

# The Monarchy and the Federal Government: AN OPEN LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER HARPER

by Rector

Dear Prime Minister,

Monarchists commend your government on several initiatives. Your positive statements as Prime Minister in Parliament with respect to the Queen and the Crown, and similar references on your website, are appreciated, as is your own role in promoting the Crown, as is your recent announcement of plans to mark Her Majesty's diamond jubilee in 2012. The appointment of a Canadian Secretary to The Queen, together with your announcement of the homecomings of The Queen and Prince of Wales, is welcome, as well.

We were also very glad to see the leadership taken by your government in inviting the Queen of Canada to preside at the 90th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge in France in 2007. The long-overdue publication of *A Crown of Maples* in 2008 by the Department of Canadian Heritage, a superb presentation of the story of Canada's constitutional monarchy with a foreword by yourself, ranks among the best initiative on behalf of the Crown we have seen for many years.

In addition, your appointments of Lieutenant Governors have been entirely commendable, starting with that of Saskatchewan's Gordon Barnhart in 2006 and evidenced most recently with that of Philip Lee in Manitoba – where you demonstrated courtesy and initiative by consulting with that province's Premier and Opposition Leader.

However, much remains to be done in – to repeat words from your foreword to *A Crown of Maples* – “fostering an even greater awareness and appreciation of this Canadian institution and its ongoing importance to so many aspects of our country's daily life and the collective identity we all share and cherish.”

## Royal Visits

We have to admit to considerable disappointment with your government's record on visits of the Queen and members of the Royal Family to Canada. Your government has now been in office for sufficient time to review and implement a royal visit strategy. Yet the customary five-year plan for such visits has still not emerged. This does not matter a great deal for the Princess Royal, the Duke of York and the Earl of Wessex, as they come to Canada frequently on working visits, a practice pioneered by provinces and non-government organizations. However, it *does* matter for the Queen and for the Prince of Wales who, by the nature of their positions, only come on official visits coordinated by the Government of Canada.

We were disappointed when your government, apparently succumbing to the pressure of a small group of separatists in



The Queen receives Prime Minister Harper in Audience at Buckingham Palace on April 1

Quebec, declined to invite Her Majesty The Queen of Canada to join in the celebrations of the 400th anniversary of Quebec City in 2008. Another missed opportunity, in 2009, was the 50th Anniversary of the Opening of the St Lawrence Seaway in June, 1959 by Her Majesty and President Eisenhower, and so an ideal opportunity for The Queen and President Obama to visit Quebec, Ontario and New York state to commemorate the event and mark the Seaway's continuing important role as a transportation link joining two friendly powers. It would also have allowed HM once again to visit the United States as Queen of Canada.

In lieu of The Queen, the government should have invited the Prince of Wales to mark the Quebec anniversary, as his predecessor had done in 1908. It is important for the future of the constitutional monarchy in Canada that the Prince of Wales come to our country – and his future Realm – more often; his last visit was to Saskatchewan and Yukon in 2001 – eight years ago. While we look forward to welcoming His Royal Highness this coming November, the fact that an invitation has not been forthcoming from the Canadian government during this long interval has been harmful to the public perception of Canada's Crown and Royal Family. This is especially regrettable as the Prince is Colonel-in-Chief of six regiments or units of the Canadian Forces. One of them, the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, was unsuccessful in securing a visit for its 125th anniversary in September, 2008.

While we are all delighted that Her Majesty will be returning to Canada in 2010, we regret that apparently the timing of the homecoming will not permit our Monarch to preside at an event where the eyes of the world will be on us – the opening of the Whistler Olympics.

The Department of Canadian Heritage seems to be in the throes of ambivalence, confusion and even scepticism with respect to the Crown, the Royal Family and Royal visits. Following retirements and departures, there is a distinct penury of experienced personnel and corporate memory. The Department is clearly in need of renewal and reorganization at a senior level.

## Office of the Governor General and National Honours

There is continued and increasing concern about trends at Rideau Hall. The Office of the Governor General has acquired a new and harmful reputation for being unable even to answer correspondence and invitations in a timely way. Correspondents in Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom, some of them



Missed opportunity for Royal Homecoming: 2009 marks 50th Anniversary of The Queen, as Canada's Sovereign, joining US President Dwight Eisenhower to open the St Lawrence Seaway. Gathered on Britannia foredeck June 26, 1959 were (l-r): Prime Minister Diefenbaker, Prince Philip, Mammie Eisenhower, HM, General Eisenhower, Olive Diefenbaker.

in senior positions in their fields, report that sometimes replies are never received to letters or e-mails; if replies *are* sent, they often take months; and even then, they are, more often than not, badly drafted and inaccurate. This reflects poorly on Canada both at home and abroad.

The cavalier banishment of historic Royal portraits from Rideau Hall (some of them rescued for the Senate of Canada by Senator Serge Joyal) and inappropriate remarks on the subject by Rideau Hall staff; the absence of a picture of Sa Majesté la Reine du Canada at La Citadelle in Quebec City; the recent discovery that valuable Royal artefacts had been put up for sale by Rideau Hall; the discourteous placing of Her Majesty's portrait at the rear of the Rideau Hall ballroom – all these point to an ingrained attitude to Canada's monarchical traditions which is indifferent at best and more likely disrespectful and hostile.

Even more critical is the deteriorating situation of Canada's national Honours. One example is the controversy over the bravery decoration for an Ontario Provincial Police officer killed in the line of duty. This case is well explained by columnist Charles Dundas in the Spring 2008, issue #28, of *Canadian Monarchist News*. I particularly draw your attention to his pertinent observations about “poor management of the Bravery Decorations programme in the National Honours System, coupled with extra-Constitutional behaviour on the part of the Governor General.” In the same issue Mr. Dundas critiques Rideau Hall's negative attitude towards the Royal Victorian Order. In 2007 the Chancellery failed to respond to a request by Buckingham Palace to notify Canadian members of the gathering of the Order at Windsor, which takes place there every four years.

The above pales in comparison, however, with the controversy over the award of the Order of Canada to Dr. Henry Morgentaler. This is not the place to enter into the pro-life/pro-choice debate, which deeply divides Canadians. However, the point is precisely that, by this single act, the Order of Canada, and by extension the national Honours system, has become a locus of dispute. As you rightly said at the time, the Order of Canada should be a sign of unity in our country. The correspondence and editorial comment in the media for and against the Morgentaler appointment showed that it is now anything but. A number of members of the Order of Canada have resigned and sent back their

insignia in protest – an unprecedented move.

In this context, it is distressing that the nomination of the internationally-renowned medical ethicist Dr. Margaret Sommerville for the Order of Canada was reportedly turned down on the grounds that she was “controversial”. Words fail me to describe this Orwellian, kafka-esque example of doublespeak. It unfortunately gives credence to the view that the Order of Canada is biased towards recognizing a tendentious, politically-correct elite.

Regardless of opinions for or against a particular award, and of the merits (or lack thereof) of returning Honours insignia, the Order of Canada and the national Honours system have been seriously tarnished. Predictably but regrettably, there are calls for the abolition of a system which is now forty years old and has, on the whole, served Canada well despite the weaknesses in its administration.

The government as a whole might claim that both Rideau Hall and the Honours system lie beyond its control. This would, however, be evading the issue. Parliament approves appropriations for the Office of the Governor General. The Privy Council Office selects its senior staff. The Government of Canada is responsible for establishing and implementing honours policy, even if the Chancellery at Rideau Hall administers the system on its behalf.

The administration at Rideau Hall requires thorough reform, including replacement of some senior staff by persons who will discharge their duties in an appropriate manner, respectful of the Canadian Crown, and who will not be a constant source of controversy and embarrassment. The national Honours system urgently needs an independent review by external parties – *not* internally by Rideau Hall as has hitherto been the case.

The Canadian Crown, the Office of Governor General, and the national Honours system are at the core of our political culture; this is again well said in your foreword to *A Crown of Maples* – “at the heart of our system of government, the Canadian Crown is central to our uniquely Canadian identity”. They should be institutions of which Canadians can be proud. I hope that your government will take steps to see that this becomes truly the case.

Sincerely,  
Rector



Rideau Hall – “thorough reform” required.



# Hilary Weston does not “Tell All” in Account of her Time as Ontario Lieutenant Governor

by Priscus

**No Ordinary Time: My Years as Ontario's Lieutenant Governor**

by the Hon Hilary M. Weston,  
CM, O Ont

published by Whitfield Editions, 2007  
ISBN 978-0-9781805-1-5

*Not intended for commercial sale, the book is widely available online via [abebooks.com](http://abebooks.com), [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), [amazon.ca](http://amazon.ca) and [chapters.indigo.ca](http://chapters.indigo.ca) at a price of around CAN \$25.00*

In a long line of distinguished and hard-working Lieutenant-Governors of Ontario, Hilary Weston has surely been the most fascinating and high-profile. A glamorous former model who married retail magnate Galen Weston, ran Holt Renfrew and is a friend of the Royals and UK neighbour of The Queen, Mrs Weston's years as Her Majesty's representative in and for Ontario were indeed “No Ordinary Time.” Famously discreet, Mrs Weston's account provides a rare glimpse into the role and routine of a Lieutenant Governor, although those readers looking for more than a peek behind the veil of reticence characteristic of the Westons will be disappointed, witness the fact that the colourful and beautifully-produced book was privately printed, distributed to libraries, schools and friends, and was not made available for sale.

Mrs Weston's appointment came as a surprise to her as to the public. That she flew to Ottawa in November of 1996 with a long list of questions for the Prime Minister's staff after she was approached to take on the position is not astonishing; after all, her family and corporate responsibilities were formidable and would need extraordinary consideration, and some disentangling and disengagement. More intriguing is the book's revelation that “a prominent Toronto MP” spotted her but did not surmise the reason for the trip. And perhaps most surprising is that the ever-flexible M. Chretien, at his most canny, told her that he was willing to allow her to serve for only three years, Mrs Weston feeling that the customary five years “was just too big a commitment.” It was only later she realized that the PM knew well “it would be difficult, if not impossible” for her to leave after so brief a time. In a lovely vignette underlining both characteristic discretion and a life style the envy of monarchists, Mrs Weston goes on to explain that in the interim period between Chretien's offer and the public announcement, Galen and she spent a weekend with The Queen Mother at Royal Lodge, but revealed nothing of the forthcoming appointment while wishing they could have had the benefit of their host's long experience and advice. Surely this was a work of superelevation!

The book passes lightly over the predictable scoffing about “ladies who lunch” and “billionaire's wife” which greeted news of Mrs Weston's appointment shortly before Christmas (including an extraordinary bitter attack from Margaret Wente). She does admit that she thought briefly “of chucking the whole thing,” but she persevered, and wisely followed her husband's excellent



advice for anyone caught in the maw of sensation-seeking that passes for journalism these days, “never say a word.” Soon the reader finds her installed as LG, having made the decision to eschew the customary stretch limousine in favour of a more modest Chrysler Concorde. That restraint is typical of Mrs Weston's sensible approach to the office – and reflective too of an early-made decision to limit any obvious use of private funds (once an expectation for those appointed Governor) so as not to jeopardize any successor who might not enjoy such ample means. Just as typical, but more significant, Her Honour gave up her salary to fund First Connection, a youth employment opportunity program she created and steered during her time in office.

The Queen made a Canadian homecoming early in 1997 which included several days in Ontario, thereby giving the newly-minted Lieutenant Governor a considerable profile as she accompanied Her Majesty to a number of events. Ultimately perhaps of greater significance was the Westons' hosting the Prince of Wales, with William and Harry, to a Whistler ski holiday in 1998, and, in 2001, their welcoming the Prince to a festival of arts and culture in Toronto which they had arranged. The discreet tone of the book apparently precluded Her Honour from recounting the fury both instances of “private” arrangements caused in official, republican Ottawa, of attempts by officials either to prevent or take over elements of the visits and of the high public visibility and positive media coverage each engendered! That the Whistler trip should have constituted the entirety of Prince William's exposure to Canada, and one of the very rare times the Prince of Wales has escaped the suffocating clutches of officialdom in his future Realm, is both a tribute to the Westons' imaginative loyalty as it is an indictment of the Canadian government.

The Constitutional centre of *No Ordinary Time* lies in the chapter innocuously-titled “The Political Role.” Opposition to the Harris government's amalgamation of municipalities and of school boards waxed fierce, and phone calls, faxes and letters in their thousands made their way to the LG's Office. Mrs Weston reveals that at that time she began to carry a portfolio to all her public engagements so that no more petitions could be pressed into her hands! The turbulence

of that tumultuous period in Ontario politics was reflected, too, in unusually partisan wording in the Speech from the Throne, which resulted in Her Honour's reading of the government-prepared text being heckled by MPP's. Mrs Weston recounts that she proposed changes to the government “to soften its overtly partisan nature” – and – discretion coupled with a chink of light once again – that “Some of these changes were accepted, but most were not.”

One rather surprising statement that Mrs Weston makes in terms of the relationship between Lieutenant Governor and Premier is “that the regular consultation between the LG and the premier... was a custom from a bygone age.” That this is not universally so, and indeed is being revived in at least one province at the present time, might make one wish that a Premier had the benefit of the non-partisan experience the Sovereign's representative can share. In the event, she observes that obstacles to meetings when she had a concern to discuss lay not in Premier or Cabinet Ministers but with their staffs. And the good relations she nurtured doubtless facilitated a much more realistic budget – augmented by 60% during Her Honour's time – given the demands placed on the LG's office.

Homelessness and support for women in shelters were and remain two principal concerns of Hilary Weston. While in office, she reveals how she was able to “drop in” to the latter in a way which proved “natural, informal and quite unceremonial,” while a late night visit to homeless living under Toronto expressways provided Her Honour with insight and valuable connections with people working in the field. The reconciling role of the LG is thus well revealed – whereby the workers and homeless “could feel listened to and acknowledged – whatever their disputes with the government of the day.” The new “natural” emphasis of her time as Governor extended to the initiation of “soft departures” from events thereby precluding the need for them to be interrupted and for all to rise, and to abolition of receiving lines at receptions hosted in the Vice-Regal Suite at Queen's Park – though nothing could stop “having my hand routinely crushed” by Boy Scouts who had been taught to shake hands manfully!

The reminiscences of *No Ordinary Time* provide a valuable and interesting framework for the “typical” work of a Lieutenant Governor. These responsibilities include the presentation of Honours, Her Honour's role as chief mourner and as a military Honorary Colonel, together with the round of annual and special events such as the 100th birthday celebration for The Queen Mother held outdoors at Queen's Park. The book is also fleshed out with helpful historical material, a selection from notable speeches and table of highlights of Her Honour's time in office and – appreciated but rare in even commercial texts these days – a competently-prepared index. The work is also greatly enhanced by lavish colour photography, much hitherto not seen or widely distributed, and reproduced with extraordinary clarity and care. Errors seem few, although it is surprising that the word “term” appears frequently in

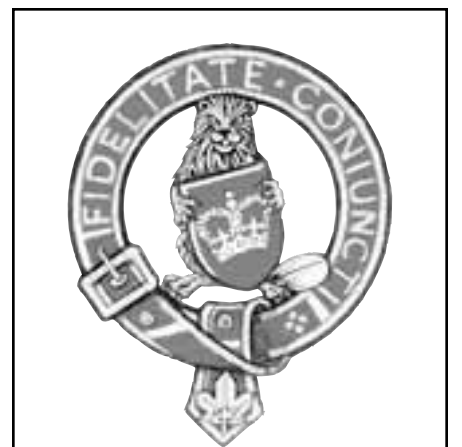


Hon Hilary Weston with her husband Galen, a partner and supporter in the Vice-Regal Office

relation to what would more accurately be called “time” in office, as a Lieutenant Governor is appointed “during pleasure” albeit that Prime Minister Harper has made clear he regards the customary five-year period as normative.

Most poignant and fascinating are Mrs Weston's reflections in the chapter headed “Farewell to Queen's Park.” Observing that her time had led her to reflect her role as less “head” of state than “heart” of government, she eloquently sums up her belief in the Crown as intrinsic to national identity, key component of our Parliamentary system, reflection of our history and expression of “how we differ from our friends and neighbours to the south.” Modestly, she does not state that the impact of her time in office was so great that it led even as partisan a figure as the leader of the provincial NDP to quote poetry as he paid tribute to her in the Legislative Farewell.

In her preface, Mrs Weston writes that the office of Lieutenant Governor “is a fragile institution, constantly threatened by misunderstanding, outdatedness or mockery.” To overcome such perceptions, she tried to make her role “responsive and relevant.” The public record, amplified and humanized by this book, makes it clear that Her Honour more than succeeded by giving of herself so freely to the service of our Queen by means of a great deal of hard work, common sense and singular grace.



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# GOVERNOR GENERAL: RIGHT TO PROROGUE PARLIAMENT?

## Debate over Mme Jean's Assent to Prime Minister's Request Governor General followed Constitution – probably would have had to allow Dissolution

Report & Commentary by Senex

A rare potential exercise of the Governor General's discretionary powers? A no-brainer decision following the customary routine agreement of the Crown to constitutional Advice tendered by a sitting Prime Minister? Late November and early December, 2008 found this debate raging in Canada.

### BACKGROUND

The General Election of October 14, 2008 found the Harper Ministry gaining 19 seats and so remaining in power as a minority government. The Conservatives held 143 seats in the Commons to a combined Opposition total of 164 (discounting the Speaker).

Six weeks later, on November 27, amidst a worsening international economic crisis, the Finance Minister, James Flaherty, presented a fiscal update to Parliament. This contained several measures the opposition parties found unacceptable. Although some of the proposals were subsequently withdrawn, the opposition continued to criticize the Tories' handling of the crisis. The Liberal and New Democratic caucuses then announced that they would attempt to defeat the government in the House. However, they stated that a new election would be unnecessary, as their leaders had concluded a formal agreement to govern as a coalition, with the support of the Bloc Québécois, until at least June of 2011. Part of the agreement was that outgoing head of the Liberal Party, Official Opposition leader Stéphane Dion, would become Prime Minister until a Liberal Party leadership convention was held in May, 2009.

Facing apparently-certain defeat in the House of Commons on a Vote of No-Confidence re-scheduled for December 8th, the government announced on December 2nd that it would ask the Governor General to prorogue Parliament, thereby overcoming the possibility of its defeat. With the waters muddied by the mysterious appearance of a recording in which NDP Leader Jack Layton said that the groundwork for cooperation between the NDP and the Bloc had been laid long before the crisis, debate over the various possible scenarios ensued in Question

Period, in the media, in demonstrations outside Rideau Hall and in television advertising by the Tories. The latter attacked the notion that the leader of a party which had gained only 25% of the popular vote in an election held but a few months before would have a legitimate mandate to govern as the result of "a secret agreement." For his part, M. Dion wrote the Governor General on December 3rd, asking that she not grant a Prorogation as such abuse of power would deny the Parliament its right to express confidence or not in the government.

As Mme Jean prepared to cut short her official visit to Eastern Europe on December 3, the Governor General told reporters in Prague that it was time for her to go home: "I think my presence is required. And I think I need time also for sound judgment... I think what is happening right now is part of the possibilities of our democratic system, and I think that people can be reassured that, as I turn to what is happening, I am myself looking at my constitutional duties."

December 4th found the Prime Minister meeting for over two hours with Her Excellency at Rideau Hall. He emerged to inform Canadians that Mme Jean had agreed to prorogue Parliament until January 26th, 2009. In their responses, the party leaders were careful not to criticize the Governor General, but to focus their attacks on Mr Harper and his policies. Rideau Hall did not announce whether any conditions were attached to the assent, nor respond to criticism of the decision's having been made behind closed doors. Political activity continued including rallies across Canada for and against the potential coalition. But by the time Parliament resumed, dissent within the Liberal caucus had led to M. Dion's replacement by Michael Ignatieff, who on January 28th met with Mr Harper and agreed to support the government subject to certain conditions.

### COMMENTARY ON CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

Many significant constitutional questions were raised during widespread debate both before and after the granting of Prorogation, but they centered on options facing the Governor General: to accept Mr Harper's request for Prorogation; to refuse it; and to grant or refuse a dissolution of Parliament if Mr Harper were to ask for one either as a first request or should Her Excellency refuse his advice for a Prorogation. Mme Jean in turn would have been briefed on the basic principles facing any vice-regal personage in such a situation: that The Queen's Government must continue; that her sole Constitutional "advisor" – as long as he remains untainted by scandal and undefeated in the House – is her Prime Minister; and that she should do everything possible to avoid having to employ the independent Reserve Powers of the Crown.

#### Accepting Request for Prorogation

It is clear that Her Excellency had no choice but to accept Mr Harper's request. This was not because she personally agreed or disagreed with his policies, or felt that he was a good or bad Prime

Minister. The relevant fact was – he was the sitting Prime Minister, with a mandate confirmed in an election held just seven weeks prior in which his party had obtained significantly more seats and more popular votes than any other party; and he had not lost the confidence of Parliament. He was not tainted by personal scandal. The country was facing a time of economic crisis, which extended uncertainty and further political upheaval could only worsen. As stated previously. Her Excellency has only one constitutional "advisor," the Prime Minister of the day. She could not anticipate what the result of a scheduled vote of confidence might be (after all, the government might have been able to postpone it further, or to secure support or abstentions from opposition MP's as Mr Martin so ably had done); but she had to act on the basis of precedent and of the facts facing her.

Mme Jean had every right to insist to Mr Harper that granting him the Prorogation was on the basis of a commitment on his part to meet Parliament and subject his economic measures to a vote of confidence immediately on its return. Whether in fact she laid out these or other conditions, we do not know. The details of meetings between Sovereign or vice-regal representatives on the one hand, and Prime Minister, on the other, rightly remain confidential; and the meetings themselves are held behind closed doors, precisely so that the Crown may remain as removed as possible from the partisan jockeying which characterizes other aspects of Parliamentary and political contention. The purpose of having but one "advisor" in this context is to place the political responsibility where it belongs, squarely on the Prime Minister. This provides a protection for the Governor General, and for the institution of the Crown. Politicians who place the Sovereign or her representative in the perilous necessity of using the Reserve Powers of the Crown when it can possibly be avoided serve neither Constitution nor country.

#### Refusing Request for Prorogation

Had Mme Jean refused the Prime Minister's request, he would surely have submitted his resignation. Mme Jean would then have placed herself in the unenviable situation of making critical political decisions as an independent actor; for she would no longer have a Prime Minister to give her Constitutional "advice" despite whatever informal (and probably, conflicting) advice a departing Prime Minister or any bevy of constitutional "experts" might have tendered her. She would have had to decide: a) whether to seek another Conservative able to lead the minority government and more likely to be able to reach quickly an agreement with the Opposition failing which to promise to advise her to dissolve Parliament and hold an election; b) whether to invite M. Dion to form a government as he had indicated he was willing and able to do; c) whether to ask Mr Harper or a caretaker Conservative Minister to stay on as Prime Minister, after which she would dissolve Parliament and hold an election on her own responsibility.



Governor General and Prime Minister – conditions on Prorogation?

Each of the foregoing scenarios would pose grave danger to Mme Jean and to the country. By refusing Mr Harper's advice, she would be effectively dismissing the duly and recently elected leader of the government. Following a) she would be substituting her judgement for not only that of the electorate at large – who had voted for the Tories on the basis of Mr Harper's being leader – but also for that of the processes of the party which had selected Mr Harper to lead them. If she had taken option b), she would effectively be installing as Prime Minister someone whose candidacy had been rejected by the normal electoral process a very short time before, and who had already announced his intention to resign as leader of his party five months hence. Taking option c) would have plunged the country into fresh elections in an unprecedentedly-brief time since the previous vote, and left a caretaker government in charge but preoccupied with an election during a time of fraught economic conditions.

A fourth option would have involved her summoning M. Dion, but making it clear to him – and probably to the public, too – that his Commission would run for but a brief fixed period in order to allow urgent financial measures to be implemented; and that he would then undertake to ask for a Dissolution so that the future government would be determined not by the Governor General but by the electorate. This would probably have been the most palatable course in a series of bad options, but it was not seriously advanced during the debate, nor is it certain whether Mr Dion would have accepted such a restricted offer of power.

Fifth, Mr Harper could have asked The Queen to dismiss Mme Jean and to appoint another Governor General in her place. It is not known whether this course of action was considered. While relations between the PMO and Rideau Hall have often been strained, the general belief is that Mr Harper's staff feel it wisest to "wait out" the conclusion of Mme Jean's time in office and then secure a more congenial nominee for the position. Dismissal of a sitting Governor General might be seen as putting the Sovereign in the midst of controversy solely for the advantage of a Prime Minister in perilous political waters; sympathy for Mme Jean and contention over the rights and wrongs of the dismissal would surely have become a football in any ensuing election, to the detriment of the Crown's non-partisan authority.

continued on the next page



General Lord Byng, the last Governor General to refuse a dissolution request, although Mr Schreyer mused about the possibility.

# PROROGATION

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A final and even more unlikely scenario was mentioned nowhere, as far as we are aware: that for the sake of the country Mme Jean would summon party leaders to a Rideau Hall Conference to hammer out agreement on basic decisions, political and economic, to see the country through the crisis with the promise of an election in several months' time. This would follow precedents such as George V's 1914 Palace Conference on the Irish Question, or his summoning all the party leaders to the Palace during the financial crisis of 1931. Mme Jean's thin record on dealing with constitutional and public policy matters and the lack of many long-serving Household members at Rideau Hall probably ruled out any consideration of such a risky, hands-on role for the Governor General on this occasion.

## **Granting Mr Harper a Dissolution**

Had the Prime Minister chosen to ask the Governor General for a Dissolution and fresh elections, rather than a Prorogation, Mme Jean's decision would have been much more difficult. His argument

would have been that economic conditions had worsened since the recent election; that the opposition parties had chosen to "play politics" with those conditions rather than assist in passing measures through Parliament to alleviate them; and that only an election focused on that one issue would result in a government with an unchallenged mandate to take the measures needed in the present emergency. Against this, the Opposition parties would be filling the air waves and the ears of Mme Jean's Private Secretary with the fact that fresh elections would cause two months' delay in any substantive action at a critical time for the economy; that a viable alternative government existed by virtue of the coalition arrangements already concluded; and that the two formal parties to the coalition had between them 7 per cent more of the popular vote than the sitting government, and, with the Bloc's support, a clear majority of seats which could be tested in the House.

All the arguments detailed above as to Mme Jean's unique Constitutional relationship with any sitting Prime Minister would still obtain. Though she might ask

Mr Harper not to tender such advice, and to ask instead for a Prorogation, had he been adamant she might have felt that the safest course – not that we shall ever know – would have been to allow him the Dissolution. There seems one incontrovertible argument for this: the subsequent election would have been fought, rightly, on Mr Harper and his colleagues' performance in office, on their responsibility for the turmoil and impasse in Parliament and on the merits of their proposed economic measures – and, *not* in some inevitable election only a few months down the road, on the Governor General's "installing an undemocratic government" as the Tories surely would have made the central issue of the campaign. Nothing could be more dangerous than another King-Byng election, where the propriety of the vice-regal rather than party leaders' programmes and personalities becomes contentious – one which inevitably lead to calls for a republic under the most favourable circumstances imaginable for its proponents.

## **Conclusion**

All the principal players appear to

have acted in a constitutional way to resolve the crisis without damage to Canada's system of government. Mme Jean rightly cut short her visit abroad, made only studiously neutral statements and was prudent in giving the Prorogation at Mr Harper's request, with or without conditions, but certainly with the public expectation that Parliament would vote on his government's economic programme shortly after a brief recess during the Holiday period. The Prime Minister did not attempt to bring direct public pressure to influence the Governor General's decision. The Opposition coalition, while using robust language to attack a possible Prorogation, drew Her Excellency's attention the possibility of an alternative government should the existing one fall. When disappointed, their criticism focused on Mr Harper and not on the Governor General. Thus, whatever the rights and wrongs of the partisan disagreements, Canada was spared a potentially divisive period of uncertainty and upheaval during an undoubted economic crisis.

## **WHO SHOULD THE QUEEN APPOINT AS CANADA'S NEXT GOVERNOR GENERAL?**



**The Prime Minister has made it clear that he is committed to a consultative process in making nominations for high office. So CMN challenges its readers to put on their vice-regal thinking caps and make some suggestions as to who should be Mme Jean's successor.**

### **Qualifications to consider:**

- Loyalty to the Crown and a broad knowledge of Canada, its history, institutions and diverse culture, along with a familiarity with the Office of Governor General.
- One senses the country has long moved beyond a feeling that any "category" choice must be made, such as a slavish alternation of Francophone/Anglophone or male/female: the best person is the best person regardless of background, ethnicity, faith, place of residence and so forth. A probable exception: in that the last two appointments have come from the media, the next one likely will emerge from beyond the halls of the CBC!
- Political savvy is a plus; coming from an very recent partisan background is probably a negative.
- Skill in handling the media and appointing staff coupled with a genuine liking for people.
- Humility: the power and potential of the Office are best exercised as The Queen uses hers – with a light touch; a GG needs no "agenda" beyond service to Queen and nation.
- A name that may not be nationally known, but one which will quickly win a broad acceptance. The individual may well have received a National or Provincial Honour – but a lot of good folk have not, or have declined such recognition.

***CMN will print the most interesting and thoughtfully-supported nominations in its next issue***

Please write your suggestions with up to 300 words of supporting comment – mail to the League at PO Box 1057, Oakville, ON L6J 5E9 or email to [domsec@sympatico.ca](mailto:domsec@sympatico.ca)

# Controversy Taints Order of Canada

**Montreal Archbishop, former NB Lt-Gov, amongst those resigning over Morgentaler appointment – Chief Justice of Canada distances herself from decision – “Abortion debate cannot be part of the agenda of the Monarchist League of Canada”**

**Report and Reflections by  
Robert Finch, Dominion Chairman,  
The Monarchist League of Canada**

No social issue in Canada continues to provoke more heated debate, nor



*Dr Henry Morgentaler: his appointment to Order of Canada provoked controversy, resignations and return of Insignia*

rouses more deeply-held convictions, than that of abortion. It is not surprising, therefore, that the appointment of Dr Henry Morgentaler to the Order of Canada in the Canada Day Honours List in 2008 provoked no less fierce and diverse reactions.

When events touching the Crown occur, as Dominion Chairman I do not have the luxury of being able to say “no comment.” A good deal of The Monarchist League of Canada’s reputation and credibility has been developed by its being a source on which the media – hence the public – can rely for reasoned commentary and authoritative information.

Of the handful of critical e-mails and letters I receive each year, some predictably say “you are far too pro-Tory” (when we have praised a good deed by the Harper government) while others just as inevitably suggest “you are always criticizing Mr Harper’s government” (when we have pointed out a disappointing act or omission). That is life – and the small volume and equal numbers of the criticism suggest we usually have it about right: the League has always been, and will remain, non-partisan. We certainly don’t want the Crown to become a partisan political football as it has, to some extent, for instance, in Australia. We have always welcomed support from any public figure regardless of party affiliation, and rebuked attacks, pointed out mis-statements and regretted missed opportunities in the same way.

Reflecting on the statement below I issued electronically at the time of the announcement of Dr Morgentaler’s honour, I was not surprised by a handful of virulent reactions – “you are obviously pro-Life” and “you show your bias as “pro-Choice,” although I had worked hard with my colleagues to come up with as dispassionate and neutral as possible a statement. The fact is, as your Chairman, I am neither. And as Monarchists, we must be neither. In our personal lives, we will follow the dictates of our conscience, and are free to engage in lively argument at home, in our faith community or over a few beers after work. But in the League – its publications, its branch activities, its media comments – we are entirely agnostic. We merely point to whatever facts exist, and outline the pros and cons of the decision while pointing out that good Monarchists – loyal Canadians – can and do have a variety of opinions, just as they do on the other issues that engage the public square, but not the League.

What is a fact is that on June 1, 2009,

the Governor General announced the acceptance of three additional resignations from the Order of Canada, those of Jean-Claude Cardinal Turcotte, Archbishop of Montreal; musician Jacqueline Richard; and astronomer René Racine. “I am worried about how we treat life,” said His Eminence, “from conception to death. I decided to take a stance that clearly reflects my convictions.” Others had acted, as well: on July 9, just a week after the Honours List had been issued, former New Brunswick Lieutenant Governor Gilbert Finn wrote the Prime Minister and Governor General to say “that since Dr Morgentaler is now a member of the Order, I am returning my insignia



*Jean-Claude, Cardinal Turcotte. Quebec Prelate resigned from Order of Canada to protest Morgentaler appointment.*

and no longer want to be a part of the Order.” Six other honorees, or family members of deceased honorees, had also returned their insignia in protest.

Others as strongly endorsed the appointment. *The Waterloo Record* editorialized “...he should be judged as a brave, social rebel who confronted the power of the state and significant public opposition to affirm a woman’s right to determine what happens to her body. For this reason he deserves the Order of Canada. Because what he did, regardless of the upheaval he caused, served Canada and made it a better country.”

In an unprecedented public comment on the workings of the Advisory Committee which selects new members of the Order, Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin told an August 16 news conference that she had abstained from voting on the nomination, and that in general, she “is only there to make sure the meeting runs well and that the vote is taken fairly and not to weigh in for or against a particular candidate.” This was in response to widely circulated reports that she had been the driving force behind the Morgentaler selection. More light was shed on the Committee’s deliberations as the Chief Justice revealed in remarks to the Canadian Bar Association that there had been no practice of consensus on the Committee, and that votes on candidates were routinely taken – but that she had on only one occasion to break a tie.

The Advisory Council of the Order of Canada operates, necessarily, behind closed doors. It consists of The Chief Justice of Canada, the Clerk of the Privy Council, the Deputy Minister of Canadian Heritage, the Chairman of the Canada Council, the President of the Royal Society of Canada, the Chairman of the Board of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and up to five members of the Order appointed for three-year terms.

Sometimes criticized for being “too establishment” or “too self-perpetuating,” whatever else is true of this body is its members are not naive people. They cannot have failed to be aware that in select-

ing Dr Morgentaler “For his commitment to increased health care options for women, his determined efforts to influence Canadian public policy and his leadership in humanist and civil liberties organizations” they would not only cause a storm of controversy, but also that the Order would be seen to be endorsing a point of view on a matter so divisive that even Parliament was unable to agree on legislation to deal with it.

On reflection, I think this is the key to a reasonable Monarchist reaction to the appointment. If The Order of Canada is our nation’s highest honour, it must be an instrument of national unity rather than the driver of an agenda. That is why serving politicians are not appointed. It should not appear to be endorsing one side or another of issues of wrenching controversy still alive in the public marketplace. To do so is to weaken the Order’s prestige and so provoke dissension rather than harmony.

## JULY 2008 FINCH STATEMENT

The recent appointment of Dr Henry Morgentaler to the Order of Canada has caused widespread discussion throughout Canada and within the League.

It is interesting that the same Honours List which announced Dr Morgentaler’s honour contained another name that might have been thought controversial. Kim Campbell served but a few months as Prime Minister, and her government



*Former New Brunswick Lieutenant Governor Gilbert Finn returned Insignia in Order of Canada controversy*

went down to the greatest defeat which any major political party has ever suffered in Canada. Yet this latest example of the now routine (though long delayed, in the Campbell case) naming of former Prime Ministers to the highest level of the Order of Canada brought virtually no comment, even though these politicians are by their nature, divisive and partisan figures.

The basis of any national honours system must be a widespread agreement that the recipient is worthy of recognition. So it is that Canadians probably feel that, 15 years later, recognition of the first woman Prime Minister in the same way as her peers (including John Turner, a similarly short-lived PM) is appropriate. In neither case does the honour endorse the political acumen or partisan views of the recipient, but rather, it acknowledges that, with the passage of time, the public would agree that anyone who reaches such high office has played a significant role in the life of the country.

In a country whose Parliament has been unable to agree on any legislation about abortion, the act and its promotion are not illegal. Whether or not it is moral is a deeply personal question of eminent societal significance, touching as it does on questions of religion, human life, culture and philosophy.

It is worthwhile to point out that many recipients of honours have engaged in controversial activities. For example, an artist’s “art” may be valued by some, considered obscene by others. Some praise medical research involving animal experimentation; others find it abhorrent. Some value Canada’s military participation in Afghanistan; others consider it deeply wrong. Some are people of faith, others think religion a sham. Some think the CBC a national treasure; others have decidedly the opposite point of view! Yet controversial painters and doctors, generals and bishops and newscasters, receive honours. It is felt that they have made a contribution of significance to a pluralistic society.

Nor can anyone be sure as to the motivation of the Order of Canada’s Advisory Committee in putting Dr Morgentaler’s name before Her Excellency for approval. The Citation accompanying the announcement of Dr Morgentaler’s honour runs: *For his commitment to increased health care options for women, his determined efforts to influence Canadian public policy and his leadership in humanist and civil liberties organizations.*

Most Monarchists, and one suspects, most Canadians, are not qualified to judge the relative merits of Dr Morgentaler’s contributions to humanist and civil liberties organizations – although understandably some will see the terms as coded references to activities in support of a particular part of the political spectrum. How much these activities weighed in the Committee’s judgment, as opposed to the “increased health care options” commitment we cannot know. The wording itself has angered many who decidedly do not see abortion as merely another “option” nor rightly the decision for a woman alone, while of course those on the other side think exactly the opposite. One thing is certain: that debate cannot be part of the agenda



*Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin – abstained from voting on Morgentaler nomination*

of the Monarchist League of Canada.

The best monarchical argument against Dr Morgentaler’s appointment is that it is apparently causing deep public disquiet. It thereby runs the risk of prejudicing the standing of the Order of Canada as a universally acknowledged and politically-neutral arbiter of excellence, and of being seen by some as diminishing the stature of all those other of our fellow subjects who have received it.

At the same time, the debate over his nomination has the healthy result not only of focusing Canadians on their national honours system, but also of questioning whether the composition of its Advisory Committee is best suited to make decisions which, for good or ill, come under intense scrutiny in today’s “open” society.



# Altering the Succession to the Throne

*A British Perspective – Extract from House of Commons Library Research Paper 09/24 – 17 March, 2009*

[Most recently prompted by a Private Member's Bill presented by Dr Evan Harris, MP, and by encouraging remarks by successive British Prime Ministers as to the desirability of amending the Succession to the Throne, discussion throughout the Commonwealth continues as to whether and how the Succession should be changed to abolish the current, unique, discrimination against Roman Catholics and to implement absolute rather than male primogeniture in the order of Succession. This is an enormously complex issue, involving as it does the constitutional processes of all the Commonwealth Realms. This section of a UK study details arguments for and against the necessity of obtaining consent from each Realm: it does not express an opinion. CMN will continue coverage of this issue, which is expected to be discussed at the next Commonwealth Heads Of Government Meeting to be held later this year in Trinidad & Tobago. Ed.]



Evan Harris, MP  
– moved in  
Westminster Parliament  
to alter Succession

## B. Assent of the Commonwealth

The *Statute of Westminster 1931* appears to require the United Kingdom to obtain the assent of all the Parliaments in the Commonwealth before altering the law of succession, 35 although the precise nature of this requirement is subject to some disagreement.

The preamble to the *Statute of Westminster* states:

inasmuch as the Crown is the symbol of free association of the members of the British Commonwealth of Nations, and as they are united by a common allegiance to the Crown, it would be in accord with the established constitutional position of all the members of the Commonwealth in relation to one another that any alteration in the law touching the Succession to the Throne or the Royal Style and Titles shall hereafter require the assent as well of the Parliaments of all the Dominions as of the Parliament of the United Kingdom.<sup>(36)</sup>

However, Professor Blackburn has argued that as these words are included in the preamble to the Act, rather than the Act itself, they have no legal basis, but a strong moral one:

In British law, the nature of this obligation is moral or one of honour only, because the need for these assents is stipulated in the preamble rather than the actual text of the 1931 statute. But nonetheless, this obligation is a powerful political convention. Indeed, in international terms across those Commonwealth countries affected, it is equivalent to a treaty. Absence of consultation by the UK government before it brought forward legislation to reform the succession laws would be regarded as high handed and arrogant, and it would cause serious offence in Australia, Canada and the other Commonwealth states where the Queen reigns.<sup>(37)</sup>

In his book *Monarchy and the Constitution* Professor Vernon Bogdanor refers to the abdication crisis in 1936

where consent was sought from the nations in the Commonwealth for the *Declaration of Abdication Act 1936*. This Act gave statutory effect to the Instrument of Abdication which Edward VIII had signed. It also provided that the Duke of York (who was next in line to the throne) should succeed, barred any possible future claim to the throne by Edward VIII or his descendants, and declared that the *Royal Marriages Act 1772* should not apply to Edward VIII or his descendants. Professor Bogdanor states that:

The provisions of this [the Declaration of Abdication] Act were required, by convention, first laid down in 1930 and confirmed in the preamble to the Statute of Westminster 1931, to be given the consent of the other members of the Commonwealth. Since today the sovereign is also the sovereign of fifteen other Commonwealth countries, there must be a common rule of succession, and it would be unconstitutional, although not illegal, for the British government unilaterally to alter the rule of succession.<sup>(38)</sup>

Therefore, he explains, it remains "a convention that any alteration in [the rules of succession] must be agreed between all of the members of the Commonwealth which recognise the Queen as their head of state".

In 1952 the Commonwealth prime ministers had agreed that each of the monarchies in the Commonwealth should be free to adopt its own title in a form suitable to its own local circumstances.<sup>(39)</sup> Although the title of the monarch might be varied from country to country, the person to which the titles apply must be the same person across the Commonwealth.<sup>(40)</sup>

Professor Bogdanor explains that: When George, Elector of Hanover, became George I in 1714, he ruled over two kingdoms with different rules of succession – for Hanover pro-



*Statute of Westminster 1931 – would it preclude Succession change without consent of each Realm?*

hibited the succession of a female to the throne. Accordingly, when Victoria became queen in 1837, the link with Hanover was broken, and Victoria's uncle, the Duke of Cumberland, became the Elector of Hanover. Clearly, it would not be in accordance with the relationship between the monarchies of the Commonwealth that there should be any differences in the rules of succession.<sup>(41)</sup>

The matter has been tested in the Canadian courts, by way of an action in the Superior Court of Ontario by a private individual, who was aggrieved by the attitude taken by the Act of Settlement and allied constitutional statutes to Roman Catholics. This case, *O'Donohue v. Canada*, was decided in June 2003.<sup>(42)</sup> The judge, Mr Justice Roleau, decided the case was non-justiciable. He dis-

missed the application. Some of the *obiter dicta* of the judge are however instructive.

The office of the Queen is such a fundamental part of our constitutional structure that amendments to the Constitution in respect of that office require the unanimous consent of the federal and provincial governments (see s. 41(a) of the Constitution Act, 1982).<sup>(43)</sup>

He continued:

Applying that reasoning to the present case, it is clear that Canada's structure as a constitutional monarchy and the principle of sharing the British monarch are fundamental to our constitutional framework. In light of the preamble's clear statement that we are to share the Crown with the United Kingdom, it is axiomatic that the rules of succession for the monarchy must be shared and be in symmetry with those of the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries. One cannot accept the monarch but reject the legitimacy or legality of the rules by which this monarch is selected.<sup>(44)</sup>

And most importantly, the judgment contained the following interpretation of the Statute of Westminster on the need for unanimity in the Commonwealth in order to change the "foundation documents":

As a result of the Statute of Westminster it was recognized that any alterations in the rules of succession would no longer be imposed by Great Britain and, if symmetry among Commonwealth countries were to be maintained, any changes to the rules of succession would have to be agreed to by all members of the Commonwealth. This arrangement can be compared to a treaty among the Commonwealth countries to share the monarchy under the existing rules and not to change the rules without the agreement of all signatories.<sup>(45)</sup>

It is thus evident that any change in the succession provisions, according to this Canadian interpretation, would require legislation, at least in Canada, to validate its application there.

There are others, however, who believe that such obstacles should not, in practice, prevent any changes being made. The Fabian Commission argued that requirement of the Commonwealth nations must be sought is "unconvincing". The Commission argued stated that: It ignores the divisibility of the Commonwealth of the Crown in those states where the Queen is Head of State, as well as various amendments to the constitutions of these independent countries.<sup>(46)</sup>

The Fabian Commission stated that the concept of a divisible monarchy has been developed most clearly in Australia where, by 1973, the Australian Parliament was referring to Elizabeth II and Queen of Australia. In 1986 the *Australia Act* removed the residual powers of the British Government to intervene in the government of Australia or its individual states. The Act provides that:

No Act of Parliament of the United Kingdom passed after the commencement of this Act shall extend, or be deemed to extend, to the Commonwealth, to a State or Territory as part



British Constitutional expert Vernon Bogdanor – Commonwealth Realms must agree to any alteration in Succession to Throne

of the law of the Commonwealth, of the State or of the Territory.<sup>(47)</sup>

The Fabian Commission quoted Peter Harry of the Commonwealth Institute as stating:

It is highly debatable whether the members of the Commonwealth would need to ratify any alterations or reforms of the British monarchy. When there was a referendum on the monarchy in Australia in November 1999 the Queen stated that it was a matter entirely for the Australians and kept out of the debate completely. Likewise, Britons would be entitled to expect the Commonwealth nations to refrain from interfering with British reforms of the monarchy. It is worth mentioning that the Commonwealth is a voluntary association of independent nations not bound by legal treaties of any kind. It would also be incredibly difficult if it were the case. The constitutions of Australia and New Zealand for instance can only be changed through national referendums resulting in a majority of voters in a majority of states voting for the change.<sup>(48)</sup>

In practice, the Fabian Commission argued, that:

...With due consultation we believe it would not be difficult to obtain agreement among Commonwealth countries which retain the Queen as their Head of State on the kinds of reform proposed in this report. It looks very doubtful that any modern state would object to changes of the rules of succession removing discrimination on grounds of gender or religious affiliation. In this sense we do not believe that the position of the Queen as Head of State of other countries presents an obstacle to reforming the monarchy in the UK.<sup>(49)</sup>

## TABLE OF FOOTNOTES

(36) *Statute of Westminster 1931*

(37) Robert Blackburn, *King and Country: Monarchy and the Future King Charles III*, 2006, p126

(38) Vernon Bogdanor, *The Monarchy and the Constitution*, 1995, p45

(39) *The Royal Titles Act 1953*

(40) Vernon Bogdanor, *The Monarchy and the Constitution*, 1995, p269

(41) *Ibid*

(42) 2003 CanLII 41404 (ON S.C.) and is reported at [2003] O.T.C 623 and (2003) 109 C.R.R., References are to the Internet version; <http://www.canlii.org/on/cas/onsc/2003/2003onsc11019.html> (last viewed 16 March 2009). Mr O'Donohue appealed against the decision, but the appeal was summarily dismissed by the Ontario Court of Appeal ([2005] O.J. No.965, docket C40337).

(43) *Ibid*, para 23

(44) *Ibid*, para 27

(45) *Ibid*, para 33

(46) *The Future of the Monarchy: The Report of the Fabian Commission*, 2003, p90

(47) As quoted in *The Future of the Monarchy: The Report of the Fabian Commission*, 2003, p89

(48) From written evidence to the Commission on the Future of the Monarchy from Peter Harry of the Commonwealth Institute, cited in *The Future of the Monarchy: The Report of the Fabian Commission*, 2003, p91

(49) *The Future of the Monarchy: The Report of the Fabian Commission*, 2003, p90-91



# The Senior Realms of the Queen

*Australian Scholar's seminal comparative study on the Crown in Australia, Canada and New Zealand*

*Review & Commentary by Michael Jackson, CVO, SOM, CD  
Research Fellow, Canadian Plains  
Research Centre University of Regina*

**The Queen's Other Realms:  
The Crown and its Legacy in Australia,  
Canada and New Zealand**

by Peter Boyce, OA

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Scholars and supporters of the Crown in Canada have always been intrigued by the “sister dominions” of Australia and New Zealand which share the same monarch. Some Canadian commentators on the Crown have paid attention to them, most notably the dean of such writers, David E. Smith of the Universities of Saskatchewan and Regina, who has made frequent comparisons between the Crowns in the Australian and Canadian federal states.

Now the table has been turned, or the favour returned, by an eminent scholar of the Australian Crown, Peter Boyce, Officer of the Order of Australia, who, after a long and distinguished academic career, including a stint as vice-chancellor of Murdoch University, is an honorary research fellow at the School of Government at the University of Tasmania. In *The Queen's Other Realms*, he provides us with a comprehensive, welcome and long-overdue comparative study of the Crown in Australia, Canada and New Zealand.

The book's cover tells us that “the author's underlying loyalties are neither monarchist nor republican”. While sympathetic to the monarchical form of government, admiring its resilience and durability in the three countries, Dr. Boyce offers a fair and objective critique of the institution. However, the author tells us in his Preface that his study “does assume that the monarchy's days in Australia are almost certainly numbered and that even in Canada and New Zealand it may not long survive the reign of the current Queen”.

Dr. Boyce has vigorously taken up the challenge of studying this complex phenomenon in three countries, as shown by his extensive bibliography and careful footnotes. He demonstrates thorough knowledge and understanding of, and sensitivity to, the political cultures of Canada and New Zealand as well as of his native Australia, thanks to extensive travel and a far-flung network of contacts. In the interest of disclosure, this reviewer was one of Peter Boyce's Canadian contacts, meeting him on two of his trips to Canada and enjoying a regular correspondence with him since. It is good to see Canadian names such as David E. Smith, Jacques Monet, John Fraser, Richard Berthelsen and John Coe in the Acknowledgements.

## Scrutinizing “The Crown”

Peter Boyce takes care to examine all aspects of the multi-faceted institution which is the Crown. Recognizing the



*The Queen's first visit to New Zealand, 1954*

pioneering work of David E. Smith in shifting scholarly attention to the “invisible Crown”, Dr. Boyce points out the profound constitutional implications of the monarchical system in all three countries: “the enshrining of state authority in ‘the Crown’ has provided an effective mask for the steady expansion of power within the political executives” (p. 5). The author considers how to reconcile this political reality with the constitutional guardianship which the Crown is expected to fulfil, wielding the reserve powers. The constitutional role is inseparable from other aspects of the institution: relationship with the monarch; the method of appointment of vice-regal representatives; political attitudes towards the vice-regal offices and their incumbents; the public and media perception of governors; and the actual experience, both positive and negative, of the Crown at work in the three realms. Peter Boyce does an admirable job of disentangling the threads in this complex web.

He affirms in the first chapter that the Crown has on the whole served the realms very well, in that it “has helped idealise the state and divorce the routine performance of governmental functions from the more sordid partisan struggles for political power” (p. 5). He then chronicles “the decline of British identity” in the three old dominions, accelerating in the final two decades of the twentieth century, given increasing multiculturalism; this has led to a disassociation of the local Crowns from the “British” monarchy. He notes the erosion of royal symbols in the three realms, although he incorrectly states (p. 17) that the Crown has been replaced by the “ubiquitous maple leaf” atop Canada's coat of arms (it hasn't). Rideau Hall but also, though to a lesser degree, its counterparts in Canberra and Wellington, have been distancing themselves from the monarch. “Britishness” is now seen more as a liability than an asset; hence the trend towards governors representing “the idea of the Crown” rather than the monarch – a clear policy at Rideau Hall during Adrienne Clarkson's tenure.

## The Derivative Crown

Attention therefore shifts to the “surrogates” for the Queen in the “derivative” monarchies. Dr. Boyce traces the evolution of the divisible Crown following the Balfour Report of 1926 and the Statute of Westminster in 1931. Although Australia was the first realm to nominate a local resident as governor-general (in 1930) it did not consistently do so until 1965, nor did New Zealand till 1972, and some Australian states continued to have British governors as late as the 1970s. Compared to Canada, where governors general have been Canadian citizens since 1952 and lieutenant governors have al-

ways been so, this continued “Britishness” of the Crown in the Antipodes is striking – and paradoxical in light of the very active republican movement in Australia.

Analysing the evolving role of the Crown and its governors, the author deals with the conundrum, is the Queen head of state or the governor? – which I discussed in a review of Sir David Smith's 2005 book, *Head of State* (CMN No. 27, Autumn-Winter 2007). Dr. Boyce sees this as a matter of semantics; “it probably makes good sense”, he says (p. 29), “to describe the office of head of state in all three former dominions as ‘bipartite’ – a statement with which this reviewer would agree on condition that the term ‘tripartite’ is applied to the two federations. In any event, the prime objective of *The Queen's Other Realms* is to pose and answer a “fundamental question concerning the central purpose of the Crown”. This is, contends the author (p. 46), two-fold: “to ensure that a democratically elected government is always in place and that the government conducts itself in compliance with the constitution”; and “to help foster a sense of national unity and civic ideals”. How does the derivative Crown live up to these expectations in the three realms?

## Constitutional Watchdog?

Dr. Boyce deals with the first issue in examining to what extent Bagehot's three traditional “rights” of the monarch – to encourage, to warn and to be consulted – apply to vice-regal representatives, and how the reserve powers of the Crown have been exercised. He observes that, since governors do not enjoy the prestige or the long tenure of the monarch, they often do not have close relationships with their first ministers, at least in the form of regular meetings. Australian governments have been particularly reluctant in this regard, but Canadian prime ministers stopped meeting regularly with their governors general in the 1980s. On the other hand, in Australia and its states and in New Zealand, governors preside over the Executive Council, which resembles Canada's Privy Council but, unlike it, meets regularly to formally approve Cabinet business. Although practice has varied, Dr. Boyce finds that the majority of governors have used their chairmanship of Executive Council as a means of exercising the right “to be consulted”. This opportunity is lacking for their Canadian counterparts. However, in some Canadian provinces lieutenant governors do meet with their premiers and I document the successful practice of Bagehot's rights in Saskatchewan in a chapter of a book edited by Howard Leeson, *Saskatchewan Politics: Crowding the Centre*, Regina: Canadian Plains Research Center, University of Regina, 2009.)

What about the reserve powers – selecting or dismissing a first minister, granting or refusing dissolution? Dr. Boyce echoes David E. Smith's caveat that these powers must be placed in context as very rare exceptions to the norm where vice-regal representatives “act only on the receipt of formal advice” (p. 53). This said, he concludes that by and large the existence of the reserve powers is accepted in all three realms, even in Australia where they have been the most

controversial, with the notorious dismissal of Labor Prime Minister Gough Whitlam in 1975 by Governor-General Sir John Kerr. He makes only brief reference to the “King-Byng affair” of 1926 in Canada, but does discuss other Canadian examples where Governors General Michener, Schreyer and Clarkson mused about potential use of the reserve powers. Had the book been written after the exercising of vice-regal discretion for dissolution and prorogation in December, 2008 by Governor General Michaëlle Jean, the author would no doubt have had further pertinent observations on Canada. For New Zealand, the question is of recent relevance: the introduction of the multi-member proportional electoral system in 1995 has produced more “hung parliaments” and one New Zealand commentator sees the governor-general playing the role of “constitutional facilitator” and “backstop” (p. 179).

In view of this, another New Zealand



*Accompanied by her New Zealand Prime Minister, John Key, The Queen visits a NZ Tourism exhibition mounted in a giant rugby ball near Tower Hill, London.*

writer has recommended codification of the reserve powers. Peter Boyce discusses the issue both in the chapter on “Vice-regal Powers and Influence” and in the final chapter. In the former, the author notes that many commentators consider complete codification to be impractical and undesirable, echoing the aphorism of Eugene Forsey that to “embody them in an ordinary law is to ossify them. To embody them in a written Constitution is to petrify them” (p. 61). However, the author concludes that, in the interest of clarity, Bagehot's “rights” and the reserve powers should be codified in some form in all the Crown jurisdictions, rather than resorting to “heavy reliance on constitutional conventions that are ambiguous, misunderstood or open to abuse” (p. 232). The recent Canadian experience may give credence to Dr. Boyce's views.

## National Unity and Civic Ideals

It was a New Zealand governor-general, Sir Denis Blundell, who made what Dr. Boyce calls a “neat and sensible categorization” of the vice-regal role as “constitutional, ceremonial and unifying”; another, Sir Michael Hardie Boys, said that this “triad has now been widely adopted”; and a third, Dame Catherine Tizard, added that the two core values were “continuity” and “legitimacy” (pp. 178-179).

Dr. Boyce notes that in all three realms the vice-regal office has increasingly focused on civic or moral leadership and the promotion of what are perceived as national values. Patronage of community and non-profit organizations and promotion of worthy causes have been traditional. More recently, contem-

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temporary questions like literacy, fitness, women's issues, Aboriginal issues, multiculturalism, youth and voluntarism have appeared in vice-regal agendas and speeches. Canadians have been long been familiar with the national unity function which governors general have valiantly tried to fulfil in this bilingual, regionalized and multi-ethnic country. In discussing the *influence* of governors as compared to their *powers*, both of which are carefully explored by Peter Boyce throughout the book, one could see the former as deriving mainly from their ceremonial and community leadership roles. To what extent is this successful?

The author raises several factors which impinge on the effectiveness of governors; indeed, an entire chapter is devoted to "Failed and Successful Governorship". Of course, the principal factor is the qualities of the individuals themselves, and among these the author identifies familiarity with the political system, "attainment of seniority, preferably distinction, in one's chosen profession", health and fitness, dignity or *gravitas*, communications skills and social skills, for the latter quoting Ontario Lieutenant Governor Lincoln Alexander about his successor Hilary Weston, "she knows how to work a room" (pp. 192-197).

But "the unfettered prerogative" (p. 190) of the head of government to select the governor tends to cast a shadow on the appointment and is being increasingly challenged. In the opinion of Dr. Boyce, the low public profile of governors general in all three realms has been a hindrance to effectively fulfilling their perceived mandates, partly because of the woeful public ignorance of their role in governance, partly because of the "presidential" style of some first ministers who garner the publicity. Further, some prime ministers have sought to keep the vice-regal office in the shadows. The author notes that the supposedly monarchist Prime Minister John Howard in Australia "sometimes usurped the Governor-General's traditional role, especially at national military ceremonies" (p. 138). Another problem may be apprehension about a governor-general's "community leadership" role differing with the prime minister's views; John Howard was notably uncomfortable with Sir William Deane, who saw himself as the conscience of the nation.

How do Canadian governors general fare in Dr. Boyce's view? Readers of *CMN* will not be surprised by his assessment that, while Massey, Vanier and Michener were very successful, the four incumbents of Rideau Hall from 1979 to 1999, Schreyer, Sauvé, Hnatyshyn and LeBlanc, were not particularly effective, largely due to their political provenance. Jules Léger (1974-1979) had ambitious plans for the office and was surprisingly positive about the monarchy, writing to the Queen every month, but ill-health severely limited his impact. Jeanne Sauvé, says Dr. Boyce, "seems not to have been an enthusiastic monarchist" (p. 75), which Canadians familiar with her time at what some wags have called "Republican Hall" will consider a prime understatement! In any event, the "collective lacklustre reputation" (p. 76) of the four political appointees damaged the profile of and respect for the office. The two most recent appointees, Adrienne Clarkson and Michaëlle Jean, are, Dr. Boyce

notes, female media celebrities from ethnic and immigrant backgrounds and have markedly changed the office, despite the controversies over Clarkson's "escalating expenditures" and travels abroad, and over Jean's dual French nationality at the time of her appointment (which she relinquished before assuming office) and her unfamiliarity with Canada outside Quebec.

Whether Canadian governors have been successful or mediocre, very few indeed have been tainted with any form of scandal; the only recent ones noted by the author are Quebec lieutenant governors Jean-Louis Rioux, forced to resign in 1996 after a two months in office, and Lise Thibault, who retired in 2007 under the cloud of alleged financial mismanagement. The same cannot be said for Australia, where there have been forced resignations of two governors-general, Sir John Kerr in 1977 and Archbishop Peter Hollingworth in 2003, and of Tasmanian governor Richard Butler in 2004. The latter was a particularly egregious case of an inappropriate appointment by the Premier of Tasmania and was doomed from the outset. No wonder the methods of vice-regal appointment are being tested and found wanting.

Dr. Boyce therefore speculates at several points on possible reform of the process. He notes that in Canada that wider consultation has been urged for both national and provincial vice-regal appointments, citing sources as varied as Eugene Forsey, the 1970s Pépin-Robarts Task Force on Canadian Unity, Jacques Monet and the present reviewer (p. 77). He cautions, however, that patronage is firmly entrenched in Canadian political culture and unlikely to change. In Australia, given the high-profile "failed governorships", the public will demand better scrutiny of potential candidates and expect them to have familiarity with the political process as well as the ability to represent values – differing from Canadians, who have recently accepted two "celebrities" as governor general. By and large, New Zealanders seem content with their appointments, for which the prime minister consults the Cabinet and to a lesser extent the leader of the opposition. We have already noted, however, the concern for codification of vice-regal powers, given the New Zealand proportional electoral system and this will surely affect the selection of the Kiwi governor-general.

## Two Federal States

Dr. Boyce thoroughly examines the implications of federalism for the Crown, and the Crown for federalism, in Australia and Canada. His starting point is the major difference between the two federations: Canadian lieutenant governors are still federal government (i.e. prime ministerial) appointees and were originally considered as federal agents. In Australia, state constitutions predate confederation in 1901, the state governors are appointed by the Queen and "the Australian state Crowns have always been recognised as indisputably separate from and largely independent of the Commonwealth [federal government]" (p. 145).

In the chapter "Six State Monarchies", Dr. Boyce traces the evolution of the Australian state Crowns from colonial days to the present. As in Canada, there were some calls for abolition of the vice-

regal office, especially during the Depression and by Labor governments, but these have faded away; the position of governor now seems secure and is entrenched in the constitutions of Western Australia and Queensland. The curious aspect of the Australian state Crowns is that not only were the vice-regal appointees British as late as the 1970s, but governors were appointed by the



*Queen of Australia: with her Prime Minister John Hawke standing to her right, HM signs the Proclamation of The Australia Act, 1986, regarded as the final stage of Australia's independent constitutional identity under the Crown*

Queen on the formal advice of the British government until 1986, a colonial vestige which was not widely understood in Australia. The author explains why this situation prevailed as long as it did – even Labor premiers saw the state Crown as a useful antidote to Canberra centralism – and takes us through the passage of the *Australia Acts* in 1986 which provided for the state premiers to advise the Queen directly on their vice-regal appointments. This legislation, he says, "reinforced rather than diminished the claims of the six states to be considered at least quasi-sovereign monarchies in their own right" (p. 146). Readers can refer to the review by Sir David Smith of the definitive 2006 book on this issue, *The Chameleon Crown*, by Anne Twomey, also published by The Federation Press (*CMN* No. 26, Summer 2007).

Since the Second World War, Australian state governors have, for a variety of reasons, had recourse to the reserve powers much more than their Canadian counterparts or the governors-general in either country. All states except Queensland are bicameral and their upper house, the Legislative Council, can refuse supply, leading to a stand-off similar to that in Canberra in 1975. Dr. Boyce cites a number of cases of vice-regal intervention in Victoria, Tasmania, Queensland and Western Australia since the Second World War. One example of interest to Canadians is the decision of a Tasmanian governor, after the 1989 election produced a hung parliament, to refuse the advice of the Liberal premier that he continue in government and to invite the Labor opposition leader to do so with the support of the Greens. Another recent development for Australian governors is that some have travelled abroad to represent their states, for example Marie Bashir of New South Wales. This is virtually unknown in Canada and raises the intriguing prospect of what the glamorous and brainy Hilary Weston in Ontario, Lynda Haverstock in Saskatchewan and Iona Campagnolo in British

Columbia could have done for their governments overseas.

Enthusiasm for the Crown seems uneven in the Australian states, and stronger in the rural areas than in the big cities or among the intelligentsia. Governors enjoy a higher prestige and profile than Canadian lieutenant governors, and their Government Houses, staff complements and budgets seem lavish by Canadian provincial standards. Yet a Labor premier in the most populous state, New South Wales, in a controversial move in 1996 converted the governor's position to part-time, reduced his travel and ended the use of Government House in Sydney as the vice-regal residence (reminiscent of similar actions by Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario five or six decades earlier). Although no other premiers have followed the example of New South Wales, some have wanted to lower the governors' profile and in one case (Victoria in 2000) the premier cut short the governor's term, underscoring the limits on the autonomy of the position.

Dr. Boyce's analysis of the provincial Crown in Canada, "Monarchy in the Provinces", will be as informative for Australian readers as "Six State Monarchies" is for Canadians, but Canadians will benefit too from his succinct, well-documented survey. He recounts the evolution of the provincial Crown from its unpromising, subordinate status in 1867 to a situation today akin in practice to the Australian model. This was thanks in part to the efforts of the anti-centralist Ontario Premier Oliver Mowatt in the 1880s, who pursued legal action through the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in London. As Canadian observers well know, over a thirty-year period a series of court decisions, notably the *Maritime Bank* case of 1892, determined that the lieutenant governor held the same status with respect to the provincial Crown as the governor general did for the national Crown – a clear affirmation of the co-sovereign status of the provinces. Dr. Boyce questions this reviewer's "bold assertion" that there are thus eleven Crowns in Canada, observing that Australian governors "enjoy closer contact with the sovereign than would be allowed any provincial governor" (p. 94). I would argue nonetheless that lieutenant governors now *de facto*, if not yet *de jure*, fulfil the same roles as their Australian counterparts. Introducing 21-gun salutes and the title "Excellency" for lieutenant governors would reduce the remaining protocol gap! Still, Dr. Boyce does recognize that the provincial vice-regal office "has assumed a significance as promoter of provincial identity and, to a lesser extent, as a constitutional safeguard" – although I would challenge the qualification "to a lesser extent".

Dr. Boyce gives a brief look at vice-regal appointments until the 1980s, noting the large (two-thirds) preponderance of former or serving politicians, which of course hampered both the prestige and the effectiveness of the incumbents. He rightly focuses on the strengthening of the provincial Crown since that time in most provinces. This has partly been due to the improved calibre of the prime ministerial appointments of lieutenant governors over the past two decades, less overtly political and from more varied backgrounds. The author notes approvingly the appointment of women as lieutenant governors, long before Australia

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did the same; all demonstrated “successful governorship”, leading to the observation that women may have an advantage in the vice-regal office.

How does the provincial Crown fare today in Canada? Dr. Boyce points to the increased vitality of the vice-regal offices in the provinces other than Quebec, as “a focus of community ideals and a reinforcement of provincial identity” (p. 100). He notes that identification with the monarch, including references in vice-regal speeches, royal visits, the royal anthem and loyal toast at functions, is alive and well in most provinces, citing Saskatchewan as an example. This is in distinct contrast with official Ottawa, Canberra – and the Australian states. Indeed, he says, unlike Australia it leads to tensions with Ottawa which wants to “minimize the monarchy and project the governor-general as head of state”. Dr. Boyce makes the interesting observation that “shrewd provincial premiers have been able to exploit the monarchical connection, recognising [...] that the Crown has been the engine or propeller of expanded provincial constitutional authority in the shifting balance of power within the Canadian confederation” (p. 114).

Dr. Boyce asserts, however, that the ceremonial dimension of the Crown has been diminished in the provinces. I would part company with him here. To my knowledge, provinces other than Quebec maintain such traditions as the ceremonial Opening of the Legislature and Speech from the Throne; the author seems to dwell too much here on the exceptional case of Quebec. On the other hand, he is right to point to the practical constraints on the vice-regal offices in terms of budget and staff. Lieutenant governors’ private secretaries lack the bureaucratic status of the Australian official secretaries; indeed, those in the smaller offices are essentially executive assistants. The smallest Australian vice-regal establishment has a bigger budget than the largest Canadian one. Although Saskatchewan and New Brunswick have made substantial progress in the last two decades, only British Columbia and Ontario can in any way compare with the Australian states, and Ontario does without a Government House. This limited support means that Canadian lieutenant governors are restricted in “the quality of available in-house advice on constitutional matters, as well as an understanding of important precedents in protocol” (p. 113).

In constitutional matters, Dr. Boyce looks at the history of Bagehot’s “rights” and the reserve powers in the provinces. Exercise of the “rights” varies: in British Columbia and Saskatchewan, lieutenant governors meet regularly with their premiers, in other provinces less so, and in some, Manitoba and Ontario for example, not at all. As for the reserve powers, “reservation” of provincial legislation was last used in Saskatchewan in 1961 but is still on the books. The prerogative of appointment and dismissal has rarely been an issue, although Dr. Boyce mentions the Ontario case of 1985 when, after the government was reduced to minority status in an election and was then defeated, the lieutenant governor asked the leader of the opposition to form a government, rather like the Tasmanian case four years later. The questionable approval of special warrants by the lieutenant governor has been an issue

in British Columbia and Saskatchewan and prompts the author to suggest that the process needs clearer definition.

All in all, Peter Boyce sees the increased ceremonial and community leadership role as the prime element in “rejuvenating” the provincial vice-regal offices. This is symbolized by provincial honours of the Crown in all provinces, presented by the lieutenant governor in all except – once again – Quebec. Dr. Boyce concludes on ambivalent note: “whether the styles and strategies of provincial monarchy can compete successfully and indefinitely with the very different national presentation of the Crown and its representative remains to be seen” (p. 115). This is the challenge facing supporters of the provincial Crown in Canada.

## A Republican Future?

Interpreting recent opinion polls in the three realms, Dr. Boyce finds a majority of respondents in Australia, about half in Canada (the polls of course skewed by Quebec), and a bit more than a quarter in New Zealand favourable to ending the monarchy. Doing so at the end of the present Queen’s reign appears to increase these proportions. As the author points out, opinion polls fluctuate considerably from one to another over time, their validity depends on the way the questions are phrased, and they are thus often of dubious reliability. Still, there is a discernable republican trend, intensified by Quebecers in Canada and the Irish diaspora in Australia, both cool to any perceived “British connection.”

Dr. Boyce provides an expert account of the strong republican movement in Australia, the constitutional convention of 1998 and the referendum of 1999, where the republican option was defeated, partly because of division in the republican ranks. The so-called “minimalist” republicans proposed to replace the governor-general by a president holding the same powers but elected by the two houses of Parliament – the option presented in the referendum. The “real republicans” wanted the president directly elected and some of them voted with the monarchists in preference to seeing the “minimalist” model adopted. As for the status of the Australian states, this issue was, says Dr. Boyce, “deliberately downplayed” during the referendum campaign. As “quasi-sovereign monarchies”, the states would have to agree to change their own constitutions to adopt a republican polity. Given their direct link with the Sovereign, individual states could theoretically remain monarchies within an Australian republic, although this is considered unlikely. In any event, prevailing opinion was that the states would retain their governors with similar powers to the current vice-regal representatives.

Dr. Boyce also examines republicanism in Canada, which has been fairly muted until recently, as shown in another book by David E. Smith, *The Republican Option in Canada, Past and Present*. Dr. Boyce suggests that since that book was published in 1999 republican sentiment has increased, pointing to the creation of “Citizens for a Canadian Republic” in 2002 and the loud voices of prominent media commentators such as those in *The Globe and Mail* and author Peter C. Newman; to these he could have added Allan Fotheringham and a variety of columnists at the *Ottawa Citizen* such

as Keith Spicer. He notes that, on the other hand, and unlike Australia (for example, current Prime Minister Kevin Rudd), political leaders in Canada have refrained from publicly questioning the monarchy, although he does not mention the prominent case of former Liberal cabinet minister John Manley doing just that in 2002, the Queen’s golden jubilee year. This reviewer is aware, however, that other politicians have privately expressed similar views. At least Canadians have not been subjected to the spectacle of a governor publicly announcing himself to be a republican, which was the case for Rear-Admiral Kevin Scarce of South Australia in 2007.

One issue which has generally not bothered Canadians is the status of the Crown abroad and of the governor-general travelling on official visits, which Canada introduced as early as 1926 but which gained momentum by the 1960s in the time of Roland Michener. Overseas visits by Australian governors-general started only in the 1970s and twenty years later in New Zealand. Many Australian diplomats have objected to presenting credentials in the name of the Queen, consider the governor-general’s international status to be problematic, and resent the Queen promoting British interests abroad. The Australian Foreign Affairs department is largely republican – but then, in the experience of this reviewer, so is much of the equivalent Canadian department, probably for the same reasons. Dr. Boyce refers to the removal of references to the Queen’s name in Canadian diplomatic letters of credence in 2005 by Paul Martin’s government, although he does not mention that the practice was then followed by Australia and New Zealand; and he incorrectly states that it ended “the Queen’s traditional authority to sign letters of credence and recall” (p. 223) – this was done in 1977 (noted by the author on p. 70).

In New Zealand there is relatively little support for ending the monarchy, despite the pro-republican sentiments of National (=conservative) Party Prime Minister Jim Bolger in the mid-1990s and his Labour successor, Helen Clark. (Since the book was written, Ms. Clark’s government was defeated in 2008 by the National Party led by pro-monarchist Prime Minister John Key, who in March 2009 reinstated titles in New Zealand’s honours of the Crown).

Interestingly, as in Canada, there has been an increase in popularity of the monarchy among young adults. Dr. Boyce attributes this to, among other things, general satisfaction with the selection and performance of the governors-general and a strong loyalty among the Maori, who deem the landmark Treaty of Waitangi in 1840 with Queen Victoria to be the cornerstone of their Aboriginal rights – rather like the First Nations in Canada.

Peter Boyce’s concluding chapter, “Choices: Republic or Reform?”, assesses the consequences of monarchy for the three countries and options for the future. He reiterates the wide implications of the “enshrining of state authority in the Crown”. Furthermore, he says, “the Crown has helped sustain federalism in Canada and Australia to a marked degree”. It has underlined the distinction between polity and executive, between head of state and head of government,

and, through loyalty to the monarch, has provided a factor of dignity and trust to political institutions. The monarch and her representatives have well fulfilled the roles of community leadership and promotion of voluntarism. The Crown, believes Dr. Boyce, is clearly a factor in the surprising convergence of constitutional and social development in three otherwise very diverse societies and in



Equestrian Statue of The Queen of Canada looks over her Dominion from Parliament Hill, Ottawa

the close relationships today between Canada, Australia and New Zealand. While conservative in nature, the institution has enabled “ideological radicalism [...] to find a peaceful expression”, as shown by the early rise of social democratic parties in all three realms. A common element is the sheer adaptability of the Crown and the Westminster system of government and their evolution to the point where the surrogate governors embody the Crown and transcend its British origins.

Will this successful adaptation lead further to the point of abandoning the monarchy? Peter Boyce believes it is inevitable in Australia, but hedges his bets on Canada and New Zealand, despite the impetus that a republican Australia would give to similar movements in the other two realms. Under Canada’s *Constitution Act 1982*, he reminds us, any change to the monarchy requires the assent of the legislatures all ten provinces as well as both houses of Parliament, very difficult to obtain. Even in Australia, constitutional change requires approval by referendum, again difficult to achieve, and there is the added complexity of the “six state monarchies”.

What reforms, then, could improve the existing system? Dr. Boyce proposes an improved appointment process for governors, more accountability and transparency when they are in office, greater security of tenure, and at least partial codification of their constitutional powers. Canadian lieutenant governors should be appointed through consultation with the provinces. Governors of states and provinces as well as governors-general should be encouraged to travel abroad representing their jurisdictions. Public education on their role and a higher profile for them are needed, but these require commitment on the part of their first ministers. As this article went to press, it was interesting to note that Prime Minister Harper’s June 19, 2009 announcement of the new Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba concluded with these words, a first in the writer’s experi-

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# VICE-REGAL ROUND-UP

## The Governor General

Her Excellency's more notable recent engagements have included –



June 27th found Her Excellency presenting a newly-consecrated Queen's Colour to Maritime Command, Halifax, after which Mme Jean took the Salute from approximately 500 of HM Canadian Forces.

June 10 – Mme Jean hosted a round-table discussion on reconciliation at an event held at the National Gallery to mark the anniversary of the residential schools apology tendered to Aboriginal people by the Government of Canada.

June 8 – Mme Jean received in Audience the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Hon. Kamallesh Sharma.

May – Her Excellency undertook engagements in Nunavut and Nunavik, Quebec's Arctic region.

May 4 – To mark the 20th Anniversary of the Canadian Heraldic Authority, Mme Jean hosted a gathering at Rideau Hall in the course of which local schoolchildren presented their own heraldic creations, and members of the Authority, led by Chief Herald Claire Boudreau, explained

the process whereby Arms are designed.

April 28-30 – Their Excellencies undertook an official visit to The Kingdom of Norway, which concluded on April 30 with a visit to Tromsø, the largest city north of the Arctic Circle. At a lunch in the presence of King Harald V and Queen Sonja, which preceded Mme Jean's meeting with Sami people, Her Excellency spoke of Canada and Norway's shared responsibility for and mutual efforts on behalf of northern climes, as "sisters and brothers of the North... We are responsible for the spirit of these lands, lands like no others in the world." From April 23-26, the vice-regal couple had visited Ukraine.

April 16-17 – A two-day visit to Montreal found Mme Jean delivering the opening



The Governor General making closing remarks after the round-table discussion on Aboriginal reconciliation.

address at the UN Millennium Summit, as well as visiting a business park, a contemporary art gallery and the Canadian Centre for Architecture. On the final evening, Her Excellency presided at the opening of the 25th PanAfrica Film Festival.

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continued from the previous page  
ence: The Prime Minister selected Mr. Lee to serve as Manitoba's next Lieutenant Governor after direct consultation with Premier Gary Doer and Opposition Leader Hugh McFadyen. The Provincial Government and Official Opposition both expressed their support for Mr. Lee's selection. So maybe one of Dr Boyce's suggestions has already become practice!

A "strictly monarchical structure of government without a monarch at its apex is unachievable", observed the author in his first chapter (p. 23). Could monarchical institutions, then, be "grafted" on to the republican model? Dr. Boyce surveys academic and legal experts on this vexed subject and reports varied and diverging opinions. What is clear, however, is that great caution would be needed if the integrity of the Westminster system were to be preserved, with its distinction between head of state and head of government and the constitutional guardianship role of the governor (or president). An appointed governor/ president might lead to further concentration of power with the first minister, and an elected head of state would have even "wider implications" for the Westminster system and risk being divisive as well. Dr. Boyce concludes on a prudent note: "in the ongoing constitutional evolution [...] at all costs, the office of head of state should be defined and projected as both a focus of national unity and an ultimate constraint on executive power" (p. 250).

### Conclusion

In his Preface, Peter Boyce apologizes for the "embarrassingly long" gestation period for *The Queen's Other Realms*. I can say to him now that the result is well worth the wait. This is simply an excellent publication. It is packed with helpful information, interesting case studies, and considered and perceptive analyses. Dr. Boyce has pulled off the remarkable feat of a thorough, fair and illuminating comparative study of all three realms. What is more, he has done so in a clear, readable style, which, unlike many academic books is "user-friendly". As David E. Smith has said to me, it is written "with grace".

A Canadian reviewer does note some minor errors with respect to this country. In the Preface, the first name of Lynda

Haverstock is misspelled (it is correct on page 98), as are the last name of Anthony Smyth and that of the city of St. Catharines. The first name of a long-time secretary to the governor general, Shuldham Redfern, is spelled incorrectly on page 38, although correctly on page 78. The last name of William Thorsell becomes Throsell on page 222. On page 51, the author states that Prime Minister Brian Mulroney appointed Governor General Ray Hnatyshyn "from the ranks of his own Cabinet" in 1990; actually, Mr. Hnatyshyn was defeated in the election of 1988 and was practising law when he became governor general. On page 75, Acadian (referring to Roméo LeBlanc) is idealized as "Arcadian". Jacques Monet is identified on page 77 as Québécois, whereas he is Franco-Ontarian. John Ralston Saul's last name is hyphenated on page 85. On page 91, in Georges Vanier's quote from Shakespeare, "Ma couronne est dans mon coeur, non pas sur ma tête", the masculine "coeur" receives the feminine modifier "ma". On page 109, note



In Regina during her most recent Homecoming in 2005, The Queen receives in Audience her Canadian Prime Minister, Paul Martin, for animated discussion

that the Saskatchewan Order of Merit was instituted in 1985, not in the same year as l'Ordre national du Québec (2004). By "Canada Act" on page 115, the author means "Constitution Act, 1867". The Department of Canadian Heritage is called several times the "Department of Heritage".

In terms of content, there is very little to question in Dr. Boyce's text. I would, however, point out the surprising omission of references to Canada's First Nations, especially when the author deals so capably with the Maoris in New Zealand (although he does not mention the Aborigines in Australia). The loyalty of the First Nations to the monarch and the Crown is well known and well docu-

mented, especially in Western Canada. They protested directly to Buckingham Palace in 1981 over the patriation of the Constitution and any analysis of the Crown in Canada must take them into account; this remains an under-explored area of study.

My other regret in *The Queen's Other Realms* is that Dr. Boyce has not fleshed out the option he hints at in the Preface and mentions on the last page of his text: "the challenge for those governments and parties wishing to retain monarchy". Is there some way the historic connection with the monarch and her family could be retained while reforming the present system and making the Crown even more indigenous? Or does the author think this is unrealistic? Monarchists have to admit that most of Dr. Boyce's points are valid. Yet even he says (p. 229) that in "an increasingly globalised world the sharing of a head of state across international boundaries should not seem out of place perhaps", although he also says that there will be ongoing pressure for a "locally resident head of state" in these diverse, multicultural countries. A "liberal and left-leaning" High Court justice in Australia, he tells us, prefers a head of state who "could transcend national boundaries" rather than one who "catered to 'narrow nationalism'", and fears that "a president would be less restrained in his or her use of the reserve power than a governor-general, and that a presidency would invite a more expensive, pompous and vulgar use of symbols and ceremony" (p. 218). Another lesson of the book is that the Australian states and Canadian provinces should be very, very wary indeed of the centralizing implications of a republic.

In sum, monarchists need to be realistic and open-minded. Their best argument may be that the Crown, like British parliamentary institutions and justice, has been a genuine factor in enabling Australia, Canada and New Zealand to reach and maintain their unparalleled level of "peace, progress and prosperity", to quote Saskatchewan's first premier. Yes, the system could be improved. No, it need not be abandoned. *The Queen's Other Realms* provides sobering reading for Canadian monarchists. It is also essential reading. Peter Boyce's book is truly a landmark in the study of the Crown.

### PHILIP S LEE NAMED LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF MANITOBA

#### PM's Announcement Refers to Bi-Partisan Provincial Approval



Prime Minister Stephen Harper with Manitoba Lieutenant Governor-Designate Philip S. Lee

The Prime Minister announced on June 19 that Philip S Lee, CM, would serve The Queen as Manitoba's Lieutenant Governor. Born in Hong Kong, Mr Lee came to Canada in 1962 to pursue studies at the University of Manitoba. A civic public servant 1967-2005 who rose to supervise the City of Winnipeg's Industrial Waste Control Program, Mr Lee gained prominence – and earned his appointment to the Order of Canada in 1999 – for his work with the Manitoba Chinese community where he was a key player in constructing the Winnipeg Chinese Cultural and Community Centre and related buildings; he also served on the Multiculturalism Council of Canada. Mr Lee will succeed Hon John Harvard, a popular former MP who took up his position on June 30, 2004.

Significant to an emerging consensus on such appointments was the reference in the press release from the PMO, unique in observers' recollection, that Mr Harper had made the nomination "after direct consultation with Premier Gary Doer and Opposition Leader Hugh McFadyen. The Provincial Government and Official Opposition both expressed their support for Mr. Lee's selection."

#### GRAYDON NICHOLAS REPRESENTS QUEEN IN N.B.

September 30 saw Graydon Nicholas installed as New Brunswick's 30th Lieutenant Governor – and first Aboriginal person to occupy the Office. The well-known Provincial Court Judge and First Nations advocate, a member of the Tobique First Nation, raised an eagle feather as he took the Oath of Office and later promised to focus on education and diversity issues during his time as Queen's Representative. Once again Prime Minister Harper announced that he had consulted both Premier Shawn Graham and Opposition leader David Alward about the appointment.

# Canada's Vice-Regals' Diverse Activities

## Around The Provinces

### NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR NO BREAK OVER CANADA DAY

A typically busy week for the Governor found His Honour on a Monday welcoming the new mount "Dobbin" in a ceremony of "Passing the Reins" at the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary's stables, followed by a Government House Reception. Tuesday HH dined with the Royal Newfoundland Regiment at their Beaumont Hamel Mess Dinner. Wednesday, Canada Day, saw TH attending the Memorial Day Service at the National War Memorial in St John's at which Mr Crosbie laid a wreath and took the Salute. That afternoon he unveiled Beaumont Hamel Memorial Plaques in Bowring Park and then hosted a Reception at Government House. Thursday brought HH to White Hills, where he presented long service awards to RCMP members and employees.

### NOVA SCOTIA MAYANN FRANCIS' WHIRLWIND SEVEN DAYS IN MAY

Like her colleagues across Canada, a "typical" week's worth of activity shows Her Honour's position is no sinecure. Here are mere extracts from HH's diary May 20-27: Delivered the keynote address at the opening ceremonies of the Nova Scotia Career Development Association Conference at Dalhousie University; presented the Lieutenant Governor's Medal for Excellence in Education to students from high schools within the South Shore Regional School Board; at another ceremony, to students from high schools in the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board; and at yet a third and fourth and fifth, to scholars from the Tri-School, Annapolis Valley and Halifax Regional Boards; participated in the annual ceremonial review of 76 Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps Minas, at the Windsor Armouries; hosted the second of the 2009 Lieutenant Governor's/St. Cecilia Concert Series, at St. John's Anglican Church, Port Williams; as Vice-Prior of the Order of St. John in Nova Scotia, presided at the annual Investiture ceremony of the Order, at St. Agnes Catholic Church.



**NEW BRUNSWICK:** Vice-regals typically give much support to charities, and New Brunswick Lieutenant Governor Herménégilde Chiasson is no exception. Here, as honorary patron of the New Brunswick Lung Association, His Honour receives limited edition Christmas Seals honoring the 100th anniversary of the Christmas Seal campaign from Ken Maybee, president and CEO of the New Brunswick Lung Association; 10-year-old Ryley Anstis of Fredericton, an asthma sufferer who benefits from funds raised during the campaign.



**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND:** Frequently, Lieutenant Governors present National Honours on behalf of the Governor General. In this photograph, Her Honour Mrs Barbara A Hagerman presents The Caring Canadian Award to David LeClair, long time community supporter and "indispensable" part of the Charlottetown Minor Baseball Association.

### QUÉBEC PIERRE DUCHSENE – UN DEVOIR TRISTE

Les tâches qui confrontent un Lieutenant-Gouverneur ne sont pas toujours heureuses. Le 15 juin M. Duchesne et Mme Ginette Lamoureux ont dû offrir leurs plus sincères condoléances aux membres de la famille, à l'amie de cœur, aux amis et à tous les frères d'armes du caporal Martin Dubé, du 5<sup>e</sup> Régiment du génie de combat de Valcartier, décédé le 14 juin en Afghanistan dans l'exercice de ses fonctions de technicien en enlèvement d'engins explosifs.

À la suite de cette nouvelle, monsieur le lieutenant-gouverneur a déclaré: « Nous avons honoré nos héros qui ont combattu lors des deux guerres mondiales et en Corée. Nos soldats québécois qui s'engagent actuellement avec l'OTAN, dans un combat pour la démocratie en Afghanistan, méritent autant notre considération et notre fierté que nos héros des autres guerres; car ils sont animés par les mêmes sentiments de liberté pour ces populations prises en otage. Toute ma considération et mon respect vont à la mémoire du caporal Dubé. »



*Happier duties for His Honour at Mont Joli on the Gaspé: À l'école Le Mistral, l'honorable Pierre Duchesne rend hommage aux élèves récipiendaires de la Médaille du Lieutenant-gouverneur pour la jeunesse, ainsi qu'aux récipiendaires de la Médaille du Lieutenant-gouverneur pour les aînés de la région du Bas-Saint-Laurent.*

### ALBERTA LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR KWONG IS BUSY

A sampling of His Honour's engagements reveals six days in June with a variety of events focusing on education and diversity. These include June 28 – Montefiore Institute Synagogue (Heritage Park Historical Village) Dedication and Official Opening Ceremony, Calgary; June 27 – Calgary Chinese Private School, 70th Anniversary Celebration Banquet, Calgary; June 26 – Visit with students of Calgary Christian Elementary School, Calgary; June 26 –



Three student Monarchist League members had the honour of being presented to The Emperor and Empress of Japan, after His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor, hosted a Luncheon in his Queen's Park suite. Greeting Their Imperial Majesties are (r-l) Graeme Scotchmer (League Intern in the vice-regal Suite); Alain Bartleman (UofT Branch Chairman & Social Media Coordinator); and Zach Schwartz (2008 vice-regal Intern).



**SASKATCHEWAN:** Lieutenant Governors frequently greet distinguished visitors and accredited representatives of different countries, including Heads of State, Ambassadors and Consuls-General. Here the Hon Gordon Barnhart receives His Excellency Nguyen Van Cuong, Chairman of Hung Yen Province, Vietnam and His Excellency Nguyen Duc Yung, Ambassador of Vietnam at Government House on April 21, 2009.

Canada Multiculturalism Day Citizenship Ceremony, Edmonton; June 23 – Visit with students of Springbank Middle School, Springbank.

### BRITISH COLUMBIA ROYAL HOMECOMING A JUNE HIGHLIGHT

At the beginning of June, the Honourable Steven L. Point wrote of his busy month ahead: "... I look forward to welcoming His Royal Highness The Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, to Government House for the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award Ceremony.

While His Royal Highness is in British Columbia he and I will also attend events in support of the Paralympics and the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Navy. There are 25 other events on the calendar for June, including visits to six schools across the province, cadet reviews, Aboriginal Day celebrations and a number of annual events here at Government House."



BC Lieutenant Governor Steven Point and HRH the Earl of Wessex undertook several engagements together during the Prince's recent Canadian homecoming.



**ONTARIO**  
Lieutenant Governor's Suite Now Accessible! The Honourable David C. Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario and the Honourable Steve Peters, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, cut the red ribbon celebrating the accessible elevator entrance to the Lieutenant Governor's Suite at Queen's Park. His Honour also recently challenged Ontarians to donate a new book or two to the LG's Aboriginal Summer Reading Book Drive – so that young people in fly-in First Nations communities throughout Northern Ontario could enjoy the same literature as their southern counterparts.

Follow the latest Vice-Regal activities on the Governor General and Lieutenant Governors' web pages, all linked on the Monarchist League web site

[www.monarchist.ca/new/links.html](http://www.monarchist.ca/new/links.html)

# REPRINTED WITHOUT COMMENT

Normandy Snub To Queen...Victoria Day honours two Queens...Poet Laureate role... Clarkson on Appointing the GG...Obama says it all...

## Queen of Canada Snubbed Too

As a result of one of the oddest diplomatic imbroglios we have seen in recent years, Queen Elizabeth will not be attending this year's 65th anniversary of the allied D-Day landings in Normandy. The commemoration will be held on Saturday, June 6, to mark the day in 1944 when the allies – chiefly the Canadians, the British and the Americans – stormed the beaches, drove back the Germans and began in earnest the business of defeating Hitler's Nazi regime. But apparently the French didn't see fit to invite the Queen of Britain and Canada... Neglecting to invite the Queen to attend the ceremonies seems not only disgraceful but ungrateful and has outraged many Britons, as it should anger Canadians. Prime Minister Stephen Harper will be there, and British Prime Minister Gordon Brown may or may not attend, but nei-



President Sarkozy – who snubbed The Queen – with Prime Minister Harper.

ther of them is a head of state like French President Nicolas Sarkozy and U.S. President Barack Obama ...it appears that Prince Charles will attend in his mother's place, but only, it seems, after Mr. Obama intervened with both the British and the French governments. Mr. Obama is fond of the Queen, as is Mr. Sarkozy. About the only major players in the Second World War who haven't got involved in this fuss'n'fret are the Germans, although they are certainly watching with interest. This does not seem to be about the war at all, but rather about European politics in the very present tense. This is business as usual, but it is a pity that it couldn't be conducted without degrading one of the great moments of our history.

From an editorial in *The Winnipeg Free Press*, June 4, 2009

## Victoria Day

Why should we celebrate the two Queens' birthdays, you may ask. Well, it is about showing our pride in our country and expressing our patriotism. It is about reaffirming our loyalty to the Crown, the institution that has been a force for political stability and national unity. It is about remembering our rich royal heritage. It is about reconnecting with an old Queen who was revered and adored by Canadians. And, it is about giving thanks to our current Queen who has served Canadians dutifully and selflessly for almost 60 years.

Monarchist League of Canada Dominion Chairman Robert Finch, writing in *The Mountain News*, May 15, 2009

## Why Not Royal Poetry?

[Newly-appointed Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy told media she had been assured "there was no expectation that I would write Royal poetry."] Why not? The Master of the Horse does not devote his time to promoting careers in horsemanship, but to the royal horses. The Lord

Chamberlain does not try to persuade people that walking backwards carrying a wand at state banquets is a 'lovely, ordinary thing'. He does it because it is his task to serve the monarch. So it should be with the laureateship. You hear it said that it is impossible to write poetry to order, and people unkindly exclaim how hard it must be to celebrate events like the marriage of the Earl of Wessex to Sophie Rhys-Jones in verse. This assertion goes against the entire history of art, which has often depended on patronage, and frequently on glorifying royal or aristocratic personages."

Former *Daily Telegraph* Editor Charles Moore, writing in *The Spectator*, May 9

## Clarkson Rebuked On Change To The Governor-General's Appointment

...Adrienne Clarkson, speaking at a constitutional-law conference last week, raised the subject of how we choose our head of state. Clarkson proposes confirmation (or rejection, presumably) by Parliament of a candidate nominated by the prime minister. This makes sense, Clarkson said, because the G-G is "the embodiment of the nation, and I think the nation should see who is going to embody them." How alarming that someone could have held the job for six years while understanding it so poorly. The governor-general does not embody the nation. The G-G embodies the Crown. If you are among the many Canadians who see this as a pointless anachronism, we invite you to look again.

Consider last December's coalition crisis. When politicians are squabbling like over-stimulated 4-year-olds, too angry to calm down and run the country, then a higher authority is useful, even essential, to step in and order them all to take a time out. Centuries of British and Canadian constitutional law and precedent have created just such a mechanism, and it functioned very well last December. That this "higher authority" is not elected is an asset, not a handicap. The G-G's legitimacy, like the Queen's in Britain, depends on the office being above the partisan fray. He or she positively ought not to be elected...

As for how a G-G is selected, Clarkson is wrong to favour Parliamentary hearings and a vote. This isn't Canadian Idol. The office needs to be more distant from the partisan arena, if anything, not less. Imagine if, say, the Conservatives had voted against Jean's appointment in 2005, and then last winter Harper had asked her for a prorogation. The coalition crisis should teach us that we need less politics at Rideau Hall, not more. In other words, no more washed-up politicians should get the job. Romeo LeBlanc, Ray Hnatyshyn, Ed Schreyer, though all decent human beings, should never have been given the post. Even Jeanne Sauvé, though scrubbed clean of partisanship by her years as Commons Speaker, was lucky she faced no procedural or constitutional crisis. Reports of her disdain for Brian Mulroney were bad enough.

How then should we choose a G-G? If the rarely-used part of the job demands both real and apparent non-partisanship, the more quotidian ceremonial duties of the office call for dignity, grace, discretion, intelligence, energy, and knowledge of the country. In the old days most of these qualities were found in various

British aristocrats; since 1952 in distinguished Canadians starting with Vincent Massey and Georges Vanier. The incumbent G-G took office less well-known than those two, but has done just fine.

The prime minister of the summer of 2010 will, with care, be able to find someone else fully suitable to recommend to the Queen. This office is not broken; there's no need to fix it.

From an editorial "One thing in Ottawa that doesn't need fixing" – *The Montreal Gazette*, April 23, 2009

## GGs Can't Take the Queen Out of Canada

...Have a look at the governor general's website. It's a lavish production, stuffed with images and information, including endless photos of Madame Jean and transcripts of all Her Excellency's speeches. There is also a prominent and extensive biography of His Excellency Jean-Daniel Lafond, C.C., who is apparently not an obscure filmmaker of dubious political orientation but rather a vastly accomplished and "seasoned observer of the world and of our times."

What is not to be found on the website of the Queen's representative is a single picture of the Queen...

Her Majesty is mentioned, however. It just takes a bit of effort to find the reference. Allow me to be your guide. On the home page, click on the link for the "Governor General Michaëlle Jean."

Did you miss it? Go back and read it again slowly.

There! Right there in the middle! "Queen Elizabeth is Queen of Canada and Head of State." That is the most prominent reference to Her Majesty on the website maintained by Her Majesty's loyal representative.

The sentiment couldn't be plainer. To those who created and approved the website, Queen Elizabeth, the Queen of Canada, is nothing more than a legal technicality the lawyers say ya gotta mention: So she's in the fine print, along with "Must be 18 years or older to enter. No purchase necessary. Offer void in Newfoundland."

...The idea behind all this is to ease the Queen out of the country's consciousness and Constitution. When we have forgotten that we have a monarch, and the Queen has been rendered a constitutional dead letter, the governor general will cease to act as head of state in the Queen's absence. She will simply be head of state.

That this would unbalance Canadian federalism by turning the governor general into the superior of the provincial lieutenant governors isn't discussed. Nor is there any discussion of the many other constitutional implications. In fact, nothing about it is discussed. Under cover of apathy, it's just done.

Dan Gardner, writing in *The Ottawa Citizen*, February 11, 2009

## Charles at 60 – "Governed by Moral Purpose"

As he turns 60 today, the Prince of Wales will find a certain historical irony, not only in being the oldest heir to the throne in the long line of English monarchs, but also to have reached what for many people is normal retirement age before taking up the job for which he has spent his life in training. Defining and honing his role as he waits to become King has been an overwhelming preoc-

cupation. It is one that, despite carping, controversy and periods of deep personal unhappiness, Prince Charles has fulfilled with skill, conviction and purpose...

...The Prince's Trust, the charity he founded 32 years ago... has proved one of the most enterprising and successful of all the organisations associated with his name. More than 500,000 young people have been trained, mentored and inspired to overcome hardship, fulfil their potential and transform their lives. The Trust's work in inner cities is recognised as extraordinarily effective...

On some issues he has been prescient. He championed organic farming before it was fashionable, and gave warnings of the dangers of climate change and promoted a better understanding of Islam before either became a political necessity. On others he has been obstinate, otherworldly or plain wrong: in his suspicion of science, his dislike of almost all modern architecture and his faith in homoeopathy.

Prince Charles has not shied from vigorous campaigning, lobbying ministers, writing letters and meeting community leaders. He has often sailed close to the political wind, stirring debate and infuriating those who would confine his role to that of the trivial and ceremonial. In all this, however, he has shown a realism about the limits of his "convening power" and an understanding that partisanship permissible in a Prince will have to be set aside in his future role as King.

Unlike his predecessors, the Prince of Wales has had to live out his personal life in the relentless and unwelcome glare of publicity and censorious scrutiny. His failed marriage, his years of unhappiness, quirky convictions and conservative tastes in dress, the arts and architecture have been spread across the world's tabloids and mocked. His views have been misrepresented and his foibles exaggerated. He has, as a result, come across sometimes as an eccentric fudduddy: overly concerned with his own image, out of tune with the mood of his country and ill-equipped to play a properly representative role.

Though sometimes encouraged by his own petulance in not seeking or taking advice, the caricature is unfair. More and more, Prince Charles seeks to be governed by moral purpose. His determination to use his privileged position to expand opportunity and further social causes is very real. So too is his deep and well-informed interest in faith – not just that of the Established Church, which he will one day head, but all faiths, especially their more mystical elements. His commitment to religious tolerance and interfaith dialogue is wholly appropriate for kingship in a world where faith still matters.

Few of his predecessors have forged something positive from the ill-defined of heir: he has made the best of a non-job. Charles has established a pattern that his sons would be wise to follow. It has been no mean achievement.

From a leader "The Prince at 60" in *The Times of London*, November 14, 2008

## Obama Says It All

"In the imagination of people throughout America what the Queen stands for, her decency, her civility, what she represents, is very important."

From news reports quoting President Obama after his first meeting with The Queen, April 2, 2009



# EDITORIAL COMMENT

## PHILIP: FIRST GENTLEMAN OF THE COMMONWEALTH

At 88, the Duke of Edinburgh recently celebrated a singular achievement: becoming the longest-serving Consort in our Monarchy's storied history. Burdened of late by health challenges, and occasionally the victim of press sensationalizing of his outspoken *bon mots*, Philip deserves the thanks of all Canadians for his loyal and unflagging support of Queen and Crown throughout a long reign, and especially for his imaginative initiative – the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme – that has changed the lives of so many young people. A man of deep personal faith and acute sensitivity, he will remember the aging Queen Mary's remark to her Lady-in-Waiting, Lady Airlie – "I suppose one must go on to the end." The Duke will do just that – and may he be spared many years in devoted service to his wife our Sovereign, and so to us all.

## SARKOZY SNUBBED US, TOO, MR HARPER

The unbelievably discourteous failure of France's President to invite The Queen to the 65th Anniversary of D-Day Commemoration was a triple snub: to The Queen, who in War wore the uniform of the Women's Auxiliary Territorial Service; to Britain; and to Canada. For our young men spilled their blood in full measure upon the soil of Normandy, and our Queen should have been there to honour both them and the dwindling but ever-gallant band of their comrades yet alive. We cannot tell what went on behind the scenes – but all credit to the Prince of Wales for bypassing diplomatic channels to intervene directly with the Elysée, and to President Obama for pub-



French President Sarkozy snubbed Queen at Normandy.

licly trying to secure Her Majesty's presence. In this singularly distasteful wrangling over an occasion which should have been focused on the soldiers of 1944 and the veterans of today, we have to ask where was the strong voice of Prime Minister Harper? and why did he not raise it to make the point that the insult – not too strong a word – was also to The Queen of Canada, and so to all Canadians?

## HARRY IN NEW YORK – BUT NOT CANADA

By all accounts, Prince Harry acquitted himself with *éclat* during his first solo overseas journey, wowing normally-cynical New Yorkers with his friendly charm and easy manner. Most conspicuously in laying a wreath by Ground Zero, probably now the most sacred secular shrine in America, he showed a serious mien and that developed, reflective conscience that has led him to adopt the miseries of the African Continent as a key part of his agenda.

So it is not with anything but admiration and affection for him that we would call to Harry and his advisors' attention, not for the first time, that the largest and demonstrably most loyal of his father and brother's future realms longs to get to know him. A largely private ski trip to Whistler as a boy, and several bouts of training with British Forces in Alberta do not amount to much time spent in the Dominion, nor have those brief moments here allowed him to develop a network of Canadian causes and friends that his Uncles, the Duke of York and Earl of Wessex, enjoy. The recent trip to New York would have provided an occasion for at least an Ottawa stopover en route, while the tragedy of his and William's not spending some of their gap years in Canada remains a sore point, a wasted opportunity that will not re-occur as engagement diaries inevitably become more crowded with the passing of years and accumulation of responsibilities.

Demonstrated interest in Canada by at least one member of the next generation of working Royals becomes even more important as The Queen gracefully ages and her contemporaries in the Family, too, begin to find travel more taxing. As well, Harry's gradual integration into Canadian life would help to bring perspective – and reality – to the tabloid reportage which far too often is the sole

prism through which many of our compatriots know him: there is a lot more to this young man than occasional mis-speaking and propensity to enjoy club life here as at home. The Prince's proven courage as a soldier would provide a natural link to Canadian Regiments, while his commitment to development issues squares neatly with the general concerns of this country.

Ottawa could kick-start this process by encouraging Harry to make a solo Canadian tour at the earliest opportunity; by offering suitable military appointments; and by drawing HRH's attention to the multiplicity of vacation opportunities within our three coasts. The time for organizing such initiatives is long overdue.

## CANADIAN LETTERS OF CREDESCENCE & NEW ZEALAND KNIGHTHOODS

### SAUCE FOR THE NZ KIWI IS SAUCE FOR THE CANADA GOOSE

One might wonder how there exists a common thread between the process by which Canada's envoys are formally accredited to their posts and the resumption of the awarding of knighthoods to Her Majesty's New Zealand subject. The answer is, we regret to suggest, an inconsistency on the part of the Palace and – or possibly – the degree of zealotry between the Canadian and New Zealand governments.

The rights and wrongs of New Zealand's abolishing recommendations for the titular honour in 2000 and then restoring them this June are, strictly speaking, of no concern to Canadians. Thanks to Mr Chrétien's degrading but effective misinformation campaign during the Black imbroglio, any campaign for the restoration of knighthoods or the awarding of titles within Canada is likely to be both ineffective and in fact, harmful to the monarchical cause.

But what is of significance in Mr Key's successful submission to the Palace is that The Queen agreed to revert to an earlier practice, and to do so when, clearly, the matter was a partisan football: titles thrown out of the game by Labour Prime Minister Helen Clark; titles brought back to the field by National Party leader Key. However, the Palace advised that it was precisely to avoid a back-and-forth stream of advice to change practice as governments changed that it dissuaded Mr Harper from restoring references to The Queen on Letters of Credence from which Mr Martin had caused them to be removed as of December, 2004. How is this consistent or fair to Canada?

True, in New Zealand's case some nine years had elapsed between abolition and resumption, and it was clear that broad public acceptance existed that knighthoods are an appropriate way to honour heroes. In Canada, the interval between denuding the diplomatic documents and requesting the restoration of their monarchical clothes had been but several years – and, alas, if inevitably, the minutiae of diplomatic accreditation is not a matter likely to arouse Canadian opinion.

However, we have to wonder if a little more push from Mr Harper's end, and a further consideration on the part of an

increasingly adroit Household at the Palace, might yet persuade Her Majesty that – let us consider carefully the old saw – sauce for the kiwi is sauce for the goose.

## OF BOWS AND CURTSEYS

In a self-absorbed age, it is rather a pity that bows and curtseys, generally, should have gone out of fashion. We think it no bad thing for a young person to show respect to an elder in a manner more dignified than a "high five," grunted words or – more typical – no greeting whatsoever. But such prescriptions lie beyond our remit. We do think that some of the endemic "confusion" between Sovereign and GG, as witnessed at Rideau Hall in recent years, set in when the Micheners abolished such marks of respect to The Queen's Representative. Alas, Their Excellencies confused their admirable personal distaste for such treatment – rather like M. LeBlanc's amiable aversion to preceding a lady through a doorway – with their role at one remove from the Monarch, to whom, like a military salute, such respect is in fact directed.

In this context, the inconsistency of President Obama at the G20 Summit may be more explicable. On meeting Her Majesty, Mr Obama greeted her with a double hand-clasp as one would an old friend. Well, fair enough: the British-American alliance is one of long and important standing, so when America meets Britain one supposes the heads of state may be friendly, "just folks" as President Roosevelt famously told George VI and Elizabeth. Juxtaposed against this cozy familiarity, however, was the President's deep obeisance to the King of Saudi Arabia. The objections which followed should have nothing to do with Abdullah's person nor with a critical view of that country's policies. The fact is that by international protocol, all heads of state are equal. While monarchists might put sovereigns above presidents, the diplomatic world does not. So the President of the United States has no business bobbing to anyone. As a Washington Times editorial put it, "Such an act is a traditional obeisance befitting a king's subjects, not his peer...There is no precedent for U.S. presidents bowing to Saudi or any other royals."

Would that monarchical belief could be so easily judged. Mr Rudd, Australian Prime Minister, courteously makes a neck bow to Her Majesty even though he is an avowed republican. Our own Mr Harper, a monarchist, does not seem to render this courtesy, unless it is so slight as to escape our viewing of the newsreels! Well, better that than Mr Trudeau's pirouetting – except, let us remember, it was he who caused the place of the Maple Crown to be entrenched in our Constitution. logic? pattern?

Little is discernible. What remains clear is that only a confident person is secure enough to show respect to another – and that a confident monarch can accept a lifetime of such dignified salutations without becoming one whit pompous or grand. Witness our Queen, 83 years young, as exemplar of that truth. We're sure that she would give Barrack and Stephen some tips any time they wants!

## HOW TO SHARE YOUR VIEWS WITH PRESIDENT SARKOZY

Reasoned letters of dignified but definite protest may be mailed to the following address:

Monsieur le Président de la République  
Palais de l'Elysée 55, rue du faubourg  
Saint-Honoré 75008 Paris FRANCE

or use the Internet to access Mr Sarkozy's web site

[www.elysee.fr/accueil/](http://www.elysee.fr/accueil/) – about half-way down the page appears a picture of the President under the heading "Ecrire au President."

Underneath there is a tab, ECRIRE, which if pushed, produces a pop-up space where you can communicate your views. Note that just below the space is a menu tab asking, in French, how you wish to receive a reply (mode de réponse): by mail (voie postale) or email (courrier électronique). After clicking on your choice, go down a few lines to press a final button – "Envoyer" – send. CMN will be interested to see your letters and have sight of replies.

# CROWNS & MACES

Royal Web Site re-launched... White House Knows Canadian Constitution... Rideau Hall variability... Waking Up Canadian... Greens on the Monarchy... Member moves the Bay!

## HM HAS ONE GREAT WEB SITE

CROWN to our dear Queen, who re-launched her highly-successful



and greatly-improved web site on February 12. Apart from a colourful re-design and the ease of finding copious amounts of information on everything from Royal biographies and public engagements through to Palace employment opportunities, chief praise must go for the individual attention now given to Commonwealth Realms. [www.royal.gov](http://www.royal.gov)

## QUEEN WINS A SECOND REFERENDUM!



Allegiance recently confirmed in a referendum, Tuvalu gives The Queen and Prince Philip a rapturous welcome on their 1982 visit

CROWN to the electors of Tuvalu, a Polynesian Realm of The Queen formerly known as the Ellice Islands, and situated in the vast Pacific, midway between Australia and Hawaii. Numbering just 12,000 inhabitants makes it the second-least populated independent country in the world, next to Vatican City. Word has just reached CMN that like its Antipodean cousin a few years previous, the island nation recently held a referendum on the Monarchy. The electors showed that isolation and smallness are no bar to good sense, voting as they did to retain their Allegiance by 1,260 to 679, a 65% margin for the Crown.

## WHITE HOUSE PROVIDES CONSTITUTIONAL TUTORIAL: OTTAWA TAKE NOTE!



White House advisor Dennis McDonough knows Canada's Constitution better than many in Ottawa!

CROWN to Dennis McDonough, Deputy National Security Advisor, The White House, who on February 17, 2009, briefed journalists as follows on President Obama's trip to Canada: "On Thursday morning President Obama will fly to Ottawa on his first foreign visit as President. He will depart Andrews and arrive Ottawa International Airport, where he will be greeted by the Governor

General of Canada and His Excellency Jean-Daniel Lafond. As you all know, the Governor General Michaelle Jean is the Queen's representative in Canada."

## MAYBE THEY DO READ CMN AT RIDEAU HALL!



Rideau Hall Deputy Secretary Emmanuelle Sajous – Honours Lists now announced like clockwork!

CROWN to the Household and staff of Her Excellency, and specifically to Emmanuelle Sajous, Deputy Secretary, Honours, for apparently heeding CMN and others' complaints about the irregular timing of announcement of Order of Canada nominations, thereby tending to remove them from public expectation and consciousness as associated with New Year's Day and Canada Day in the same way as the Palace list always appears at The Queen's Birthday and at New Year. As of the June 29, 2007 Honours List, to the most recent Canada Day, 2009 announcement, Rideau Hall has released the names of the new appointees like clockwork, ready for these two national holidays – around which, incidentally, given the decrease in political activity, they tend to make more of a news splash than otherwise would be the case.

## OR MAYBE THEY DON'T!



Obama Inauguration feted at Rideau Hall

MACE for the incomprehensible attention paid by Rideau Hall to the Inauguration of President Barack Obama when compared to its long-standing studied indifference and awkwardness in respect of Canada's own Head of State and monarchical system of governance. Calling it "an historic moment which we are joyfully celebrating," the Governor General hosted a full-day event on January 20th to "mark" the US Presidential Inauguration, complete with two sets of remarks by Her Excellency, viewing of the ceremony, a panel discussion and a "youth dialogue" tying together "the election of the first African American President of the United States" with the theme "Youth and the power of hope."

It takes nothing from Mr Obama's merits, nor from Mme Jean's perfectly reasonable personal delight to see another a person of colour attain such distinction, to ask why our Governor General – one of whose roles is to foster Canadian Identity – should be focusing such attention on proceedings in the republic to our south, the more astonishing when Rideau Hall never devotes even a fraction of such resources to explaining and "joyfully celebrating" the role of The Monarchy and of The Queen whom Her Excellency represents.

On the contrary, to cite but several examples of a role that can only be seen as

actively hostile to the Crown, it prevented the singing of the Royal Anthem and display of historic Canadian Flags at Rideau Hall at last summer's ceremony announcing the Sacrifice Medal, despite the specific request of the Prime Minister's Office. As well, Her Excellency and Household let the Lieutenant Governors and their staffs attending the annual Vice-Regal Conference at Quebec City the same year know of her displeasure with *Crown of Maples*; and that Rideau Hall did not wish to be associated with the seminal work produced by the government as it looked to "the past" while HE prefers to emphasize "the future" and that it emphasized too much "the British side" at the expense of "the Canadian side" – which goes to show that the text had neither been closely read nor understood.

## SPEEDY ANSWER FROM PRINCES, NOT FROM POLS

CROWN to Princes William and Harry, and their Private Offices, for their exemplary handling of public correspondence. As any writer to a Royal knows, the Royal Family generally responds very quickly to any communication. Not so amongst many Canadian public figures. Apparently things are the same Down Under. *The Sydney Herald* (an advocate for a republic, by the way) reported on April 28th that a nine-year old cancer survivor trying to raise funds for an A\$3.5 million scanner at a local hospital received a response from the Princes within 48 hours; but after six weeks, only 4 of 388 Australian politicians had replied to Jayde Bella's invitation to a charity fund-raising lunch to assist the project under the auspices of her foundation, Linking the Links: Help Childhood Cancer.

## "WAKING UP CANADIAN" INCLUDES THE QUEEN!



To see The Queen in this light-hearted federal government advertisement, watch the video on Youtube!

CROWN to our imaginative and loyal friends at the Department of Citizenship & Immigration who conceived a light-hearted television commercial, "Waking Up Canadian," to advertise new citizenship rules. The subject wakes up the day of their implementation to find himself surrounded by Canadian paraphernalia which includes prominently above his bed the official Canadian picture of The Queen. Readers can access the piece: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eDeDQpIQFD0>

## GREENS LEADER CLARIFIES ANTI-MONARCHY MOTION – SORT OF!

MACE to The Green Party for generally fuzzy knowledge of the Canadian Crown. After reports surfaced on the Monarchist League of Canada's

Message Board and the Green Party's Blog [www.greenparty.ca/en/blogs/3114/2009-03-06/government-elected-not-state](http://www.greenparty.ca/en/blogs/3114/2009-03-06/government-elected-not-state) that at its Pictou Policy Conference in March, the fledgling Party had adopted a pro-republican stance, Leader Elizabeth May wrote on March 8, "The resolution that would have supported a shift in Canada from the Queen as Head of State to a Republic did NOT pass. It lacked sufficient support to get out of the workshop. The resolution to remove reference to the Queen in oaths of allegiance and replace the pledge to the Constitution did pass. The constitution makes it clear the Queen is the head of state. It was thought this change might make the swearing of the oath more palatable to some. Please, let's not spread misinformation." We appreciate the clarification that the Greens are not calling for a republic – but we do not understand "the pledge to the Constitution" as none exists. Did Ms May mean that the Greens' policy is to replace Allegiance to The Queen with allegiance to a political document which can be amended? Whether clumsy wording or misplaced loyalty, CMN suggests the Greens take some basic refresher courses in Civics and read *Crown of Maples*!



Green Party Leader Elizabeth May – fuzzy on Monarchy

## WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT

CROWN to Leona Mary Harvey, long-serving Private Secretary to successive Lieutenant Governors of Newfoundland and Labrador, on her richly-deserved appointment as a Member of the Royal Victorian Order (MVO), announced on June 8 in The Queen's Birthday Honours. This is an honour in The Queen's personal gift, and not "on advice," so it is the more special and significant, especially since it not only recognizes the loyal efforts of a devoted subject, but reinforces the direct link between the Lieutenant Governors and the Sovereign whom they represent for provincial purposes.



Mrs Leona Harvey, appointed CVO.

## MONARCHIST'S LETTER BRINGS THE BAY TO ITS SENSES

CROWN to Montreal Monarchist League member Gary Sims for his intervention, and to The Bay for doing the right thing – after Gary had written on May 18, 2009, to complain that the company's advertising in the *Montreal Gazette* on the Saturday of Victoria Day weekend that its stores were open on the Monday, "National Patriot's Day." Reminding The Bay of its founding by Royal Charter and of federal holidays trumping the provincial naming adopted by a Separatist government in 2003, Gary also quoted the Governor General's Victoria Day message.

Within a week, Barry Bortnick, Director Bay Sales & Service, had replied

*continued on the next page*

# Two Major New Works on Canadian Honours

*Review & Commentary*  
by Michael Jackson, CVO, SOM, CD  
Research Fellow, Canadian Plains  
Research Centre  
University of Regina

**The Beginner's Guide to Canadian Honours**  
by Christopher McCreery  
Published by Dundurn Press 2008  
\$19.99  
ISBN 978-1-550-02748-8

**On Her Majesty's Service: Royal Honours and Recognition in Canada**  
by Christopher McCreery  
Published by Dundurn Press 2008  
\$30.00  
ISBN 978-1-550-02742-6

Christopher McCreery is the epitome of the prolific young scholar. On the heels of his two successful books published in 2005, *The Canadian Honours System* (Dundurn Press) and *The Order of Canada* (University of Toronto Press), he has produced a hat-trick in 2008: *The Maple Leaf and the White Cross: A History of St. John Ambulance and the Most Venerable Order of St. John of Jerusalem* (Toronto: Dundurn Press, 332 pp., hard-cover, \$50) and the two volumes which are the subject of this review.

Monarchists will be pleased to note another McCreery hat-trick: forewords by three members of the Royal Family. Her Majesty The Queen provided a rare message for *The Order of Canada*. The Earl of Wessex (Prince Edward) wrote a foreword for *The Beginner's Guide to Canadian Honours*, marked by the wit for which the Earl is noted. This reviewer was pleased to see that the photo accompanying the foreword is the one taken

when His Royal Highness was invested into the Saskatchewan Order of Merit in 2006 and that he is wearing both that badge and the Saskatchewan Centennial Medal. The Princess Royal (Princess Anne) contributed the foreword to *On Her Majesty's Service* – particularly fitting as Her Royal Highness became Grand Master of the Royal Victorian Order in 2007. Her eloquent letter emphasizes the Canadian dimension of that Order. (It should be noted that a fourth member of the Royal Family, the Duke of Gloucester, wrote a “prefatory message” for *The Maple Leaf and the White Cross*, in addition to the foreword by Governor General Michaëlle Jean.)

One of the strengths of Dundurn Press is illustrations. Both books contain a wealth of colour photographs, not only of medals but of people bestowing and wearing them. The frontispiece of *The Beginner's Guide* is the well-known photo of the Queen as Sovereign of the Order of Canada and Order of Military Merit, wearing the insignia of both. There is an unusual photo of Governor General Michaëlle Jean with the collar of Prior of the Order of St. John. In a vivid depiction of the history of honours, Queen Elizabeth is shown awarding the George Medal to RCAF officer Robert Sabourin at Rideau Hall in 1959 and, nearly fifty years later, the Order of St. John to Alberta Lieutenant Governor Norman Kwong in Edmonton in 2005.

Other attractive photos include the Queen and Governor General Roland Michener in 1967, the first year of the Order of Canada; wheelchair athlete Rick Hansen and author Margaret Atwood receiving their Order of Canada insignia from Governor General Jeanne Sauvé;

and hockey star Wayne Gretzky receiving his from Governor General Roméo LeBlanc. The illustrations in *On Her Majesty's Service* are of equally good quality. There is one of the Queen Mother as the first Grand Master of the Royal Victorian Order (1936-2002) and an elegant new photograph of the present Grand Master, the Princess Royal.

\* \* \*

Let's now look at the content of the two books.

*The Beginner's Guide to Canadian Honours* is easy to read and readily accessible to the general reader, especially young people. It successfully explains, illustrates and demystifies what can be an arcane and even obscure topic. Dr. McCreery notes in the Acknowledgements that he derived the idea from the French publication *Raconte-moi la Légion d'honneur*, an explanation for young people of France's premier honour. *The Beginner's Guide* first answers in simple terms the question, “What is an Honour?”, by giving the rationale for honours (“The way a country says ‘thank you’”) and explaining the distinction between orders, decorations and medals. The second chapter gives a capsule history of early Aboriginal, French and British honours in Canada and the third, “Canada at War”, the story of how Canadians continued to receive British honours, especially for gallantry and war service, until the 1950s.

This recognition that Canadians received honours before 1967 is a useful prelude to the chapter outlining how the Order of Canada was established as the first component of what was to become a comprehensive, indigenous, national honours system. The appointment process for the Order and its administration are clearly explained, as are the three grades of the Order. There are welcome examples of recipients of the Order, ranging from Terry Fox, astronauts Marc Garneau and Roberta Bondar and author Robertson Davies, to environmentalist Elizabeth May, Jean Vanier and General Roméo Dallaire.

The chapter on “Other Canadian Orders” gives a succinct, even cursory, look at the Order of Military Merit, the Order of Merit of the Police Forces, the Royal Victorian Order and the Order of St. John. Although the author rightly focuses on the Order of Canada, which is the most relevant to the average Canadian, one would have appreciated a little more information on the others. The ten Canadian provincial orders are listed and their insignia portrayed along with those of the five national orders. This reviewer was disappointed that the medal and ribbon shown of the Saskatchewan Order of Merit were the pre-2005 versions, not the improved ones introduced in the province's centennial year – surprising in a book published three years later.

The chapters on “Military Valour and Bravery Decorations” and “Meritorious Service Decorations” are enlivened by vignettes of some of the recipients. First World War ace Billy Bishop receives the Victoria Cross; two soldiers are recognized with military valour decorations for their gallantry in combat in Afghanistan; civilians are awarded bravery decorations for rescuing people from drowning and for disarming a bank robber. Olympic rower Silken Laumann is decorated with the Meritorious Service Cross for her courage and determination, while



*The Countess Mountbatten of Burma receives the Meritorious Service Cross on her retirement after long and distinguished service as Colonel-in-Chief of the Princess Pats*

Nancy Malloy is awarded the Meritorious Service Medal posthumously for humanitarian work in Chechnya prior to her murder. These chapters are engagingly written and will have special appeal for the young reader.

Four chapters are devoted to the most-frequently awarded, and most visible, Canadian honours: military campaign and service medals, long service medals, commemorative medals, and “other awards”; the latter include some provincial medals (although unfortunately not those for Ontario such as the Medal for Good Citizenship). These pages are profusely illustrated with fine renderings of the insignia.

The remainder of the book comprises a helpful chapter on “When to Wear Your Medals”, a chart of ribbons and commendation bars, and a glossary. This observer was again disappointed to see the former rather than present ribbon for the Saskatchewan Order of Merit – and the absence of the ribbons for the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal and the Ontario medals which are recognized by Ottawa. The drawings showing the wearing of medals are the ones used by Rideau Hall for decades. It is time to replace these with contemporary ones, placing less emphasis on formal white-tie attire (rare in Canada) and stars of orders (in Canada, only the Order of St. John has one) and more on day-time or evening wear with business attire; it is a pity that Dundurn did not take the opportunity to do just that. It would also have been useful to include a table of post-nominal letters, often a source of confusion. In this respect, the post-nominal for the Order of Manitoba is mistakenly given as O.Mb. in the ribbon chart (p. 83), whereas it is actually OM. On the other hand, Dr. McCreery is perhaps giving a subliminal message to Manitoba to stop using “OM”! This is the post-nominal of the Order of Merit, a prestigious UK order in the personal gift of the Sovereign and thus open to Canadians (it has been awarded to Prime Ministers Mackenzie King, Pearson and Chretien, and to Dr. Wilder Penfield).

It is no surprise that Christopher McCreery, as a historian, shows a fine sense of Canada's history in this book. I like the way he underlines the continuity in honours since the First Nations, through France and Britain, which makes the point (*pace* Rideau Hall) that honours for Canadians were not invented in 1967. It is unfortunate, though, that he states (p.18) that “the British government... forced Canada to continue using the British honours system until 1967”. That is scarcely fair to the Brits! After the *Statute*

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## Crowns & Maces...

*continued from the previous page*

to Gary, stating, “In the previous years we have always referred to this particular week end as Victoria Day. This particular year our marketing department responded to a recommendation to change the heading to National Patriot's Day. This practice will not be repeated in future years. As you can appreciate the Hudson's Bay Company places great pride in our role in the history of Canada and at all times maintain high values in maintaining our pride in Canada.”

### “WHY ON EARTH DID THEY TAKE THE JOB?” DEPARTMENT



Australian GG Quentin Bryce – sees republic as “development of our democracy”!  
Speaking on April 2nd to Australian Broadcasting Corporation News on her return from an African tour, Bryce stated, “I think that that will happen in the future, yes... it is part of the development of our democracy in future decades.” Pardon us for being confused, Ma'am, but if you don't want to promote Allegiance to the Monarch who appointed you, and belief in the system of which your office is the central domestic focus, why on earth did you accept it?

### AND HOW WAS HE ELECTED?

MACE: to Australian Senator Doug Cameron. During an April 29 meeting of the Upper House's Finance and Public Administration Committee which was considering a private measure, the Plebiscite for an Australian Republic Bill, he announced that Canada was a republic. Questioning Philip Benwell of the Australian Monarchist League, the Senator asked: “How did Canada end up managing this process and moving to a republic? Did they damage their psyche? Did they become less stable?” This remarkable assertion brought laughter from the gallery and a quick retort from the witness.



*Australian Senator Doug Cameron called Canada a republic.*

The Monarchist League of Canada sent the Senator an email the same day, stating: “We respectfully suggest that you do not muddy either your debate or our Constitutional reality by calling Canada a republic. Our Dominion is a Constitutional Monarchy, Elizabeth II gloriously reigning, as entrenched in our Constitution by which it would take an Act of Parliament AND all 10 provincial Legislative Assemblies to effect any change. God Save the Queen!”

Neither apology nor retraction had been received as of press time!



# TWO MAJOR NEW WORKS ON CANADIAN HONOURS

*continued from the previous page*  
of Westminster in 1931 (at the very least), Canada was quite capable of having its own honours and chose not to, due mainly to the anti-honours phobia of Prime Minister Mackenzie King, himself, ironically, a reluctant Companion of the Order of St. Michael & St. George.

\* \* \*

*On Her Majesty's Service: Royal Honours and Recognition in Canada* sheds much light on the least-known of Canada's national honours, the Royal Victorian Chain, the Royal Victorian Order and the Royal Victorian Medal, awarded for personal services to the Sovereign, the Royal Family and the Crown. It also plucks from obscurity the Vice-Regal and Commissioners' Recognition Badges and the Vice-Regal and Commissioners' Commendation. The official launch of *On Her Majesty's Service* took place in September 2008 in Ottawa, on the occasion of the first meeting of the newly-formed Royal Victorian Order Association of Canada, bringing together members of the order and recipients of the medal from across Canada.

The author points out in the Introduction that, uniquely in the Commonwealth Realms, Canada has chosen to "integrate the Royal Victorian Order and Medal into our national honours system". This occurred in 1972. Accordingly, the history of these honours in Canada is divided into two periods, pre- and post-1972. The chapter on the 1896-1971 period first explains how in 1896, at a time when the monarch's prerogatives in granting honours had been almost completely taken over by the government, Queen Victoria established the Order as a personal honour to recognize service to the Sovereign and Royal Family.

Unusually, the Order was created with five levels: Knight Grand Cross (GCVO), Knight Commander (KCVO), Commander (CVO), Member IV class (MVO IV) – later to become Lieutenant (LVO), and Member V Class (MVO V – now MVO). At the time, the senior orders such as the Order of the Garter had only one level, conferring knighthood, and the others, such as the Order of the Bath, three, the top two of which conferred knighthood. Thus the Royal Victorian Order recognized junior as well as senior levels of service; the Royal Victorian Medal would extend this to support staff. As the status of the Commonwealth developed, the Order and Medal evolved into personal honours of the King or Queen in right of the individual Realms as well as of the United Kingdom.

Queen Victoria did not appoint any Canadians to the Order, but Dr. McCreery tells how King Edward VII made ample use of it for Canadians in his brief reign from 1901 to 1910: the legendary Lieutenant-Colonel Sam Steele and railway magnates Lords Mount Stephen, Strathcona and Shaughnessy were among those so honoured. King George V continued the practice and also awarded the first Royal Victorian Medal to a Canadian, nursing Sister Vivien Tremaine, at the war front in 1915. These promising developments were cut short by the infamous Nickle Resolution in 1918, which virtually put an end to the granting of honours to Canadians. Although the Royal Victorian Order and Medal were personal honours of the Sovereign and not of the British government, Prime Minister Mackenzie King made it clear to

governors general and monarchs that they were still not to be awarded to Canadians. Thus, despite ample opportunities such as the 1939 Royal Visit, the Centennial of Confederation in 1967 and visits by Queen Elizabeth II, this form of royal recognition remained virtually dormant in Canada for over half a century.

It was only in 1972, five years after the founding of the Order of Canada and at the point where the national honours system was considerably expanded, that the Royal Victorian Order and Medal would be revived in Canada. Dr. McCreery describes how the legendary Esmond Butler, Secretary to successive governors general and an architect of the Canadian honours system, was, appropriately, the catalyst for this revival. With the agreement of Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau he was appointed CVO in the New Year's Honours List; the Order and Medal were henceforth considered as being among Canada's honours; and the doors were at last open to further appointments. The author summarizes these, noting that at first they were restricted to federal officials organizing royal visits, until the door was opened further to provincial officials in 1984. Particularly welcome are the references to two fine and loyal servants of the Crown at Rideau Hall: Mary de Bellefeuille-Percy, the veteran director of honours, who, unusually and sadly, was made a posthumous LVO after her retirement; and Robert Watt, the first Chief Herald of Canada, who received his LVO from the Prince of Wales at Buckingham Palace in May 2008. A splendid photo of Mr. Watt adorns the back cover of the book. We also learn that another outstanding servant of the Crown, Kevin MacLeod, now Usher of the Black Rod in the Senate of Canada, is the only Canadian to have been promoted through all three levels of the Order: MVO, LVO and CVO.

An intriguing chapter is devoted to the *Royal Victorian Chain*, created by King Edward VII in 1902 as an "extraordinary mark of appreciation" and now "the most sparingly awarded honour that is within the Queen's gift". While three of the "British" governors general were recipients of the Chain (Connaught, Lansdowne, Athlone), the first Canadian to be so honoured was former Governor General Vincent Massey in 1960 – in compensation, Christopher McCreery tells us, for not being allowed by Prime Minister Diefenbaker to accept the Order of the Garter (with its knighthood) which had been offered by the Queen. The journey was "less arduous" for Governor General Roland Michener, who received the Chain from the Queen in 1973. These have been the only Canadian recipients of the Royal Victorian Chain to date, although Dr. McCreery speculates that Governor General Georges Vanier "would have almost certainly been awarded the Chain" had he not died in office.

The *Royal Victorian Medal* is dealt with in a brief chapter, tracing its evolution from a junior award for "faithful servants" in 1896 to a prestigious decoration, since 1980 with the post-nominal RVM and ranking ahead of service medals. Canadian awards resumed in 1977 and since then twenty-three persons have received the medal. But, says Dr. McCreery, "it is a highly underused part of our honours system, and not for

the lack of worthy and dedicated recipients". Which brings us to the *vice-regal and commissioners' commendation*.

This is a "junior award" created in 1998 (in lieu of a decoration) to recognize contributions by the paid and volunteer staff of the provincial lieutenant governors and territorial commissioners, although not, strangely enough the staff of the governor general. One has the impression that the "underused" Royal Victorian Medal could have and should have been used for this purpose.

The *vice-regal and commissioners' recognition badge* is altogether different. It serves the function of providing vice-regal representatives and their spouses with a distinctive emblem for public occasions, given that most of them no longer wear the civil uniform, and is retained by them after retirement. The insignia of both the commendation and the recognition badge are included in the illustrations and there is a stunning picture of Ontario Lieutenant Governor Hilary Weston wearing her badge together with the Order of Ontario. An interesting chapter on Insignia and Heraldry describes not only the insignia of all the honours and awards in question, but also the coats of arms to which holders of the Order and Medal are entitled, with fine illustrations of those of Yves Chevrier, RVM, Terrance Christopher, LVO, and Kevin MacLeod, CVO.

Dr. McCreery wisely refrained from editorial comment in *The Beginner's Guide to Canadian Honours*. He is more frank in *On Her Majesty's Service*. In the Acknowledgements, he states, "Too often government officials have been ignorant of the significance of this part of the honours system and by default have largely marginalized the Queen's personal order". At intervals throughout the text the author deplores the reluctance of the Canadian government and Rideau Hall, both pre- and post-1972, to recommend the Royal Victorian Order and Medal for recognition of services to the Crown by Canadians. The Vice-Regal and Commissioners' Commendations, though useful for recognizing smaller-scale contributions, are but a pale reflection of the RVO and RVM and really exist because the latter are so rarely recommended for vice-regal staff members. As John Perlin, a former Canadian Secretary to the Queen and himself a CVO, says in his Preface, "Sadly these [...] have essentially disappeared and have been replaced with [...] awards and not honours of the Crown". The lack of use of the Order and Medal, asserts Christopher McCreery, is "not due to the lack of worthy recipients but is more a reflection of the fact that the appropriate authorities regularly fail to forward appropriate suggestions or nominations to the Queen."

In his Conclusion, Dr. McCreery returns to this theme, pointing out that because of the tendency of Rideau Hall "to marginalize the Order and Medal", the RVO "has largely been transformed into the "Royal Visit Order", since it usually on The Queen's visits to Canada that Her Majesty has the opportunity to bestow the Order (and Medal) on Canadians. This is a little unfair: there have been a respectable number of Order and Medal recipients, noted by the author himself, who have been recognized for contributions other than royal visits. Starting with the eminent Esmond Butler, these have included, among others,

Senator Michael Pitfield and secretaries to the Governor General Léopold Amyot, Judith LaRocque and Barbara Uteck, all CVOs. LVOs include senior Rideau Hall staffers Edmond de Lotbinière and Antony Smyth; J. Michael Roberts, Private Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia; Christopher Carnegie, recognized for his work for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award; and, as already mentioned, Mary Percy and Robert Watt. Among the MVOs are Elizabeth Pitney, long-time secretary to governors general; Irene White, private secretary responsible for the transformation of the Saskatchewan lieutenant governor's office; Kathleen Brown, the first Chief of Protocol of Manitoba; and Hemi Mitic, labour leader involved in the Duke of Edinburgh's Study Conference – together with the just-appointed Leona Mary Harvey, long-serving Personal Secretary to Lieutenant Governors of Newfoundland and Labrador. Still, Dr. McCreery's point is well taken: Rideau Hall's reluctance to promote the Royal Victorian Order and Medal is the main reason for their low profile in Canada.

If illustrations are a strong point for Dundurn Press's publications, the same, alas, cannot be said for proof-reading. *The Maple Leaf and the White Cross*, for example, is marred by numerous errors. While *The Beginner's Guide* emerges relatively unscathed, *On Her Majesty's Service* contains some errors which could have been avoided. We find Royal "Victoria" Order on p. 16; the Earl of Hopton becomes the "Hear of Hopetown" (p. 81). The names of several recipients are misspelled: those of Micheline Ouellette-Rogers, LVO (p. 91), Alain Girardin, RVM, who becomes Alaine Girardin (p. 140), Yukon Commissioner Geraldine Van Bibber (p. 150), and Inspector Greg Cunningham (p. 151). Conrad Swan was made LVO in 1978, not 1979 (p. 36). MVOs Kathleen Brown and Irene White should have been included among the vice-regal staff receiving the Order (p. 133). In a book published in the fall of 2008 it is disappointing to find that James Bartleman is still listed as Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, when he left office in 2007; the same applies to Iona Campagnolo in British Columbia and Lise Thibault in Quebec. Edward Roberts in Newfoundland & Labrador left office in February 2008. Several vice-regal aides-de-camp are missing their "CD" post-nominal.

This minor carping by a nit-picking reviewer should not detract from two timely, comprehensive and well-written volumes. Christopher McCreery has once again provided us with valuable reference books on the Canadian Crown. As is the case for his major publications in 2005, one can only hope that his sensible recommendations for improving the Canadian honours system will be heard where it counts – in official Ottawa.

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# HONOURS DEBACLES CONTINUE

by *Scriptor*

The Canadian honours system continues to lurch from crisis to crisis. As if the mishandling of the nomination of Constable Chris Garrett for the Cross of Valour was not bad enough the honours gaffes continue to flow from Rideau Hall.

On May 16, 2008 the Governor General and the Prime Minister officially unveiled the Canadian Victoria Cross that was finally cast after more than 15 years of existing only on paper. The Cross itself is a beautiful piece of Canadian craftsmanship. Reports of the unveiling ceremony reveal a dignified occasion. As has become custom at Rideau Hall, the Royal Anthem was not played and references to Her Majesty The Queen were kept to a minimum by the Governor General. Indeed the Governor General focused more on berating the foreign nature of the "British Victoria Cross," than highlighting the historic ties that link the original VC to the Canadian VC. The Prime Minister was much more sensitive to the historic nature of the occasion; he managed to reference The Queen and simply referred to the pre-1993 Victoria Cross as the "original Victoria Cross."

In watching the event on CPAC one couldn't help but notice that the important job of master of ceremonies was delegated to a low-level bureaucrat who seemed intent on recognizing the Governor General at every mention as "Her Excellency The Right Honourable" while simply referring to the Prime Minister as "The Prime Minister," without any reference to the fact that he too is a "Right Honourable." This is typical of the details that are too often lost these days at Rideau Hall.

The Canada Day, 2008 appointment of Dr. Henry Morgentaler to the Order of Canada plunged the Canadian Honours system into another crisis. Whatever one may think of Dr. Morgentaler, whether one falls into the pro-choice or pro-life camp, all seem to agree that he is one of the most controversial people ever appointed to the Order of Canada. Officials at Rideau Hall bungled the announcement, which was originally supposed to be made on Canada Day. It was postponed by one day to prevent protestors from accosting the Governor General on Parliament Hill during the afternoon Canada Day show.

When this Honours List did come out, the names of the members of the Advisory Council of the Order were left off the end of the document for the first time since 1967. It seems unfortunate that this noble institution should be subjected to such poor management by people who clearly have no understanding of what an honours system is or how it should operate. The Rideau Hall website continues to omit the names of the members of the Advisory Council – an innovation only introduced following the Morgentaler appointment. Of course, the membership of the Council is supposed to be freely available to the public.

Folly surrounding the controversial appointment continued when the Order of Canada insignia belonging to Sister Catherine Doherty was returned to the Governor General at Rideau Hall. The official who accepted the return of the insignia took the framed certificate and Order of Canada medal into his hands, and promised to return it to "the Chancellery of Orders." Of course Canada has never had a Chancellery of Orders; it is

Britain that has the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood, Canada has the Chancellery of Honours. In all the total of resignations or insignia being returned to the Order over Morgentaler's appointment numbered eight – a hitherto unprecedented event in its history.

The case of Constable Chris Garrett, which will be familiar to many readers [see CMN 28 – Ed.], finally came to an end when in October 2008 Garrett was posthumously awarded the Star of Courage. This came following a bizarre series of events that saw the Governor General publicly calling for the Prime Minister to intervene and change the rules relating to the nomination period. Garrett's award came only after significant pressure from the Prime Minister – a very worrying trend of honours being used for political purposes.

There remain other serious, less public problems with the Canadian Honours system. Chief amongst these is the poor management of the civil division of the Meritorious Service Cross and Meritorious Service Medals. While hundreds of Meritorious Service Medals have been awarded to members of Her Majesty's Canadian Forces for their distinguished service in Afghanistan, there have not been any awards of the civil division of the Meritorious Service Cross of Meritorious Service Medals since 2005. It seems that Rideau Hall is trying to kill the civil division by refusing to award it, and to employ it creatively as it was intended – to be the junior version of The Order of Canada. One can only hope that Honours personnel do not attempt to replace it with some cheap lapel pin award or just allow it to fade into obscurity. This strategy is reminiscent of Prime Minister

William Lyon Mackenzie King's shelving of the Canada Medal which was instituted in 1943 by King George VI.

In his work *The Canadian Honours System*, C. McCreery notes that when the civil Meritorious Service Cross and Meritorious Service Medal were created they were intended to be awarded to 400 Canadians a year, so that it could serve as a junior award to the Order of Canada. As we recently saw with the appointment of Craig Keilberger to the Order of Canada, the Meritorious Service Medal can indeed usefully serve as a stepping-stone on the road to being appointed to the Order of Canada.

Clearly it is time for there to be a change in the senior staff of the Chancellery of Honours. There is also a need for a broad-sweeping review of the Honours system, one that should be undertaken from outside Government House. How much strain the system can handle before there are calls for its abolition is unknown. While the calls have been few thus far, they will multiply if we continue to compound such errors and awkwardnesses as the Garrett Cross of Valour Case, the poor management of the civil division of the Meritorious Service Cross and Meritorious Service Medal and the recent obfuscation and mistakes demonstrated after Dr. Henry Morgentaler's appointment to the Order of Canada.

Canada's Honours system is an important national institution, one which has been particularly ill served over the past several years. This has the unfortunate effect of reflecting poorly on the Crown and the many thousands of Canadians who have been recognized with a Canadian Honour since 1967.

## Monarchist Members Speak

**Two students make bi-partisan proposals to enhance Canada's monarchy**

by **Matt Bondy and Brendon Bedford**

*Matt Bondy, a Conservative, and Brendon Bedford, a Liberal, both study political science at the University of Waterloo. Each is member of The Monarchist League of Canada.*

### **A bipartisan proposal on improving the image and effectiveness of Canada's monarchy**

Preserving the dignity of our constitutional monarchy – its visibility and perception – is a central responsibility of the government of Canada. It has been neglected for too long.

The next Parliament, regardless of which party forms the government, should protect the integrity of our parliamentary system and reconnect younger Canadians with their royal heritage by improving the image and effectiveness of Canada's crown.

Why is the monarchy so essential and still so relevant? Most importantly, Canada's constitutional monarchy ensures democratic processes are honoured at all levels of government. This is its most sacred responsibility.

Our monarchy also reminds Canadians that they are not traitors for opposing the government of the day, because our true allegiance is to our ideals, freedoms and heritage – to our Sovereign Queen – and not to passing politicians. The monarchy represents Canada internationally, and provides a non-partisan

commander-in-chief for the armed forces.

To put it another way, the Crown anchors the country.

So we offer three simple proposals for restoring the profile and improving the effectiveness of Canada's monarchy, hopeful that Canadian statesmen will take up this important initiative in the next Parliament.

First, the federal government needs clearer guidelines for selecting governors general. We need a discreet but credible selection process, complete with bipartisan and non-partisan representation, designed to quietly provide a list of reputable and capable candidates for the prime minister's consideration.

Why? Canadians deserve to know that vice regal responsibilities will be carried out with prudence, sensitivity and a deep awareness of historical precedent in the event of any constitutional controversies. If the wisdom and professionalism of Rideau Hall's inhabitants are in question, Canada's ability to amicably resolve constitutional crises is compromised.

The prime minister should also regularly visit the governor general, just as the British prime minister frequently visits The Queen, to discuss the direction of the government's agenda. These visits encourage both parties to anticipate any political or constitutional difficulties that may arise during the life of Parliament, and therefore manage them more effectively.

The second simple reform we propose

pertains specifically to the visibility of the monarchy. Simply put, we need more royal homecomings.

Each time the Queen and her consort arrive in Canada, they are greeted by throngs of devoted subjects. What's remarkable is not the affection Canadians feel for their monarchy – what's remarkable is that this devotion continues to stun so many elites.

We believe Canadians want a deeper and more uniquely Canadian relationship with their Royal Family. To get the ball rolling on this important reform, royal visits should be made the responsibility of the Prime Minister's Office, not the bureaucracy over at Canadian Heritage. An important step in this direction appears to have been taken with Mr Harper's appointment of Kevin MacLeod as Canadian Secretary to The Queen.

Third and finally, the Royal Canadian Navy, Royal Canadian Air Force and Army should be restored as distinctive elements within the existing command and legal framework of the modern Canadian Forces. In 1968, the Liberal government of Lester B. Pearson passed the Canadian Forces Reorganization Act. As a result of the new legislation, the RCN, RCAF and Army ceased to exist as separate services with distinct nomenclature and uniforms. The great majority of the 1968 reforms led to greater efficiencies in Canada's military command structure and should be retained, but there was simply no need to dump the royal design-



*University of Waterloo students Brendon Bedford (l) and Matt Bondy (r.) disagree about politics but agree on supporting the Canadian Crown*

nations or dress codes of the armed services; they posed no obstacle to organizational efficiency.

Since the reforms were first enacted, a growing consensus that the Reorganization Act went too far has steadily emerged. For example, the distinctive uniforms of the three services have been incrementally restored, and the official 1968 names for the three services – Maritime, Air and Land Force Command – have fallen out of usage even on official Department of National Defence recruiting material.

Now it's time to take the final step in correcting the excesses of the past. The next Parliament of Canada should, with the Monarch's permission, restore the Royal prefixes to our armed forces. The loyalty and bravery of our servicemen and women, demonstrated once again – and with significant cost – in Afghanistan, surely have earned this honour.

We believe Canada's constitutional monarchy is the linchpin of our democratic process; the glue of our constitution. It fosters pride in our armed forces, facilitates good government, and grounds this country within its own living history.

Let us therefore improve the operations of our monarchy, and reaffirm its special place in our democratic and military institutions. Let us reclaim our royal heritage.



# The Governor General's Victoria Day Message

## A Commentary: Rideau Hall's "Ongoing Awkwardness" Regarding The Sovereign

### Text of Her Excellency's Message

May 15, 2009

Victoria Day provides Canadians with an opportunity to rejoice in our heritage and to pay homage to Her Majesty The Queen. It is also a day to remember past kings and queens who were instrumental in building this country. The Crown in Canada is a vital part of our national identity, and that bond is strengthened by the love and respect Canadians have for the Royal Family. As we continue to grow as a country we remember and honour our past, while celebrating our sovereignty and the bright future to which every Canadian contributes. On Victoria Day, let us toast Her Majesty, reflect on our history and celebrate the country we all call home. I wish you all a most enjoyable day.

Michaëlle Jean

### COMMENTARY

by Miles

While it is good to see Rideau Hall acknowledging the fact of Victoria Day's monarchical significance, the Governor General's message was at best "all right." For it seemed to reflect an ongoing awkwardness regarding the Sovereign and her essential role and place in our country. In other words, given that the Governor General is, first and foremost, Her Majesty's representative, the message almost appears to have a strained flavour. To wit:

"Victoria Day provides Canadians with an opportunity to rejoice in our her-

itage and to pay homage to Her Majesty The Queen. It is also a day to remember past kings and queens who were instrumental in building this country."

While at first blush, this comment appears entirely appropriate, upon further reflection it would appear that Her Majesty is being referred to as an aside; her name isn't even used. Given that Victoria Day also officially denotes the birthday of Queen Elizabeth, surely this is odd.

"The Crown in Canada is a vital part of our national identity, and that bond is strengthened by the love and respect Canadians have for the Royal Family. As we continue to grow as a country we remember and honour our past, while celebrating our sovereignty and the bright future to which every Canadian contributes."

Again, while these are fine comments, the message almost appears 'nostalgic' in nature, while further suggesting that Her Excellency's view of the Crown is that, while it constitutes a vital part of Canada's identity (absolutely true and appropriate to say so), she further rationalizes Canadian linkages to the Crown's in somewhat ' quaint' terms. The last sentence of this paragraph is particularly troubling, in that it gives the distinct impression that the Governor General is conveying the message that the Crown represents a "legacy" institution that Canadians can reflect upon fondly, with the reassurance that our sovereignty is secure and our future is bright – in other words, the Monarchy may not necessarily be included in this future.

"On Victoria Day, let us toast Her Majesty, reflect on our history and cele-

brate the country we all call home. I wish you all a most enjoyable day."

One feels sure the staff at Rideau Hall worked very hard to come up with what they viewed as an appropriate compromise. Indeed, the aforementioned suggests ongoing self-generated turmoil in reconciling the highly subjective interpretation of a conflict between the Crown's enduring role with the "fashionable" sensitivities of Rideau Hall. This writer, for one, does not particularly like it. We're talking about our Head of State here. Despite countless representations made by many to the Household over recent decades, the office of the Governor General still very often appears to be trying to 'outflank' the Monarch in many respects. Quintessentially Canadian, it struggles with the ever-evolving issue of Canadian self-identity. Notwithstanding that we have a Canadian Crown, have been fully independent for some time, and have established our own customs and traditions, honours and awards (some of which arguably have eroded our society rather than advanced it), we continue to pursue an approach that ultimately distances Canadians from their Monarch and Head of State.

Given its track record of the past several years, can one trust Rideau Hall? There is little question that former Governor General Clarkson did considerable damage to the institution and many believe that Mme Jean is much better (albeit the "guidance" of the current government has been helpful in a number of instances).

Notwithstanding the Monarchist League's good efforts, along with the stat-

ed views of many loyal Canadians, that the Crown appears to be further alienated by the very institution that was created to represent, support and sustain it. Certainly, there have been numerous recent attempts to further reinforce the Governor General's stature in recent years, such as changes to the presentation of credentials by members of the diplomatic community, efforts to restrict members of the Royal Family from honorary appointments within the Canadian Forces, removal of portraits of the Sovereign and Prince Philip within Rideau Hall and even constraints imposed upon Her Majesty undertaking official functions during official visits to Canada, all in what appears to be a rather self-serving attempt to aggrandize the office of the Governor General as "de-facto Head of State" at the expense of our Sovereign. Why? Speculation could include that, Rideau Hall's faulty logic includes the bizarre notion that such actions will somehow further elevate the office of Governor General in such a manner as to eventually supplant the Monarch outright, enabling further evolutions leading to an even more "uniquely Canadian" office...such as president?

"A most gracious message?" With expressions of thanks for doing what Rideau Hall should have been doing all along, perhaps our deepest loyalties would also lead us to express to Her Excellency not simply appreciation for the effort, but also some respectful recommendations for improvement.

## TWO COMMONWEALTH DAY MESSAGES A Contrast

Issued March 9, 2009

### THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S MESSAGE

Commonwealth Day serves as a reminder not only of our past, but also of our growth as a nation. Today is a day to celebrate the unique ties that we share with countries around the world and the history that binds us.

Throughout our history in the Commonwealth, Canadians have remained proud of our heritage. The Monarchy remains such a vital part of our national identity and we are fortunate to share this with so many others. When I meet or visit with people outside of Canada, I am always amazed at the similarities I can find just through a few minutes of conversation. On Commonwealth Day, we take the opportunity to reflect on our commonalities. No matter the language spoken, the heritage, the customs, the evolution of a country, we can all find similar ground to speak as friends and as global neighbours.

I wish everyone a wonderful Commonwealth Day full of celebration.

Michaëlle Jean

### STATEMENT BY HON JASON KENNEY, PC, MP MINISTER OF CITIZENSHIP, IMMIGRATION & MULTICULTURALISM

On this day, Canada proudly displays the Royal Union Flag, also known as the "Union Jack," as a symbol of our membership in the Commonwealth and our allegiance to the Queen. From sunrise to sunset, the Royal Union Flag is flown alongside the national flag at airports, military bases and other federal buildings and establishments across Canada.

Commonwealth Day provides an opportunity for almost one billion people throughout the world to reflect on their common heritage and to appreciate the contributions that the Empire made to freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law around the world.

The Union Jack is a proud reminder that Canadians achieved independence fighting for the Empire and not against it.

Pluralism binds our diverse peoples together. And this pluralism has flourished here in Canada under the Union Jack and the Maple Leaf.

As Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism, I am delighted to join with Canadians and people around the world in celebrating Commonwealth Day.



# THE BACK PAGE

CONTINUED... (Please see Editor's note on The Back Page)

## SEE WILLIAM & HARRY DISCUSS THEIR MILITARY CAREERS

[http://www.norepublic.com.au/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=1957&Itemid=1](http://www.norepublic.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1957&Itemid=1)

provides a link to a short AP report showing the Princes' light-hearted kidding of each other even as they discuss their serious military obligations.



## ON-LINE TRIBUTE TO QUEEN

### AUSTRALIAN POST OFFICE MOUNTS STAMP EXHIBIT

A colourful, warm and thorough presentation of the depiction of The Queen on the island Commonwealth's postage stamps is available online by Australia Post. As in Canada, many of the early stamp designs featuring Her Majesty were based on images used throughout the Queen's Realms. You can access this tribute at

<http://www.stamps.com.au/gallery/exhibitions/the-depiction-of-queen-elizabeth-ii>



## VIMY FOUNDATION PROMOTES PIN

### ENCOURAGES ANNUAL WEARING ON VIMY DAY

Calling the Canadian victory at Vimy Ridge of 1917 "a seminal moment in our nation's history," the Vimy Foundation has designed and seeks to encourage Canadians to wear a commemorative pin each April 9, to commemorate the sacrifice of those who fought there, together their contribution to Canada's coming of age.



### THE CLASP

On the top of the clasp is an elongated Canadian maple leaf. Within the leaf are the iconic two towers of the magnificent Vimy Memorial designed by Walter S. Allward, built between 1925 and 1936 by the Canadian Government on land given to the nation by France to honour all of Canada's nearly 60,000 dead of The Great War. The two towers represent Canada and France bound together by sacrifice.

### THE RIBBON

The four vertical bands represent the four Canadian divisions of some 100,000 men which fought together for the first time on April 9, 1917 at the Battle of Vimy Ridge. The red represents the First Division, the dark blue the Second Division, the grey-blue the Third Division, and the green the Fourth Division. The order of the ribbon's colours (left to right) reflects the position of the four Canadian Divisions facing the German defences on the day of the battle.

### TO PURCHASE

To purchase the Vimy Pin please send a cheque of \$5 to The Vimy Foundation at 1000 - 200 University Avenue, Toronto, ON M5H 3C6, or order on our website [www.vimyfoundation.ca](http://www.vimyfoundation.ca). Bulk purchases are also available at discounted rates, as set out on the website.

## NOTES FROM THE ANTIPODES

### "Flexible" Journalism

Sydney, June 21 - Australians for Constitutional Monarchy notes that Australian journalists who decry the Crown are nonetheless willing to accept honours from it. Most recent example is Bea Campbell, appointed OBE in The Queen's Birthday Honours. Campbell had told *The Guardian* that "The survival of an honours system clothed in royalism and imperialism is a reproach to New Labour's craven sentiment about pomp and power. You ask yourself the question: how can I accept anything from this horrible imperial regime?"

### New Zealand to Restore Queen's Counsel Designation



Wellington, June 17 - New Zealand Attorney-General Chris Finlayson announced that the government would introduce legislation to repeal the previous administration's abolition of "Queen's Counsel" in favour of "Senior Counsel" for distinguished members of the bar. Mr Finlayson pointed out that the QC designation was "instantly recognized" both at home and internationally as assuring clients of a standard of professional ability.

### Australian Senate Committee Recommends Education

Canberra, June 15 - A Senate Committee charged with examining the possibility of a Plebiscite on a future republic tabled a non-committal report stating all sides agreed on the need for "greater public

education and awareness in relation to Australia's constitution... in order to understand the ramifications of any proposed reform including an Australian republic."

### New Letters Patent for Australian GG

Sydney, May 19 - Australians for Constitutional Monarchy revealed that on 21 August, 2008 The Queen had issued new Letters Patent for the Office of Governor General, revoking those of 1984. This was done under the Royal Sign Manual, using the Prerogative Powers of the Crown. The only change was to add "or herself", "or she" or "or her" after each masculine pronoun - out of an abundance of caution as legal precedent shows the masculine pronoun encompasses the feminine in its import. Australia's first female Governor General, Quentin Bryce, took office in September, 2008.

### Rudd & Harper Lunch with Queen: Oz PM & Opposition Leader not Prioritizing Republic

London, March 29 - In a BBC interview shortly before he and the Canadian Prime Minister had separate Audiences and then lunched with The Queen at Buckingham Palace, Australian PM Kevin Rudd said the debate about a republic "comes and goes" but that his priority was dealing with problems of the global economy. "Her Majesty is well loved in Australia, and Australia will become a republic, and we'll have a referendum in due season," he added. Rudd's comments, coupled with those made in October by Opposition Leader Malcolm

Turnbull, suggest an Australian republic is a distant dream. Turnbull had stated three conditions for a republic: it must not happen during the present Reign; politicians must agree on the model for replacing the monarchy; and, finally, opposition must be minimal.

### Kiwis Restore Knighthoods



HM receives Australian PM Rudd before Palace Luncheon

Wellington, March 8 - New Zealand Prime Minister John Key announced that The Queen had agreed that, effective in the Birthday Honours List in June, knighthoods would again be available to HM's subjects in the South Pacific realm, in two grades as Knights or Dames Grand Companion or Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit.

Referring to Mount Everest conqueror Sir Edmund Hillary as an example of how a knighthood allowed the nation to pay appropriate tribute to its heroes, the PM said, "This is about celebrating success... Roughly six or seven New Zealanders every year are selected, and given a very high honour to celebrate a lifetime of service and achievement, and it's my view that this visible titular honour is a very public way of celebrating their achievements."

Some 80 New Zealanders awarded top honours since knighthoods were abolished in 2000 will be given the opportunity to receive the accolade, should they desire to do so.



Sir Anan Satyanand, Governor General of New Zealand, receiving the Accolade from The Queen at a Buckingham Palace ceremony in March. Sir Anan had served as the country's Ombudsman for two terms before his appointment as The Queen's representative in 2006 - the first GG of Indian descent and of the Roman Catholic faith. Consequent upon the decision of NZ to restore knighthoods to its Honours system, HM approved his re-designation from Principal Companion to Knight Grand Companion of the Order of New Zealand.

### Monarchists Ahead in New Zealand Poll

Wellington, December 22 - Research New Zealand released a poll which revealed that by 48-42%, Kiwis do not favour a review of whether The Queen should remain their Head of State. Asked who should succeed Her Majesty, New Zealanders were tied 45-43% in their preference for Prince William or Prince Charles, respectively. One result different from that in countries such as Australia and Canada is that the weakest level of support for the Crown (38%) was amongst the youngest cohort polled, though the wide age range (15-39) of RNZ's methodology makes comparisons inexact.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## MONARCHIST ARGUMENTS "RING HOLLOW... WE MUST DO BETTER"

### A REPLY

by Professor Kenneth A. Munro, Professor and Senior Director of Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Alberta

[Andrew Mason's critique of arguments currently used by Canadian Monarchist in support of the Crown, which appeared in the last issue of "Canadian Monarchist News," brought a number of responses, of which we print Professor Munro's. CMN has invited Mr Mason to advance the logical sequel of his case – the superior arguments that should be advanced – in a future issue. Ed.]

Andrew Mason has made some thoughtful but misguided comments about arguments used by Canadian monarchists in favour of the Canadian Crown. At the outset, it is important to remember that the Crown is the linchpin in our constitutional structure. Like all institutions and rituals in our public and community life in recent years, it has been fashionable to criticize them even to the point of attempting to destroy them. Institutions which bind us together as a civic society and which play critical roles in our Canadian community such as the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, our parliamentary system of government, particularly the Senate and House of Commons, and values found in our oaths of allegiance and ceremonies at Remembrance Day – all have had their detractors in recent years. Canadians are forgetting that they belong to a civic community of shared personal and societal values which are symbolized in the Canadian Crown.

As monarchists, I would argue that we are being forced to confront our fellow citizens who are ignorant of our political and constitutional structure and who, without question, accept the leadership of those elected by a small minority of our society who are attempting to impose their values and institutions on us. This minority masquerades as a majority and uses democracy as the modern "god" to achieve their will. These citizens believe the individual should reign supreme and that the sum total of individual wills as expressed by the majority of those people who actually cast a ballot at election time constitute the democratic will. In essence, as community crumbles and unbridled individualism takes hold in Canada, democracy is heralded as a virtue whereby the majority of those who cast their vote on election day decide what the values of the country should be. As Canadians abstain from voting in large numbers, a majority of an increasingly small minority of voters are making decisions for us all. Consequently, a small group of individuals is shaping and perverting our democratic process because of the anaesthetized majority who are enjoying a very good life but are unaware of how quickly that way of life can evaporate without constant attention to our civic polity by each and every Canadian.

As an article in the *National Post* on 2 July 2008 by Rudyard Griffiths of the Dominion Institute points out, "Canada is in the grips of a civic-literacy crisis." Canadians are ill informed about our constitutional monarchy. If Griffiths is correct and a large percentage of Canadians are ignorant of the very nature of our civic society, how do we present

arguments which resonate and persuade. That really is the question Andrew Mason asks.

I would answer Mason by stating that we not reject out of hand arguments which are presented to convince those in Canada who know our system of constitutional government. The arguments he presents as those used by many Monarchists are sound rational reasons for keeping the Monarchy, but are really addressed to knowledgeable persons who understand the essence of our constitutional structure. Because most Canadians do not belong to this category does not mean that these ideas are worthless or outmoded or should be rejected. For example, those individuals who wish to do away with the oath of allegiance to the Queen do not realize that she embodies the Canadian state; thus, when we swear allegiance to her as our Queen, we are swearing allegiance to Canada and telling every Canadian that we will do all in our power to uphold the laws, institutions and values of our country. Consequently, swearing allegiance to Canada rather than The Queen is superfluous.

In our secular society, history is a discipline which can inform members of our civic society of their past and present situation and indicate the common values and traditions by which we are joined together and live. When history is not taught in several provinces the communal glue which binds is not present. One of the difficulties the Monarchy in Canada faces is that we are enmeshed in a world of self-centredness, individualism and faith in science and technology rather than community and awe at mystery and magic. The majesty and magic of the Monarchy are certainly lost on the modern generation which was not always the case. Our constitutional Monarchy is a system of government which has worked well for us since the very beginning of European contact and will continue to do so well into the future.

There is a feeling that "democracy" is the best system for Canada and the majority will, whatever that may be, should dominate. The Canadian Monarchy is not democratic in the sense that a majority vote for the Monarch; the Monarch is chosen by accident of birth. We should not apologize for this manner in which our Monarch inherits our throne. We must take time to educate Canadians about our polity and then present our arguments, especially informing our fellow citizens about the fact that a majority can be tyrannical. It is this hereditary monarchy which is the "referee" in our constitutional system of government, a referee because of our method of choosing our Monarch who has no vested interest in the outcome of any conflict, except to ensure that all decisions are made in the best interest of Canadians as a whole. Through our system of constitutional Monarchy, Canadians have learned how to protect the minority from the tyranny of the majority.

Generally, we monarchists are arguing with our fellow citizens who are ignorant of our political and constitutional structure. How can you argue against ignorance? Andrew Mason is frustrated, I believe, because he assumes Canadians understand our political structure. I would say that the arguments he discusses are ineffective because they are incomprehensible to people who are unaware of

our civic polity and who float from one idea to another depending on their personal whims at any given time. You cannot develop cogent arguments for someone who does not understand our present civic polity. These individuals might argue for a republic, but are very vague on what type of republican regime they want. These individuals never explain why their proposed system is better than our present Monarchist regime, except to say they BELIEVE it is. You cannot rationally argue with someone who presents an irrational belief.

I can only answer Andrew Mason by suggesting we monarchists attempt to form alliances with our fellow Canadians who wish to educate Canadians about our civic polity and then we can use our very solid arguments to reject republican claims. I do not doubt this process of education will take considerable time and much effort.

### FROM PROFESSOR DAVID FLINT, NATIONAL CONVENOR, AUSTRALIANS FOR CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY:

I found Anthony Mason's article (CMN, Spring 2008) well argued and refreshing. However I should point out that while the Australian referendum may have appeared "too near-run a thing," it was actually quite a victory. We had the combined opposition of the Labor Party, a significant number of Liberal MP's, together totalling about two third of all MP's, the trade Unions, a very well funded republican movement, a cast of celebrities, and most of the media. Against that ACM marshalled over 50,000 supporters, as well as the officially funded No campaign chaired by the Executive Director of ACM, Mrs Kerry Jones. (The chairman of the republican movement, Malcolm Turnbull, chaired the Yes Committee.) We won 55% of the national vote, all states, (they had to win a majority, although on one legal view they had to win all states) and 72% of electorates.

If this had been an election, it would have been treated by the media as an unprecedented landslide.

### LOYAL LETTER FROM MONTREAL MEMBER IN NEWSPAPER

published in *The Montreal Gazette*, April 24, 2009

I was quite pleased with your editorial on the role of the Crown in Canada. I find it very sad that Canadians don't understand our system of government. The Crown is the ultimate defence against tyranny and power-hungry politicians. It and its representatives must remain totally impartial. Adrienne Clarkson's suggestions seem to go against that tradition, making the role of governor-general another thing for partisans to bicker over. Thanks for educating Canadians on their government. Would that our schools did the same. God save the Queen of Canada Roy Eappen [Roy Eappen is a Silver Badge Holder and benefactor of *The Monarchist League of Canada*]

### FROM DOUGLAS BROOKES, TORONTO

Andrew Mason's fascinating article on monarchist arguments (CMN, Spring 2008) certainly hit right on the supreme dilemma of the monarchist cause. I too long since realized that the usual arguments monarchists advance in support of

monarchy don't convince hardly anyone at all. Amongst all the arguments for monarchy, perhaps only one evokes a positive response from nearly everyone who otherwise couldn't care less whether a country is a monarchy or a republic. This is the argument that monarchy keeps politicians in their place, by keeping the top job in the country (head of state) out of their reach. They all want this top job, but in a monarchy they can't have it. So a monarchy is a great way to slap politicians in the face, which they often roundly deserve. In fact this is probably the reason that republican politicians oppose monarchy – they want the top job for themselves. I've found that even the most confirmed republicans find this argument appealing.

### USA MONARCHIST MAYOR WRITES THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Your Excellency:

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your spirited and gracious message on the Victoria Day holiday. I can assure you that those Canadians who find themselves in the United States due to work or other circumstances are proud of their distinct Canadian identity. Your words reaffirm that proud Canadian heritage. Your tribute to the decades of service of our Sovereign is much appreciated. I grew up in Montreal as a young Italian immigrant and am grateful for the contributions made both French and English speaking Canadians to my professional development. As the Mayor of New Jersey's "hippest City" I always include young and not so young Canadians in civic events that cherish Canadian life such as Canada Day. Members of Her Majesty's Canadian Forces are stationed at nearby Ft. Monmouth. They are always included in a special place of honour at Armistice Day ceremonies. As an attorney I promised to provide free legal advice to those members of the Royal Canadian legion who have retired to our area in thanksgiving for Her Majesty's own Golden Jubilee year of Service to Canada. We will soon be dedicating a plaque to commemorate the 1939 Visit to Red Bank by their late Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth who were accompanied by the late PM William Lyon Mackenzie King. The visit was important since it symbolized the first visit by the King but also a visit as the King of Canada. It is my hope that the plaque will bear the Canadian crest as well as flag along with those of the United Kingdom and the United States since it brought together the leaders of the three great democracies on the eve of global cataclysm.



Loyal American Mayor Pasquale Menna seeks Royal Visit

With Your Excellency's permission, we would like to keep you informed of the progress of this plan. We have initiated a dialogue with Buckingham Palace also. With the sentiments of my respectful esteem,

Pasquale Menna, Mayor, Red Bank, NJ [USA]

[Mayor Menna is a long-standing member and benefactor of *The Monarchist League of Canada*]

# Excerpts from a speech given by The Hon Jason Kenney, PC, MP, Minister of Citizenship, Immigration & Multiculturalism to the Accession Sunday Luncheon of The Monarchist League of Canada, Toronto, February 8, 2009

Here in Canada we have marked many milestones throughout our long history. This country is steeped in the tradition of the monarchy – the embodiment of our Constitution. And today it is my great privilege to join you to mark an occasion that is momentous in *this* country: the accession of a sovereign.

It was 57 years ago on February 6 that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II ascended the throne as Queen of Canada. Her Majesty's lifelong dedication to duty and self-sacrifice has been a source of inspiration and encouragement to the people of Canada and to the many countries that make up the Commonwealth. For 57 years Her Majesty has been a constant reminder of our heritage as constitutional monarchy and of our unique identity – of our origins and of our constant evolution.

Now as many of you know, I attach great importance to the Monarchist League of Canada. Indeed, 12 years ago I was proud to sponsor a Parliamentary resolution to recognize the 50th wedding anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh.

Let me quote Jacques Monet who wrote in his study, *The Canadian Crown*, that “The adaptation of the Crown to a federal system was a unique and daring experiment. But it works. The sovereignty of the same Crown is exercised by different representatives in different juris-

dictions. Thus, diversity has been reconciled to unity.”

But perhaps Her Majesty said it best when she came to Toronto in 1973: “I would like the Crown to be seen as ... a link between Commonwealth nations ... between Canadian citizens of every national origin and ancestry.”

Today, Canada is seeing historically high levels of immigration, and our biggest cities are becoming even more diverse. I believe we all want a country where we can celebrate our different cultural traditions, while sharing common Canadian ones.

Our citizenship ceremonies demonstrate this. The reference to Her Majesty is a common element in the oaths of allegiance – and reminds us of how proud we are to be Canadians. A few days before Remembrance Day last year, I spoke at a citizenship ceremony at the Canadian War Museum. Fifty men and women from 28 countries took their oath of citizenship and became Canadian citizens. One thing I noticed immediately was that all of these new Canadians were wearing the Remembrance Day poppy. In fact, I think I saw more poppies in that room than I saw outside on the streets of Ottawa that day.

In pledging themselves to Canada's future, they were honouring our past – and paying tribute to the Canadians who came before them and sacrificed so they

might stand there and join our bright future.

Newcomers who enjoy the benefits of citizenship, such as the right to vote or hold public office, have fulfilled *all* the requirements for citizenship. They can



Michael Hutson

now say *our* past is *their* past – our traditions, their traditions. *Our* country, *their* country.

The oath that citizens take to Canada's Queen commits them to a tradition that stretches back through the Charter of Rights and Freedoms in 1982, the Bill of Rights in 1960, the British North America Act of 1867, the Quebec Act of 1774, the Royal Proclamation in 1763, and further still to Magna Carta in 1215.

By means of the oath, they join a millennium-old civic tradition, one that we inherited from our founders and ancestors, and will pass on to our descendants. Immigrants to Canada know from expe-

rience how hard-won, how rare in history, and how precious our freedoms are. Their commitment should make us even more determined to pass this legacy of freedom on to future generations – stronger and more secure than ever. Their pride should make us more proud, and their gratitude should make us more grateful, to be Canadian.

Swearing or affirming the oath of allegiance allows us to impart to newcomers a sense of our core values and the commitment we expect of them... The Crown is a symbol of continuity and tradition – a symbol of our history, our roots and our future. That is what the oath of citizenship affirms. That is what citizenship embraces. That is what helps our society to endure. I know the Monarchist League of Canada shares these basic values.

Governments come and go in any democracy, but the enduring values of civility, due process, equality before the law, fairness and the public interest – all continue through the Crown.

I would like to take this opportunity presented by Accession Day to encourage all Canadians to express their pride in our identity as a constitutional monarchy and in the democratic heritage that the monarchy supports.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee will occur in 2012. I look forward to joining all of you as partners in helping to celebrate this significant event.

## Extraits d'un discours de l'hon Jason Kenney, Cp, Député, aux membres de la ligue monarchiste du Canada fêtants l'accession de sa majeste la reine, Toronto, le 8 février 2009

Beaucoup de changements sont survenus depuis notre dernière rencontre, et j'apprécie mes premiers mois en tant que ministre de la Citoyenneté, de l'Immigration et du Multiculturalisme. Il y a quelques semaines, j'ai eu le grand privilège d'assister à un événement historique, l'investiture du président américain, Barack Obama. C'est quelque chose que je n'oublierai jamais.

L'arrivée de ce nouveau président constituait une première historique pour les citoyens des États-Unis, mais c'était aussi l'occasion pour eux de réfléchir à leur identité nationale, à ce que signifie essentiellement « être un Américain » à ce moment-ci.

Ici au Canada, nous avons franchi bien des étapes importantes tout au long de notre histoire.

Notre pays est imprégné de la tradition de la monarchie, incarnation de la Constitution. C'est donc un grand privilège pour moi aujourd'hui de célébrer avec vous cet événement d'une grande importance pour ce pays: l'accession au trône d'une souveraine.

Le 6 février marquait le 57<sup>e</sup> anniversaire de l'accession au trône de Sa Majesté la reine Elizabeth II, qui devenait ainsi la Reine du Canada. Par son sens perpétuel du devoir et de l'abnégation, Sa Majesté a été une source d'inspiration et d'encouragement pour le Canada et pour les nombreux pays qui constituent le Commonwealth. Depuis 57 ans, Sa Majesté est pour nous un rappel continu de notre patrimoine en tant que monarchie

constitutionnelle et de notre identité unique, un rappel de nos origines et de notre évolution constante.

Permettez-moi de reprendre les propos de Jacques Monet qui soutient dans son étude intitulée *La Couronne*, que l'adaptation de la monarchie au système fédéral était une expérience unique et audacieuse. Une expérience réussie.



Selon lui, au Canada, la souveraineté de la même Couronne est exercée par différents représentants dans divers champs de compétences et, en conséquence, la diversité se réconcilie dans l'unité.

Aujourd'hui, le Canada accueille des nombres historiquement élevés d'immigrants, et nos plus grandes villes deviennent de plus en plus diversifiées.

Je crois que nous voulons tous un pays dans lequel nous pouvons célébrer nos différentes traditions culturelles tout en partageant nos traditions canadiennes communes.

Nos cérémonies de citoyenneté sont une manifestation de cette volonté. La mention de Sa Majesté est un élément

commun des serments d'allégeance et nous rappelle à quel point nous sommes fiers d'être canadiens. L'année dernière, quelque temps avant le jour du Souvenir, j'ai pris la parole lors d'une cérémonie de citoyenneté au Musée canadien de la guerre. Cinquante hommes et femmes venant de 28 pays ont prêté le serment de citoyenneté et sont devenus des citoyens canadiens.

J'ai remarqué immédiatement que tous ces nouveaux Canadiens portaient le coquelicot du jour du Souvenir. En fait, je pense que j'ai vu plus de coquelicots dans cette salle que j'en ai vu dans les rues d'Ottawa ce jour-là. Par le simple geste de porter le coquelicot pendant leur assermentation, ces nouveaux Canadiens manifestaient leur gratitude et leur patriotisme, leur amour de ce pays.

En s'engageant à l'égard de l'avenir du Canada, ils honoraient notre passé et rendaient hommage aux Canadiens qui sont venus avant eux et qui ont fait des sacrifices pour qu'ils puissent être là et prendre part à notre brillant avenir. Les nouveaux arrivants qui jouissent des avantages de la citoyenneté, comme le droit de vote ou l'exercice de fonctions officielles, ont rempli *toutes* les conditions de la citoyenneté. Ils peuvent maintenant dire que *notre* passé est *leur* passé, nos traditions, leurs traditions. *Notre* pays, *leur* pays.

Les immigrants au Canada savent par expérience à quel point nos libertés ont été durement gagnées, à quel point elles sont rares dans l'histoire et à quel point

elles sont précieuses. Leur engagement devrait nous rendre encore plus déterminés à léguer aux générations futures cette liberté héritée, plus forte et plus sûre que jamais. Leur fierté devrait nous rendre plus fiers et leur gratitude, plus reconnaissants d'être canadiens.

Par le serment d'allégeance, nous transmettons aux nouveaux arrivants un aperçu de nos valeurs fondamentales et nous les invitons à prendre l'engagement que nous attendons d'eux.

La Couronne est un symbole de continuité et de tradition, un symbole de notre histoire, des nos racines et de notre avenir. Voilà ce qu'affirme le serment de citoyenneté. Voilà ce qu'englobe la citoyenneté. Voilà ce qui aide notre société à subsister. Je sais que la Ligue monarchiste du Canada partage ces valeurs de base.

Peu importe la démocratie, les gouvernements vont et viennent, mais les valeurs persistantes de la civilité, de la primauté du droit, de l'équité et de l'intérêt public perdurent par l'entremise de la Couronne.

J'aimerais prendre l'occasion qui m'est donnée en ce jour de l'accession au trône pour encourager tous les Canadiens à exprimer leur fierté de faire partie d'une monarchie constitutionnelle et de perpétuer l'héritage démocratique que la monarchie soutient. Le 60<sup>e</sup> anniversaire du règne de la reine aura lieu en 2012. J'espère que nous pourrions participer ensemble à ce remarquable événement.



# Round-Up from the Realms

News you may have missed from the Commonwealth Realms and other Monarchies around the world

**Gretzky named CC... Newfoundland vice-regal Secretary honoured by Queen... Charles blocks London building horror... Mounties get Royal canine... Danes approve Succession change... GG eats seal meat... Change to Canada's Motto?... Fiji to resume as Realm?... Boy petitions Harald for name change... Queen Mother statue unveiled... Regina Orchestra gets Royal Patronage**



Order of Canada appointments announced July 1 included (l-r) hockey great Wayne Gretzky (Companion) and new Members Hon Sterling Lyon and the ardent republican John Manley!

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, July 1 – 60 new appointments to the Order of Canada appeared on the Canada Day Honours List, among which were the promotion of Wayne Gretzky as a Companion; the naming as Officers of sailing enthusiast Ian Bruce, illustrator Anita Kunz and – ironically juxtaposed – monarchist former Manitoba Premier and Appellate Judge Sterling Lyon with republican former Cabinet Minister John Manley; and newly-minted Members country singer Carroll Baker, arts philanthropist Susan Glass, science journalist Jay Ingram and former Newfoundland & Labrador Lieutenant Governor Ed Roberts.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, June 13 – In The Queen's Birthday Honours List, Leona Harvey, long-serving Secretary to successive Newfoundland and Labrador Lieutenant Governors, was appointed MVO. The Royal Victorian Order is part of the Canadian Honours system, and is awarded as Her Majesty's personal gift – not on political "advice" as are most honours.

Born in Riverhead, St. Mary's Bay, and now living in Seal Cove, Conception Bay South with her husband Wayne and daughter Lacey, Mrs Harvey completed her education at the College of the North Atlantic in Placentia. She commenced work at Government House in October, 1978, during the Hon. Gordon Winter's time as Lieutenant Governor. She also worked with Lieutenant Governors Hon. Dr. Anthony Paddon (1981-1986), Hon. James McGrath (1986-1991), Hon. Frederick Russell (1991-1997), Hon. Dr. A.M. House (1997-2002), Hon. Edward Roberts (2002-2008), and, at present work with Hon. John C. Crosbie (appointed 2008). She became Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador in February 1988.

During her time at Government House, Mrs Harvey has been privileged to meet the Prince and Princess of Wales in 1983; Prince Edward, The Earl of Wessex, in 1988 and in 1992; Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh, in 1989 and in 1993; and Her Majesty the Queen in 1997. In October 2007, she received a Vice-Regal Commendation in recognition of commendable service rendered to the office of the Lieutenant Governor.

LONDON, June 12 – The Prince of Wales' personal campaign to prevent a modernist glass-and-steel building development of 550 apartments on the Chelsea



Prince of Wales succeeds in preserving neighbourhood of Royal Hospital, Chelsea

Barracks site in Central London culminated in success as the Qatari owners announced that they had withdrawn their planning application, and would be seeking alternative designs for the property. Charles had written directly to

Sheik Hamad, the Qatari Prime Minister and chairman of the property company promoting the scheme, to ask a more classical and less intrusive design be considered, one that would not overshadow the Wren-designed Royal Hospital and similar heritage buildings in the neighbourhood.



Edward bids Suzanna farewell in Calgary – presents Queen's gift to Mounties

CALGARY, June 9 – During a working visit to Canada, The Earl of Wessex presented Suzanna, a Golden Labrador from The Queen's Sandringham Estate, to RCMP Commissioner William Elliott. Elliott was delighted with the Royal gift, and said the frisky 16-month-old dog would be trained as an RCMP service dog and mascot. Referring to the four horses presented to HM over the years by the Mounties, Prince Edward joked, "It's very nice to be able to return the compliment, although I'm not sure a dog and a horse is necessarily a particularly equal reciprocal." The most recent of the Mounties' horses – a black gelding named George, in honour of her late father – was presented to The Queen at Windsor on May 16. The Prince, joined by his wife Sophie for part of the visit, undertook engagements for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme and other community organizations in Victoria, Vancouver and Calgary in the course of the six-day homecoming.

COPENHAGEN, June 8 – In a referendum, 85.4% of Danes approved a constitutional change to allow females equality in the order of succession to the Throne. The referendum attracted nearly 60% of eligible voters, with results hailed by Prime Minister Lars Lokke Rasmussen as showing "we want to be a society where men and women have the same opportunities, whether it is for ordinary people or for princes and princesses." The shift in succession for the 1000-year old monarchy was raised in 2005 when Crown Prince Frederik and Princess Mary were expecting their first child; however, when Prince Christian was born the debate died down for a time. The popular and outspoken Queen Margrethe became Monarch in 1972 only because she had no brothers.

NEW YORK, May 29-31 – Prince Harry undertook his first solo overseas official engagements during a trip focused on paying tribute to the British victims of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. To rave reviews by the American press, Harry visited the World Trade Centre site, where he met surviving family members. Nearby, at Hanover Square, he laid a wreath to commemorate the 67 British dead, and attended a reception for British and American family members. The trip also included a trip to the prosthetics unit of the Veterans' Affairs Medical Centre. The final day found the Prince playing polo on Governor's Island in order to raise money for Sentebale, his charity to support orphans and vulnerable children in Lesotho. However, Harry had to miss the post-match Ball in order to return to his military duties in Britain.



Prince Harry plants "Elizabeth" magnolia memorial tree after naming the British Memorial Garden remembering the 64 British dead of 9/11



RANKIN INLET, May 25 – At a community feast during her visit to Nunavut's 10th anniversary celebrations, The Governor General gutted and ate a piece of seal heart. Mary Simon, head of the National Inuit Organization thanked Her Excellency "for her support of our people and of our culture," praise echoed by Defence Minister Peter MacKay who told reporters in Ottawa that Her Excellency was "Canada's new Braveheart for eating the seal heart," and said he would love to try it himself. While Dan Matthews of PETA found himself amazed that the GG "would indulge in such bloodlust," Inuit land claims activist Paul Kaludjak referred to seal as "our country food" on which many rely. Asked whether her consumption was a message to the European Union's recent ban on seal products, Mme Jean answered, "Take from that what you will."



The Governor General enjoyed eating seal during a traditional Inuit feast at Rankin Inlet

WESTMINSTER, May 24 – Speaking to the *Sunday Times*, newly-appointed Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster Vincent Nichols (the pre-eminent Catholic prelate in England) said that he would not rush to amend the Act of Succession, as the disqualification of Catholics from the Throne "is not a grievance we Catholics carry heavily." Pointing out the ban applies to Catholics alone, not, for instance Mormons or Muslims, His Grace said the position of The Queen and the Monarchy was one to be "handled with great sensitivity... you are talking about one of the key components of the English identity."



RC Archbishop of Westminster – no hurry to change Succession rules

LONDON, May 18 – At the Chelsea Flower Show, The Queen presented the Prince of Wales with the Royal Horticultural Society's Victoria Medal of Honour, which HRH received with a gallant kiss of his Royal Mother's hand. Limited to 63 living recipients (representing the years of Victoria's reign), the accolade was bestowed "in recognition of his passion for plants, sustainable gardening and the environment." Charles was the subject of some mockery when in 1986 he revealed he talked to his plants – but his views on horticulture and agriculture have become mainstream; and the occasion was heralded by *Daily Mail* columnist Paul Harris as "the first time the plants have had a chance to say thank you."



Charles kisses The Queen's hand as he receives Horticultural Medal

OTTAWA, May 11 – Federal Opposition Leader Michael Ignatieff told Canwest News Service that he favours amending Canada's traditional motto – *A Mari Usque Ad Mare* ("From Sea to Sea") – to be inclusive of the three seas which describe the country's borders. Reporter Randy Boswell commented that near-universal support for the change already exists, as the phrase "from sea to sea" is now routinely used not only as a sign of respect for geographic reality and the people of the North but also as a reflection of the growing importance of the Arctic in Canada's future. The Psalm reference which provided the original Motto could eas-

ily be changed in Latin to *A Mari Usque Ad Maria* and amended in French to read "D'un ocean aux autres." Any change would involve The Queen's consent, as did a 1994 augmentation to incorporate an annulus containing the Motto of the Order of Canada, *Desiderantes meliorem patriam*.



New Poet Laureate  
Carol Ann Duffy

MANCHESTER, May 1 – Carol Ann Duffy, 53, poet and author of over a score of children's stories and anthologies, was appointed Poet Laureate after receiving "assurances that there was no expectation" she would have to write Royal poetry. Outgoing Laureate Andrew Motion had been criticized for his Royal poems; but Duffy stated "I will write what needs to be written... I wouldn't write a poem if it felt forced. But if something occurred at a public or political moment, and it genuinely felt truthful to me, then I would do it."



Fijian Prime Minister  
Commodore Frank  
Bainimarama – wants  
Queen restored

SUVA, May 1 – "I'm still loyal to The Queen – many people in Fiji are..One of the things I'd like to do is to see her become Queen of Fiji again." So spoke the Prime Minister, Commodore Frank Bainimarama, in an interview with *The Australian*. Ongoing political and social ferment in the former Realm of Fiji led to President Iloilo's continuing suspension of elections and judges, and confirming the Prime Minister in office on April 24. However, promising elections in 2014, Bainimarama vowed after "destroying racism" in the troubled country, he would like to restore democracy and restore The Queen as Sovereign. The current republic was imposed after a 1987 coup, which led to Her Majesty – speaking on her own responsibility as Queen of Fiji, for she had no ministers to advise her – stating that "she was sad to think that the ending of the Fijian allegiance to the Crown should have been brought about without the people of Fiji being given an opportunity to express their opinion on the proposal."

STOCKHOLM, April 30 – King Carl Gustaf XVI celebrated his 63rd birthday with a glittering gala at the Royal Palace. Earlier in the day, His Majesty and Queen Silvia had been hailed by 20,000 outside the Palace, attended a church service and been feted at a City Hall lunch.



Commonwealth anniversary found  
Queen re-launching Royal website

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, April 28 – To mark the Diamond Anniversary of the Commonwealth, the Queen sent an email message to young people, from Papua New Guinea to Birmingham, who had responded to the Palace's web site request for blogs about their typical day and reactions to what the Commonwealth means to them. HM was so impressed by their answers that she decided to email them – her emailing normally is reserved for family members. The message was marked from Buckingham Palace, with the subject field "A Message from Her Majesty The Queen" and signed Elizabeth R. Increasingly tech-savvy, HM was taught to text from her mobile phone by Prince Harry, and to explore YouTube by the Princesses Beatrice and Eugenie. The same day found HM hosting a Palace reception for 240 representatives of the 53 Commonwealth countries.



Cpl Harley Taylor

HALIFAX & WATERLOO, April 23-28 – The Duke of York made a working visit to Canada

HRH The Duke of York, Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Highland Fusiliers of Canada, inspects the Guard before an April 24 gala honouring local soldiers returning home from Afghanistan.



Andrew shares a laugh with the bagpiper, Private David Trochimchuk.

centered on two Regiments of which he is Colonel-in-Chief. In Halifax, HRH undertook engagements on behalf of the Princess Louise Fusiliers including a Trooping the Colour ceremony at the Citadel during which the Prince inspected his Troops. Kitchener, ON, was the scene of a "Heroes' Welcome Gala" mounted by the Royal Highland Fusiliers of Canada at Bingeman's Conference Centre to honour returning Afghanistan veterans from the Waterloo region. The exceptional programme may be accessed online at [www.rhfcgala.com/RHFCGalaProgramme.pdf](http://www.rhfcgala.com/RHFCGalaProgramme.pdf)



OSLO, April 23 – It was revealed today that among the more unusual letters to reach the desk of King Harald V was a letter from a six-year-old boy petitioning His Majesty, as is provided in Norwegian Law, to permit him to change his name to Sonic X – a popular video game hedgehog. The King replied to Christer that, under the provisions of the law, he could only consider the request when the child reaches age 18, in 12 years time.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, April 18 – Less than two months before his 88th birthday, The Duke of Edinburgh became the longest serving Consort of any British or Canadian Sovereign, surpassing the record of 57 years, 70 days achieved by Queen Charlotte, wife of George III.



Queen Margrethe and the Danish Royal Family greet crowds celebrating HM's 69th birthday

COPENHAGEN, April 16 – Queen Margrethe II joins her family on the balcony of Christian IX's Palace, Amalienborg as Denmark celebrates her 69th birthday. Flanking the Queen are (l-r) Crown Prince Frederik, Princess Isabella, Prince Christian, Crown Princess Mary, (The Queen), Prince Henrik, Prince Felix, Prince Nikolai, Princess Marie and Prince Joachim.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, April 1 – The Queen received Prime Minister Stephen Harper in Audience. The same day, Her Majesty, joined by the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall, held a Luncheon for Mr Harper and his Australian counterpart, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, together with their wives. The PM subsequently informed Canadians that The Queen would be making her next homecoming in 2010.

OTTAWA, March 28 – The Canada Gazette published notice of revocation of the CM awarded T. Sher Singh. Singh was the first turbaned Sikh to be appointed to the Order of Canada in 2001 for his work promoting reconciliation and understanding amongst races and faiths, but in 2007 the Law Society of Upper Canada disbarred him for misappropriation of a client's funds.



Of Happy Memory: The Queen Mother's statue on the Mall joins that of her husband George VI

LONDON, February 24 – The Queen and the Prime Minister led the nation in remembering The Queen Mother as her statue was unveiled to take its place just off the Mall, alongside that of her husband King George VI. The Prince of Wales, who was accompanied by Princes William and Harry, spoke of "my darling Grandmother's vitality, her interest in the lives of others, her

## QUEEN TRUSTED BY CANADIANS – POLL

In a recent poll conducted recently by Harris-Decima on behalf of Reader's Digest, trust Canadians feel for The Queen was bettered only by scientist and tv personality David Suzuki in the survey's principal category, "Those you know and believe in." Her Majesty also ranked high in specific categories of trust, placing first on "Keeping an embarrassing secret"; "To have your email password"; and "To have power of attorney over your affairs."

### OVERALL TRUST RATINGS

1) David Suzuki 2) The Queen 3) Gen. Rick Hillier (Ret'd) 4) Stephen Lewis 5) Michael J. Fox 6) Lloyd Robertson 7) Peter Mansbridge 8) Stephen Harper 9) Sheila Fraser 10) Rick Mercer.

unbounded courage and determination that allowed her incredibly to continue her official life until the age of nearly 102. At long last my grandparents are reunited in this joint symbol, which in particular reminds us of all they stood for and meant to so many during the darkest days this country has ever faced," he said. "Today we remember them both with joy mingled with sadness, but also intense gratitude for the role they performed with such consummate grace and inspiration." Created in bronze by sculptor Philip Jackson, Queen Elizabeth is portrayed at the same age as the King, and wearing the flowing robes of the Order of the Garter. Two bronze reliefs at its base depict the beloved Queen visiting families bombed out during the Blitz, having her hand kissed by a winning jockey at Royal Ascot and relaxing in her garden at the Castle of Mey. A £5 coin issued by the Royal Mint helped to fund this National Memorial.

RIDEAU HALL, January 22 – Rideau Hall announced the award of The Governor General's Northern Medal to George Erasmus, OC, of Yellowknife. Hailed as "a champion of Northern development," Mr Erasmus has served as President of the Dene Nation, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations and co-Chairman of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples.

CLARENCE HOUSE, November 14 – The Prince of Wales celebrated his 60th Birthday with Salutes fired in Hyde Park and at HM Tower of London, and the release of

a relaxed photograph in his uniform as Colonel of the Welsh Guards. Hugo Burnand, the photographer who also took Charles and Camilla's Wedding pictures, arranged this picture at the end of a formal shoot at Clarence House, commenting, "It is quite a personal portrait. You feel you are almost in conversation with him." Burnand went on to say that it was the Prince's idea to be seated rather than standing in the picture. Celebrations for the Prince included a Birthday Party with the Philharmonia Orchestra hosted by The Queen at Buckingham Palace, and one arranged by the Duchess at Clarence House, featuring HRH's favorite rock star Rod Stewart. HM spoke warmly of Charles' role in leading his Prince's Trust with "vision and conviction" that had "transformed countless lives," praise echoed by *The Times* which in a leader commended as well HRH's "prescient" view of issues ranging from organic farming and climate change to inter-faith relations, even as it criticized his "obstinate opposition" to modern architecture.



REGINA, September 5 – It was announced that The Prince of Wales has accepted an invitation to become Patron for five years of the Regina Symphony Orchestra. The RSO is the only one in Canada to have the honour. Spokeswoman Lal Straub said that the recognition reflected that the Orchestra had "survived for 100 years... Given the geo-political climate of the province – and the small number of people that live here, just the fact that we have a fully operating, fully professional orchestra here... has been acknowledged by the granting of this Patronage."

# BOOK REVIEWS

## A CROWN OF MAPLES

### Constitutional Monarchy in Canada

by Kevin S MacLeod, CVO

Published by Her Majesty The Queen in Right of Canada, represented by the Department of Canadian Heritage, 2008

Gratuitous distribution through the Department or The Monarchist League of Canada

ISBN 978-0662-46012-1

### A Review and Reflection by Ian Holloway

Professor Holloway is Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Western Ontario

Books about the Crown tend to fall into one of two categories. First, is the



Kevin S. MacLeod

truly scholarly work. Here, one thinks of works like Vernon Bogdanor's *The Monarchy and the Constitution*, or the Australian H.V. Evatt's, *The King and His Dominion Governors*. Or, of course, closer to home, we have Eugene Forsey's *Royal Power of Dissolution in the British Commonwealth*. Books like these – even those written two generations ago – are a wonderful asset for the scholar. But they tend to be written in terms



that make them not particularly accessible to the lay reader. At the other end of the spectrum sit what one might call the “pulp” works – books, often lavishly illustrated, that emphasize the personal, rather than the theoretical. Books of this sort may be either hagiographic or vitriolic (here, the vileness of Kitty Kelley comes to mind). But what links the two is an emphasis on the individual personality of members of the Royal Family.

It is this gulf between the two literary genres that makes *A Crown of Maples* such a magnificent accomplishment, for it manages to span the two. It is a beautifully illustrated book, and it conveys a real sense of our current Queen's character. But at the same time, it actually teaches one about the institution of constitutional monarchy, and its defining role in the Canadian system of government. In that sense, *A Crown of Maples* represents something unique – and, dare one say it, a “distinctively Canadian” contribution to the literature. To that extent, we all owe a debt of gratitude to the Government of Canada, an entity not ordinarily known nowadays for its active support of the institution of monarchy,

for having chosen to publish this book. The fact is that it is difficult to see a work of this nature, straddling as it does the two literary cultures, being published either by an academic press or by a popular press. So those of us who instinctively are suspicious of artistic and literary endeavor being supported by the Government might wish to take a moment of pause in our political biases.

*A Crown of Maples* consists of six chapters, together with an Introduction and Conclusion. In thematic terms, the book explores the history of the institution of the Canadian Crown, the theory and practice of constitutional monarchy in Canada, and the offices of Sovereign, Governor General and Lieutenant Governor. One other theme of the book, that I found particularly worthwhile, is a comparison (in Chapter VI) of our system of constitutional monarchy with other systems of government, including those in the Queen's other realms. As someone who has lived in two of those other realms, it has always surprised me just how little attention we in Canada pay to them – and to our shared experiences. Our level of political discourse in Canada today suffers tremendously from a certain myopia. In so many areas of life, Canadians assume that the only alternative to what we have at the moment is what our neighbours in the United States have. But no matter what the issue: health care, free trade, electoral reform, the wisdom of an elected upper house, and so on and so on, the experience of our friends in the Commonwealth – even the republican parts – could be terribly instructive. Indeed, my only real quibble with *A Crown of Maples* is that this chap-



The Queen remains unflappable in Dobbs' novel



Now Canadian Secretary to The Queen, and depicted here in his concomitant role as Usher of the Black Rod, Canadian Heritage Official and Royal Visit organizer Kevin MacLeod (centre, to r. of Mr Speaker Kinsella) patiently shepherded *Crown of Maples* through federal bureaucracy for several decades.

ter is not as long as I would have liked it to be.

There is one other important theme that emerges from the book. That is the extent to which the Crown is embedded in our daily lives. Of course, institutions like the police and the armed forces are replete with royal symbolism (though, thanks to the arrogance of Paul Hellyer, the latter not so much as many servicemen and women would prefer there still to be). But, as the book also notes, one sees evidence of the Crown as a symbol Canada on the signs in the highways in Ontario, in the insignia of our various honours and awards, and in the names of our streets and buildings and schools.

In fact, for me perhaps the book's greatest benefit was that it led me to ask how it could be that an institution which is so deeply entrenched in our day to day visual experience could be seen by so many of our countrymen and women to be irrelevant. To put it another way, how can an institution which is so omnipresent be so invisible? Even accepting that most Canadians do not make it a habit of spending time with the text of the *Constitution Act 1867*, we all handle money every day, and we all (in Ontario, at least) travel along roads that are openly signed, “The King's Highway”. Most of us know people who belong to organizations with “Royal” in their title. And all of us live in or near towns or cities with a Queen Street or a King Street or a Princess Elizabeth School.

How can it be, then, that the monarchy is not seen by the majority of Canadians as being an integral component of our national identity? This surely should be the question that, more than any other, concerns monarchists. In business schools they teach that product familiarity is the first step in a successful branding strategy. Frankly, it is difficult to conceive of a “product” that is more familiar than the Canadian Crown. Yet those of us who care about and believe in the institution have plainly done a poor job at convincing our fellow Canadians that the Crown is important. Even those who might accept that a connection with the Crown represents an important part of Canada's past are not necessarily likely to see it as being critical to our future.

## Monarchist League Dominion Education Coordinator reflects on the world – and escape – he created in Buck Lake

by Scriptor

### Beyond Mainland: Exploring History and Identity in Cottage Country

by Nathan Tidridge

Published by St\*one Soup Publications 2009 – CAN \$29.95

ISBN 978-0-9734438-2-0

Most easily obtained online from

The Bookcase [www.thebookcase.ca](http://www.thebookcase.ca)



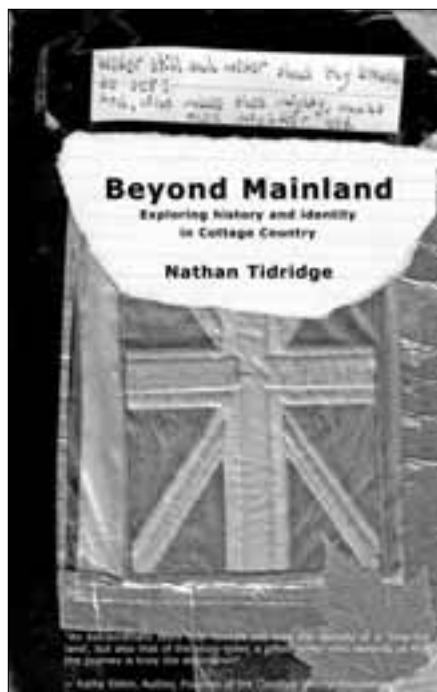
League Education Coordinator Nathan Tidridge publishes first book, *Beyond Mainland*

At 30, Nathan Tidridge is a visceral educator, passionate about the Canadian Crown; a first-rate rugby coach; a dedicated husband and soon-to-be father. These qualities and enthusiasms did not come about by accident, nor as the result of an easy adolescence. However, divorce, remarriage and the sudden death of a stepfather brought the gangly teen first to find comfort and fresh strength and security, then maturity and perspective, in a canoe, dubbed the Royal Ship Hood, which he plied around a network of Muskoka lakes. The waterways, their islands and creeks, woods and outcroppings, became an epic world. Here, led by Nathan's guiding spirit, he and his closest friends imbued sites with mystic qualities, named physical features after friends, heroes and explorers, even sent a Maple

Leaf from Britannia Island to The Queen and – maybe – encountered the breath of the Windigo, “It.”

In time, he began to write down the stories of these explorations of a new part of the earth; of experiences shared and lessons learned. He drew exquisite maps Of Royal Britannia, The New Frontier and The Far East. And he yearned to share these tales, and his love of the nobler, finer world lying “Beyond Mainland.” Private printings of large tomes were marvels of patience crafted with passion, from a well of creativity and reflections of a deep self. With such a personal history, its records secure on paper as within him, Nathan began to search as to how a wider world might share in his journeys and the lessons they taught him. The present book edits the length and something of the exuberance of early days, and grafts onto his own experiences of personal travel the records he unearthed of some of the pioneers – First Nations through British – who came to Buck Lake and its environs, each wave leaving its mark, all creating footprints into which in time a new seeker would step – and become a man.

Deeply felt, allusive and tantalizing, the reader cannot help but be immersed in the tales told in this work, yet sense – like the secrets of a lake bed – how much lies beneath the surface, untold. It is reading that makes one reflect, think of the precious times of one's own youth



and marvel at the resilience of the author. Things moved and rearranged do indeed now affect the pristine surround of the Lake country recollected as Nate's green and golden time. But the desecration of a “no trespassing” sign fades to little significance as the author's internal campfire so evidently burns, friendly and true, as reflected in the interior space of this volume composed by an ardent spirit and generous soul whose words now constitute a fresh journey into a wider world.



Which leads to another important point. One hears that Rideau Hall was not particularly pleased with *A Crown of Maples*. It has been suggested in a number of quarters that the Governor General felt that the theme of *A Crown of Maples* is passé. This really is so extraordinary that one can only hope that it is false. But if it is accurate that the current representative of Her Majesty the Queen in Canada feels that a book like this, which does nothing more than present a contextualized picture of our system of government, is "passé", then one can't help but feel that the future is bleak.

There is another truism that they teach in schools of business administration. That is that organizational theory is just so much bunk if the right people are not appointed actually to run the organization. One cannot gainsay the importance, in this day and age, of having public figures who are telegenic. But in the same way that the shareholders in a corporation would revolt if someone were to be appointed CEO who had no prior business experience, can it be any less unreasonable for Canadians to be concerned that someone should be appointed to a vice-regal position who has no real knowledge or experience of how our system of government actually works? Again, we live in an age when the cover of *People* magazine enjoys the reputation of being a semi-authoritative source. But the unhappy and brief career of the late Princess of Wales makes plain just how impossible it is to maintain the dignity and respect of an office through reference to not much more than an attractive face and the common touch.

It would, of course, be a gross exaggeration to suggest that we have had a "crisis" in the appointments of our Governors General. But at the same time, one cannot help but look wistfully on the tenures of people like Roland Michener, Georges Vanier, Vincent Massey and, more recently, Ray Hnatyshyn, all of whom brought to Rideau Hall not only a genuine warmth and approachability, but also a deep sense of understanding of the history and practice of Canadian government. One supposes that in every scheme of organization there have to be a range of sinecures available to pay off political debts, or to mollify certain lobby groups. But the highest constitutional office in the land should not be one of them!

*A Crown of Maples* really is a magnificent project in every way. And all of us who believe in our system of government owe a tremendous debt to Kevin MacLeod, the author of the book, and to Michael Jackson and Father Jacques Monet, the advisors. (As an aside, would it be such a crime for the Government of Canada to allow authors to be noted on the covers and frontispieces of government-published books?)

It is a beautiful book, and an instructive one. But in its own way, it lays before us a challenge. That is to engage in a concerted effort to raise the level of understanding of our fellow citizens of our system of government. In other words, we have to use *A Crown of Maples* as a tool for action, and not as an excuse for complacency. Otherwise, the book – magnificent or not – will end up as little more than a relic. It deserves a better fate than that.

~

Copies of *Crown of Maples* are available in both official languages for the cost of postage on request to [domsec@sympatico.ca](mailto:domsec@sympatico.ca)



**THE LORD'S DAY**  
by Michael Dobbs  
Published by  
Headline/Review, 2008  
CAN \$14.79  
ISBN 978-0-755-32688-4

*Reviewed by Katharine Lathrop*

Michael Dobbs' thriller, now in paperback, is an accomplished work of a craftsman with language.

*The Lords' Day* begins and ends in London – a crowded contemporary London which includes today's surfeit of police, highly sophisticated surveillance (of which all tourists are by now aware) and, of course, foreign terrorists.

"It was a day of atonement, a day of anguish..." Thus this high action tale begins.

The central character, Harry Jones, is to be the saviour of this remarkable and highly realistic adventure, set at the State Opening of Parliament; a day full of pomp and circumstance, with highly realistic overtones and sub-text. The history is finely drawn around the very human characters, Lords, Ladies, politicians and foremost, the Queen and Prince Charles. (Charles is occupying the Consort's position, standing in for his ailing father.)

"Exciting and unpredictable," wrote *The Sunday Telegraph* of this suspenseful tale, yet all the actors in the drama are depicted with realism, including the royals, and foremost, Jones, the gentleman sleuth, an "outsider" whose intelligence saves the day.

Her Majesty should also be happy as well as amused to be placed at the centre of this perfectly plausible drama, depicted as we all know her to be, as a highly intelligent and enormously courageous monarch and human being.

Reader: do not miss the Afterword!

**ROYAL ANECDOTES:  
Wit and Wisdom from  
The House of Windsor**

**You Look Awfully Like The Queen**

by Thomas Blaikie  
Published by Fourth Estate/Harper  
Collins 2002 – £9.99  
ISBN 0-00-714874-7

**Corgi and Bess**

by Thomas Blaikie  
Published by Fourth Estate/Harper  
Collins 2006 – £9.99  
ISBN 0-00-724110-0

both titles widely available for online purchase at around \$1 plus postage via [amazon.ca](http://amazon.ca), [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), [abebooks.com](http://abebooks.com) et al.

Delightfully-printed small-sized books, these compilations of stories about the Royals, mainly true, one feels, with sources even cited, will delight monarchists and republicans alike. As Blaikie observes in his introduction to the earlier volume, "kill-joy anti-monarchists have got it wrong; on the other hand, the era of uncritical worship is over." In fact, a nation is mature and at peace with itself only when it can poke fun at its most revered institutions and personalities. Who could ever imagine Robert Mugabe permitting a jest? And who would want to bother to take a jibe at President Chirac? Such humour around the House of Windsor reveals the Royals as human, and how deeply they and what they represent are engrafted not only in the national consciousness and affections but also in the warp and woof of our personal lives – even a typically popular subject, researchers tell us, for our dreams.



Some of the vignettes are familiar – the tale referred to in one of the books' titles of The Queen being recognized in a shop, told of her resemblance to herself and replying, "How very reassuring." And of HM at a Palace Garden Party telling a flustered guest whose mobile phone had begun to ring loudly, "You'd better answer that. It might be someone important." Some are perhaps less so – as of Queen Mary, evacuated to Badminton during the Blitz, remarking at age 70, "So that's what hay looks like," or of the hapless equerry during a game of Sardines at Sandringham inquiring of a figure stuffed under the table where he too sought refuge in the dark "Who are you?" and upon hearing the reply "Elizabeth," having to crouch motionless and silent for 20 minutes next to his Queen.

Whatever their provenance or familiarity, all are in good fun and more or less reasonable taste. We feel constrained to conclude with a Canadian anecdote not found in either volume, but at one with their spirit. The redoubtable Jacqueline Barlow, for many years Newfoundland Chairman of the Monarchist League of Canada, was responsible for an astonishing 4/5ths of the population of that island province signing a Declaration of Loyalty to Her Majesty in the Silver Jubilee Year of 1977. Presented to The Queen with reference to this accomplishment during a Homecoming that summer, HM remarked to Lady B – a formidable and outspoken individual of robust build and penetrating voice who loved Labrador Retrievers – "I wish there was something I could do for you." To which came the crystal clear reply, "There is, Ma'am. I'd



Jacqueline Barlow with Sandringham Chive

like to have the next bitch from your Sandringham kennel." Courtiers cringed and Canadian dignitaries stood in dumb amaze to hear the "b" word so pronounced in and to the august Presence. However, HM, a keen breeder and no lover of euphemism, was nothing daunted – and in due course Sandringham Chive arrived to lead his eventful life in the old Dominion. But that is another tale – perhaps for a third instalment of this engaging series!

**In the  
Next  
Issue  
of  
Canadian  
Monarchist  
News**

- The Queen corresponds with Her Governor General: letters from the National Archives
- Ignatieff & the Monarchy: where does the Leader of the Opposition stand?
- Reviews of recent humorous Royal novellas by Alan Bennett and Emma Tennant
- New Parliamentary Symbol
- The Tale of the Royal Silver: Rideau Hall and The Queen's Baskets
- Monarchist League Members' respond: Who should be our next Governor General?
- The latest news... and all your favorite features including *Crowns and Maces*

# LEAGUE NOTES

## BEATRICE ELIZABETH CLARKE 1931-2008



Beth Clarke was thrilled to be presented to HRH The Countess of Wessex at the League's Reception for Edward & Sophie in 2005.

The death of Beth Clarke, Toronto Branch Chairman since 2004, came as a surprise; for at 77 she was busily planning the coming year's programme of activities, seemed well and had shown few signs of aging. As always, Beth was responding generously to the many demands made on her. As well as her Sovereign, her talents served Runnymede Presbyterian Church, St Anne's Music & Drama Society, the After Dinner Mints singers and many worthwhile charities. She loved theatre, ballet, opera and travel almost as much as her cat and her family – her face would light up as she spoke of her two grand-daughters whom she adored. Loyalty emerged early: in her blood from the service of a forbear who helped repel American invaders in 1813, and in the young Beth as a Girl Guide whose troop turned out turned out to greet Their Majesties in Hamilton during their 1939 tour. Pharmacist by profession, her talents were gradually placed at the service of Toronto Branch. One of her last efforts on behalf of The Queen was to startle Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff, canvassing at her door, by asking him whether he supported the Monarchy – the answer, a guarded yes. Energy, competence and persistence, coupled with modesty, devotion and kindness: these qualities of this good woman we remember and honour. RIP.

*Adapted from the  
Toronto Branch Newsletter.*

## C. WARREN GOLDRING 1927-2009

Warren Goldring was a pre-eminent figure Canada's investment community, growing the American Growth Fund (AGF) that he co-founded in 1957 as a pioneer mutual fund to over one million investors with subsidiaries in Europe and Asia. But Monarchists knew him as the definition of a gentleman: courteous and interested in others; devoted to family and Sovereign; restrained in demeanour and always willing to help. His philanthropy was a natural extension of a natural generosity, of his sense of community and of his feeling of obligation to return some of the blessings his effort and



Warren and Barbara Goldring after receiving from The Lieutenant Governor of Ontario the League's Silver Badge of Service, Accession Sunday, 2008

industry had brought him. Receiving an Honorary Doctorate in 2003 from his alma mater, the University of Toronto, was most important to him, Warren told me, chiefly for the pleasure he knew it brought his family. Warren received the Silver Badge of Service of the Monarchist League of Canada at the hands of the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario at the Accession Luncheon held in Toronto in 2008. It was a joint award with his wife Barbara, his devoted and supportive wife, to whom goes our sympathy and affection as we, with her, remember a good, kind and generous man, modest in all but in his achievements. JLA

## JOHN HENDRICKS 1929-2007

When an advertisement appeared in the *Globe and Mail* around 1972 encouraging new members for the fledgling Monarchist League, John Hendricks joined. Later he attended a meeting in the Regina Public Library. The group was small and leaderless at the moment, and before the meeting was over John was Chairman, in which capacity her served first the Saskatchewan Branch and subsequently the Manitoba Branch. Under such surprising circumstances began the many years of service which John Hendricks gave to the League. The Branches began to flourish under his leadership, and assumed far higher public profiles due to the whirlwind of activity he created – sometimes one rather exhausting for less committed volunteers!

A Regina native, John went to UBC before beginning his career as a weather forecaster with the Canadian Meteorological Service, retiring in 1984. He also served as an instructor in meteorology for NATO.

Once involved with the Monarchist League, it was his idea to produce attractive monarchist stickers with mottoes such as "Monarchy is the Best Policy." They sold in the thousands over the next few years and helped to reinvigorate the Monarchist League's sales department. John also was founding president of the Manitoba Provincial Council for the Duke of Edinburgh Awards in Canada. This excellent program, encouraging good citizenship and public service, was one of his chief interests for many years. He was recipient of the Canada 125 medal for his volunteer work. And at the time of the League's 25th Anniversary in 1995, he was presented with its highest honour – the Gold Badge of Service – at the Western Canada banquet held in Victoria.

A keen mathematician, respected by colleagues nationwide, John was fascinated with magic squares and cubes. He lectured in schools and at teachers' conventions in both Canada and the northern U.S. He delivered half a dozen "colloquia" to professors of mathematics on the subject as well as on geometry and statistics. He published books and booklets on such subjects as "Inlaid Magic Squares and Cubes."

John and his wife Celia moved to Victoria in the 1990s, but John's health soon made active participation in the League very difficult. He was able to enjoy attending a Branch event in Golden Jubilee year when HRH Prince Michael of Kent visited and addressed a Luncheon.

John left a great legacy of service to Queen and Country in his support of the

League. He will be remembered for his conscientious devotion to whatever task he undertook and for his brilliant mathematical mind. He is very much missed by Celia and by his daughter Sharon and grandson Alex of California. RIP. SS/JLA

## CAPTAIN DARELL LOVELL SMALL, CD, FHSC 1915-2008

Born in Maple Creek, Saskatchewan, and raised in Calgary, Darell's devotion to the Crown led him to serve the Ottawa Branch of the Monarchist League for many years. He was an executive member who helped to arrange meetings and The Queen's Birthday Dinner each May, a generous donor and editor of the Branch Newsletter. The Church also played an important part in his life. At St Thomas the Apostle in Ottawa's Alta Vista district he served as warden, sidesman and archivist; taught Sunday School; and worked on the cleaning team which he had founded. There too is reflected his talent as an excellent carver. One of his pieces is a Veterans' Scroll displayed in the church chapel, and containing the names of all parishioners who served in three wars. He himself served Canada's Queen well in World War II. Stationed in Canmore, Alberta, the young WO suddenly received an order to prepare a compound for 16,000 German POW's! Three weeks later the Germans, Afrika Corps veterans, arrived. All was in readiness – and the excellence of his leadership and engineering was revealed in many subsequent escape attempts, none of which was successful! Darell and his beloved wife Fern were brave in deed as in conviction: in 1955 their prompt action and pluck saved 16 lives, including those of their own family, when a horse-drawn sleigh capsized in the St Lawrence en route to the Wolfe Island Ferry. Struggling in icy water on a windy day with a -25 temperature, Darell and Fern handed their children and others to crewmen, he going under several times and – as he reported afterwards – thinking he was a "goner." Incredibly, all were saved and none the worse for wear after a night at Kingston General Hospital. Truly this was a remarkable gentleman and a staunch monarchist. RIP.

*Adapted from a tribute composed  
by Chad Bennett.*

## GRAEME SCOTCHMER SERVES ONTARIO LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Graeme Scotchmer, a Toronto resident and League member who this Fall entered his third year studies as an Honours History specialist at the University of Western Ontario, was the 2009 League Summer Intern in the Suite of His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario at Queen's Park. High school valedictorian, winner of an Entrance Scholarship at UWO where he is also on the Dean's List, Graeme is also a keen rugby, hockey and soccer player, and boasts a large collection of model soldiers. He will be writing a summer's end report of his experiences for a future edition of CMN.



Graeme Scotchmer: UWO student is League's Summer Intern in Ontario LG's Suite

## LEAGUE HAILS A NEW LITTLE MONARCHESS!

### BOB & MONICA FINCH WELCOME FIRST CHILD

The entire League family joins in congratulating our Dominion Chairman and Monica on the birth of their daughter, Alessa Rose Finch, on June 28th. Weighing a healthy 8 lbs 4 oz, Alessa is sure to become a fighter for the cause in her time. We wish her and her parents every blessing and happiness.



Alessa Rose Finch, first child of the Dominion Chairman and Monica

## NEW MONARCHIST LEAGUE BROCHURE ISSUED



Well over a decade the League has passed since the League first printed a full-colour basic information pamphlet about its work and the cause it serves. Reprinted several times, some 25,000 copies were distributed, with the last few being sent this Spring both to welcome new members and as a recruitment tool used by existing members. After tweaking the text, Dominion Chairman Robert Finch confided the re-design to long-time member Brock Weir, well known to monarchists for his talents in creating many of our "special" web site front pages which are mounted quickly when news strikes. Brock gave the new brochure a more contemporary but still dignified look; and he employed elements of the League's Armorial – which had not been granted at the time the original brochure was issued. All members received a copy with the Special Appeal mailing in May – and the steady stream of requests for additional supplies since that time shows how well Brock's work has been appreciated.

## LEAGUE VICE-REGAL INTERN SUMMER, 2008

[Zach Schwartz served at the League Intern in the Suite of The Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, Queen's Park, during the Summer of 2008. He has recently returned as an employee of His Honour's office, the fourth former Intern to achieve this distinction. In lieu of a traditional report summing up his summer's service, Zach chose to share with League members a memorable moment which took place at the beginning of his Vice-Regal experience. Ed.]

### COURT SIDE SEATS AT A ROYAL VISIT

by Zach Schwartz

As a fleet of Suburbans and unmarked police cars pulled up to the Royal York Hotel, excitement grew among the vice-regal entourage. In my first week "on the job," HRH Prince Edward was the

*continued on the next page*

# BRANCH NEWS

**A few highlights of local Monarchist League activities around Canada – NEW BRANCH IN FREDERICTON... VICE-REGAL ACTIVITIES IN PICTOU, TORONTO & VICTORIA... VICTORIA DAY PARK GALA... KINGSTON TEA... UNIVERSITY BRANCH MAKES FRONT PAGE... HAMILTON BRANCH VICTORY ON ROYAL SCHOOL NAMES... WINNIPEG VISIT... CALGARY YOUTH COORDINATOR HITS NEWSPAPER... VICTORIA PLANS LONG-TERM...**

\*The FREDERICTON (NB) Branch of the Monarchist League of Canada was established early in 2008. In September, the Branch Chairman, **Dan Taylor**, appointed an interim Executive to get the branch on its feet: **Lt. Stephen Chledowski**, who will act as Branch Financial Officer; and long-time League member **Barry R. MacKenzie**, who will act as Branch Communications Officer. The Executive meets regularly to discuss plans for activities and other initiatives. On 8 November the Branch hosted a small reception and general meeting at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. The



Long-time League members from the Fredericton area at a Meet and Greet in November 2008. Back Row (l-r): Branch Chairman Dan Taylor and Don Drury; Front Row: Mrs. Freda Veness and Mrs. Neta Pigot.

Executive also hosted an Accession Day Brunch on 7 February 2009 at the Crown Plaza Lord Beaverbrook in Fredericton, which was attended by several individuals new to the League. Currently, plans are underway for a Victoria Day Luncheon and Fundraiser, to include a meal and guest speaker. Two Letters to the Editor penned by the Executive have appeared in The Daily Gleaner, and generated significant interest. The membership continues to grow. As the Branch is able, the Executive hopes to launch a website and to continue to canvass for new members so that our educational



The Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia greets Jessie Polley, 96, at the Northumberland Branch's Queen's Birthday Tea on May 17 – over 140 guests greeted Her Honour at the event organized by Branch Chairman Olive Pastor.

initiatives can begin to take shape in the Fall of 2009.

\*In NORTHUMBERLAND CO (NS) Branch, Chairman **Olive Pastor** tells of the diverse charity work performed by members, in aid of the Food bank, Seafarer's Mission and graduation prizes to the High Schools in West Pictou. In early May Olive and Executive member **Sharon Holmes** were invited to Halifax to an Appreciation Reception hosted by **The Lieutenant Governor**. On May 17, the Branch hosted a tea to celebrate HM The Queen's Birthday, with Her Honour in attendance, together with close to 140 guests. **Hon. Mrs Francis'** remarks focused on Canada's Constitutional Monarchy. Most politicians from Pictou County attended, as well as the Red Hat Ladies and members of the Women's Institute, representatives of the clergy and then all our supporters from the past seven years. "We catered the event ourselves," reports Olive; "that was a challenge since only five people were able to work. However, we were complimented on our good food." The Women's Institute served for us. On June 17 Olive Pastor and Sharon Holmes were invited to pour tea at the Lieutenant Governor's Garden Party held at Royal Artillery Park, in Halifax. Now we are on break until September.

\*In OTTAWA, Branch correspondent **Jennifer Cook** reports on members' participation once again in the Victoria Day celebrations at the Family and Fireworks



Enthusiastic attendees at Kingston Branch's A Victorian Tea, Branch Chairman McCracken presiding in period costume!

Gala held at Pauline Vanier Park. The League's booth attracted many of the public to its distribution of free literature, including *Crown of Maples/La Couronne Canadienne* and members present answered questions about the life and significance to Canada of Queen Victoria. Jennifer also kindly made available for a donation copies of her acclaimed young adult novel **Canada with Governor General Lisgar – 1868 and Lady Adelaide, Prince Arthur and Charlotte**.

\*KINGSTON Branch, led by the ever-imaginative and enthusiastic **Marlene McCracken**, hosted *A Victorian Tea* on April 26 at Edith Rankin Memorial United Church. An enthusiastic crowd gathered to celebrate the 83rd birthday of Her Majesty and to mark 190 years since the birth of Queen Victoria on May 24, 1819. Guests arrived to music by the Fort Henry Guard representing a Royal Regiment of the Line from 1867. Everyone enjoyed eating fancy sandwiches and squares. The hall was decorated with royal tea towels and a huge original portrait of Her Majesty, as well as original pictures from Queen Victoria's Golden

(1887) and Diamond (1897) Jubilees. **GOD SAVE THE QUEEN** was sung, accompanied by the Fort Henry Guard. Greetings and best wishes were read from Her Majesty, HRH The Prince of Wales and from Peter and Autumn Phillips. Guests were challenged as to their knowledge of The Prince of Wales in a Quiz in recognition of His Royal Highness turning 60 on November 14, 2008. **Marilyn Stafford** impressed everyone by providing the greatest number of correct answers. A brief history lesson on Victoria Day was followed by "Who was Queen Victoria?" Everyone present also received a copy of "A Crown of Maples." **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** was enthusiastically sung for our Queen of Canada. **Mrs. Lillian Lundin** whose birthday was closest to May 24 was presented with a book on Queen Victoria. The afternoon came to a close with the singing of **O CANADA**. Plans have started for "A Ruby Tea" on April 18, 2010 to celebrate the Monarchist League's 40th Anniversary... Members also cheerfully assisted Marlene in "Royal Connections in Kingston" preparatory to an article "Britannia Reigns Supreme" appearing in the *Boston Globe* on May 3rd. The piece by Edward McClelland quoted Marlene as stating that "Canada is the way it is because we



University of Toronto members (above) meet at local pub and (below) U o f T co-Chairmen Alain Bartleman (l) and Eugene Berezovsky



have a monarchy." The article appears online at [http://www.boston.com/travel/getaways/canada/articles/2009/05/03/where\\_britannia\\_reigns\\_supreme/?page=full](http://www.boston.com/travel/getaways/canada/articles/2009/05/03/where_britannia_reigns_supreme/?page=full)

\*The UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO Branch received unexpectedly favorable publicity with a front-page article and photo in the *Toronto Star* on Victoria Day, May 18. Depicted and interviewed for the piece by Daniel Dale were Founding Chairman **Alain Bartleman** and the League's Youth Coordinator, **Eugene Berezovsky**. The complete story, which helpfully emphasized the diverse ethnic support for the Canadian Crown, can be accessed online at <http://www.thestar.com/article/635788> The fledgling Branch held a pub night on April 16 to celebrate its translation project; this involves volunteers turning the League's educational booklet *The Canadian Mon-*

## LEAGUE NOTES

*continued from the previous page*

Lieutenant Governor's guest at an intimate luncheon for members of an accessibility advisory committee. I had been lucky enough to attend some of the League's Royal visits in the past, including one from the Earl and Countess of Wessex; however, I never saw the intricate, behind-the-scenes details involved in the execution of such an event.

Earlier in the morning, before the HRH's stately entrance, His Honour's head steward, the event co-ordinator, and I departed Queen's Park for the Royal York. On arrival, we were met by one of the hotel's capable catering directors who took us on a tour of the rooms rented for the occasion. For the luncheon itself, the elegant and aptly named "Library Room" would provide a luxurious setting. The adjacent "York Room" was used for drinks and mingling before lunch. A third room, the "Saskatchewan Room," was designated for the courtesy call with Their Honours. I learned that this involved the exchange of gifts and the signing of the official visitor book – it was a unique introduction to diplomatic terminology.

You may be wondering at this point why the event was not held at the Lieutenant Governor's Suite. As a result of His Honour's physical disability, the suite was being renovated to make it fully accessible. Indeed, a number of the guests at the luncheon arrived in wheelchairs. This presented a logistical challenge in determining what the most effective way to arrange seats would be. I saw first-hand how careful and proficient His Honour's staff is in ensuring that no detail is left to chance. They charged me with greeting guests at the door and reviewing some basic protocol. I had to explain, as I had

just discovered myself, that you have to use a full wine glass for the loyal toast (even if you choose not to drink). One of His Honour's guests was uncomfortable, for religious reasons, about having wine at her plate. So, we provided her with a wine glass of ginger-ale instead.

These minute details provided for a seamless event and opened a window into the amount of work that goes into a Royal visit. Everyone seemed to thoroughly enjoy meeting HRH and I revelled in the special aura that a Royal visitor brings.

After the luncheon, I rode in an OPP hybrid to Sunnybrook where HRH was commemorating the hospital's sixtieth anniversary. It was truly humbling to see the tears of joy on the faces of veterans as they met Prince Edward. HRH delivered a charming speech and soon after bid farewell to their Honours. With that, my time in the heart of the action of a Royal Visit came to an end. The summer, though, was just beginning!



His Honour, the Hon David E Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, with the Monarchist League's 2008 Intern Zach Schwartz at the Farewell Reception concluding Zach's summer service to the Crown





New Toronto Branch Chairman Doreen Vanini with past Chairman Kent Jackson and John Lawer, QC before annual Accession Sunday Luncheon

archy into multi-language version for use both online and in print... Alain had the honour of being invited to the Vice-Regal Suite to a Luncheon with **HRH The Countess of Wessex** and to a Reception for **Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan!**

\*TORONTO members mourned the sudden death of their Chairman **Beth Clarke**, were grateful to former Chairman **Kent Jackson** for temporarily assuming the chair and hailed **Doreen Vanini** as she took over as the new Chairman... Members enjoyed hearing Canon Michael Burgess' presentation on the Royal Connection in Gilbert & Sullivan operettas... Many Royal Week activities included a Luncheon with the **Lieutenant Governor of Ontario**, the

Queen's Birthday Classic at Woodbine Racetrack and a service at Runnymede Presbyterian Church.

\*HAMILTON Branch was successful in its letter-writing and telephone campaign to retain Royal names for re-constructed schools in the community. Chairman **Sylvia Cook** credits hard work by members in creating local support for safeguarding names of two closed schools, Queen Victoria Elementary and Prince of Wales Elementary. Trustee Tim Simmons told his colleagues at a Board Meeting that "the names matters to the community," while Board Chairman Judith Bishop expressed her support for Queen Victoria, as "a woman of big, noble vision... high expectations, no frivolous behaviour or moral turpitude."

\*LONDON Branch held a Royal Week Wine & Cheese at the Grosvenor Club, where, Branch Chairman **Mark Ambrogio** reports, the speaker was Dominion Education Coordinator **Nathan Tidridge**.

\*Dominion Youth Coordinator **Eugene Berezovsky** visited WINNIPEG in the spring. He addressed a high school subject fair coordinated by enthusiastic student and League member **Danny Whaley**, and in the evening, spoke to Branch members. He reports as follows:

The Monarchist League of Canada's reputation as a reliable and credible

source of information on the Canadian Crown was once again acknowledged this past March when I had the opportunity to address the Mennonite Brethren Collegiate Institute in Winnipeg on the occasion of the school's Global Focus Day.

On the invitation of League member Dan Whaley and in the place of Chairman Finch, who was busy with his growing family, I spoke to two groups of high school seniors on the history and evolution of the Crown from its earliest origins in Anglo-Saxon times to its modern incarnation in both the United Kingdom and Canada. The presentation was part of an entire day of intensive study of the British Isles organized by the school. In a long standing tradition of devoting an whole year to the study of a particular region, culminating with the Global Focus Day, the event was filled with speakers and presenters on all aspects of the life and history of Britain, Scotland and Ireland.

The Hon John Harvard, in his last months as Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, was on hand to open the festivities. Of course in comparison to the Irish dancers and the Scottish bagpipe demonstrations, mine was likely among the less exciting stops on the learning tour. Nevertheless, students in both groups came to recognize the importance of understanding the role and origins of the monarchy and how it has been an integral component of many of the great advancements in the development of the UK and subsequently Canada. And while the League is not a historical society (nor I a professional historian) the story of the monarchy is an interwoven and unshakable component of our history. In its twists and turns we find the origins of many of our traditions, symbols, ceremonies and even religious affiliations.

The work of the League in becoming a source of comprehensive and reliable education on the Canadian Monarchy is continuing to bear fruit and reach the desired audience. I am particularly grateful to Dan Whaley and the event organizers for their assistance and enthusiasm in pursuing the event.

\*Not to be outshone by his UofT compatriots, CALGARY Branch's Youth Director **Josh Traptow** was principal subject of a lengthy article in the Calgary Herald of May 17 before the Branch's Royal Week Luncheon, provocatively headlined "Raise a tall, cold one to The Queen." Josh, at 19 an administrative assistant at Shell Canada, eloquently explained how he values the Monarchy as "separate and apart from the ongoing political struggles of the day." The complete story appears online at <http://www.calgaryherald.com/Entertainment/Raise+tall+cold+Queen/1604598/story.html>

\*VICTORIA members welcomed their new Chairman, **Colleen Mills**, and thanked **Bill Blore** for his faithful service... In her "Summer Update," Colleen's latest optimistic and packed report that with several members she attended the March 9 Commonwealth Day Luncheon in the ballroom of Government House to hear **The Lieutenant Governor, Hon. Steven L. Point** read the Queen's Commonwealth Day Message. Longtime member **Alison Pippy** provided delightful musical accompaniment... On April 26, we celebrated Her Majesty's 82nd birthday with our fourth annual Queen's Birthday Tea at the Four Mile House Restaurant. Built during the Victorian era as a stagecoach station it was the appropriate backdrop to present a remounted production of a one-woman



Barbara Pittam in costume as Queen Victoria



Victoria Branch wins Best Decorated Vehicle-Community in Victoria Day Parade

play entitled "Miss Barbara Pittam as Queen Victoria-Readings From Her Diaries and Letters", penned by the former Chairman of both the Regina and Victoria Branches, **Fr Stan Sinclair**... The Victoria Day Parade judges, featuring three hours of bands, floats, folk groups, international, national and community entries, awarded Best Decorated community car to our entry. which we also won last year. Thanks to **Diane Taylor** and Colleen for the design and execution. We entered it again on Canada Day in beautiful Sidney-by-the-Sea's parade.

A local newspaper editorialized June 3, "Time to Rethink the Monarchy", with the focus that our links to the monarchy, as an anachronistic system, might be severed; although it acknowledged there was no public interest in doing so. Subsequent rebuttals from **Bruce Hallor** and Colleen Mills were printed, including (from Bruce): *Your editorial acknowledges that there is no appetite for Canada becoming a republic, and it acknowledges that Canadians look favourably upon our Royal Family. Why then would you say it is "time to rethink the Monarchy"? ...most Canadians would prefer to have Queen Elizabeth than an elected or appointed politician as head of state.* Colleen cited the League's recent study on the Cost of the Canadian Crown, pointing out *Would any appointed or elected version put in for this life-consuming job without demanding constant salary increases? Our monarchy remains an effective Canadian institution worth our continued support, because dollar for dollar what it gives back to each of us is priceless.*

Lady Chatfield's annual Garden Party for members and guests takes place on August 2.

Two projects initiated by former Branch Chairmen to celebrate the Queen's upcoming Diamond Jubilee are the tentatively named Queen Elizabeth II Cultural Centre, and a Celebration Service at Christ Church Cathedral on February 6, 2012. Victoria is badly in need of a larger place to relocate the Library, the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria needs a new exhibition space, and many theatre and dance groups want more performance and rehearsal venues. Our objective is to act as a catalyst, to gather all the parties involved, and present a plan to persuade them to work together to build it. This may be too ambitious a project in this economy, but we feel some sort of permanent remembrance of this milestone anniversary

continued on the next page

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## BRANCH NEWS

*continued from the previous page*  
belongs in a city full of Queen Victoria statues and buildings.

Several new young members have recently joined our branch, and that means a move to a larger meeting space this fall. The Victoria Branch is growing, reaching out and developing more of a public voice. We welcome members old, lapsed and new to join us.

### IN BRIEF...

NIAGARA members regretted the resignation of their Chairman, **Ben Hendriksen**, who is moving across the country to pursue his studies at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia... **Cary Davis** is new Chairman of the COURTENAY-COMOX Branch... VANCOUVER Branch Chairman **Keith Roy** has been undertaking media interviews on the proposed re-naming of the Straits of Georgia as the Saltash Sea and the decision to permit the Governor General to open the Winter Olympics at Whistler... HALIFAX members were saddened by the transfer (courtesy of HM's Canadian Forces) of their co-Chairman **Lt (N) Scott Nelson** to VICTORIA, which is a gain for that Branch but a blow for the just re-nascent monarchists in Nova Scotia... *Monarchy Matters* is the catchy new title of the SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN BRANCH Newsletter, edited by **Scott Hazelwood**. Among recent events the Branch hosted a Queen's Birthday Luncheon at the Hotel Saskatchewan, featuring a varied program of Royal Music by harpist Glenna Stewart, and a general meeting in March where Gen Bruce Walker spoke about military service to the Sovereign.

## Congratulations To...



*Gordon Macpherson appointed Member of Order of Canada*



*Chris McCreery Private Secretary to LG of Nova Scotia*



*Canon Reginald Stackhouse explains Monarchy costs*

**Gordon Macpherson**, League member from Burlington, Ontario, Niagara Herald Extraordinary, on his being Invested as Member of the Order of Canada on May 15, 2009, in recognition of his significant contribution to the field of heraldic artwork. Many will remember Gordon's proclaiming the Arms of the League at the memorable Accession Day celebrations of 2000 in Toronto... **Dr Christopher McCreery**, the distinguished author of many works on the Canadian Crown especially in the realm of honours and awards, who was appointed Private Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, effective April 6, 2009... **Canon Reginald Stackhouse**, the eminent Toronto priest, former Principal of Wycliffe College and twice-elected MP, who wrote for a national online newspaper web site a fine précis and reflection on the League's triennial *Cost of the Canadian Monarchy* study...

# MONARCHIST LEAGUE VHS TAPES TRANSFERRED TO DVD

*Royal and League documentaries, films and news clips again available to members*

Thanks to the hard work of Brock Weir, the League's collection of films and League television appearances of monarchical interest is now available on DVD, and once more available for borrowing as a privilege of membership on a first-come first-served basis.

Members may borrow up to three items at a time for a period of three weeks. Borrowers are responsible for returning them to the League at the Oakville PO Box address at which time we hope to discover a \$5 bill as a donation to cover our outbound postage and handling costs.

These titles provide enjoyment when shared with friends and family, an educational opportunity for your kids and grandchildren and a potentially interesting programme for your local League branch or Contact Group.

TO BORROW: email domsec@sympatico.ca or write the League at PO Box 1057, Oakville, ON L6J 5E9 with your choices. We will let you know which titles will be sent your way immediately, and for which you are on a wait list. Branch and Contact Group requests take priority.

### LIST OF AVAILABLE TITLES (all on DVD unless noted)

**Andrew, Portrait of a Prince:** A&E *Biography*, c 1987

**Arms for the League:** Highlights of the League's 30th Anniversary Luncheon, addressed by co-Founder Strome Galloway), subsequent Presentation by Ontario Lieutenant Governor Hilary Weston (acting on behalf of The Governor General) and Proclamation of the Arms of the League at Saint James Cathedral by Niagara Herald and reception at the Albany Club. 2000.

**Charles & Diana: A Royal Celebration,** 1986 visit to Canada

**Charles: Private Man, Public Role,** A&E documentary c 1995

**Diana on Her Own,** A&E *Biography*, c 1987

**Edward the King:** Timothy West plays Bertie as the life of Edward, Prince and eventually Edward VII, is traced in this 13-part mini-series from 1979. ON SIX DVD'S – *you may request three at a time.*

**Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Ceremonies:** May 16, 2002

**From Palace to Prairie:** The Crown and Responsible Government in Saskatchewan. Documentary produced by the Government of Saskatchewan revealing how the Crown works on a day-to-day basis in Canada's provinces. 1997.

**The Glittering Crowns:** rare archival footage of some 40 European monarchs 1850 ff

**A Golden Jubilee:** assorted clips of CTV coverage of The Queen's cross-country Canadian Tour, 2002. ON SIX DVD'S – *you may request three parts at a time.*

**Golden Wedding:** television coverage of The Queen and Prince Philip's celebration, 1997

**Great Castles of Europe:** The British Isles. Learning Channel documentary, 1994

**HM Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother:** In Private Life

**Her Majesty The Queen:** A Remarkable Life c 2002

**Monarchist League:** highlights of 25th Anniversary Celebration, 1995, with Ontario Lieutenant Governor Hal Jackman, CTV's Lloyd Robertson, Toronto Police Chief William McCormack and the Founder. Presentation of Badges of Service to members.

**Monarchist Youth** on CBC Saskatchewan, together with Wessex Wedding Commentary and the Founder on Breakfast TV, June 18, 1999

**The House of Windsor:** PBS documentary.

**The Monarchy: A Canadian Perspective:** the Founder speaks on questions about the Canadian Crown in 1993

**Monarchy Debate:** the Founder vs UWO Professor c 1992

**Monarchy Debate** on Canada AM 1995

**Monarchy Debate** on Michael Coren Live 1999: The League takes on republican MP's Bryden & Shepherd

**Nicholas and Alexandra**

**Ontario Constitution Committee** 1992: Monarchist League Testimony

**A Prince for Wales:** Investiture of Charles at Carnarvon Castle, 1969

**The Queen and Her Ceremonial Horses.** Documentary 1986

**Queen Elizabeth II: 60 Glorious Years** (ITN)

**The Queen's Guards on Parade and Beating Retreat** – documentary 1986

**A Queen is Crowned:** classic, very old-fashioned style documentary of June 2, 1953, narrated by Sir Lawrence (later Lord) Olivier

**The Queen Mother's Death:** THREE DVD'S

*Part One:* A Fond Farewell, Global TV coverage of Procession to Westminster and Lying-in-State

*Part Two:* News clips from CTV and Global TV coverage of the State Funeral

*Part Three:* CTV coverage of the State Funeral

Rhonda London Live, **Pledge to The Queen** – CTS c 1995

**The Royal Divorce, 1996:** Debate with Monarchists and Republicans on Jane Hawtin Live.

**The Royal Family in 1992**

Royal Tour of South Africa 1947

**Royal Wedding 1981:** The Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer

**Royal Wedding 1986:** The Marriage of The Duke & Sarah Ferguson

**Ruby Jubilee Celebration:** Highlights of League Dinner celebrating The Queen's Jubilee, 1992, in the presence of HM King Michael, HM Queen Anna and HRH Princess Margarita of Romania. Includes King Michael's memorable address and presentation of League Honours.

**The Six Wives of Henry VIII;** Keith Mitchell takes title role in this 1970 BBC mini-series, each part written by a different playwright. ON SIX CD'S; you may request three at a time.

**Tears of a Princess** – Diana. Documentary 1992.

**The Trials of Charles,** King in Waiting. Documentary c 2002

University of Waterloo Extension Service: **The Monarchy,** with the Founder c 1993

**Vimy Rededication Ceremonies** in the presence of The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh

**Wessex Wedding:** Monarchist commentary on CP24, Wedding coverage on CTV

**Will Diana's Death Destroy the Monarchy?**

Monarchists and Republicans debate on Jane Hawtin Live, September 1997

# 2009 ACCESSION SUNDAY LUNCHEON



**Jason Kenney,  
Monarchist Cabinet Minister,  
addresses Accession Lunch,  
anticipates Diamond Jubilee**

*“The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee will occur in 2012. I look forward to joining all of you as partners in helping to celebrate this significant event.”*



Accession Sunday 2009 again brought a good crowd to the Meridien King Edward Hotel in Toronto to celebrate 57th Anniversary of The Queen’s Accession to the Throne. Guest of Honour, the Hon Jason Kenney, PC, MP, Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism, noted the encouraging number of younger faces in the company joining many stalwart members of long-standing, as he delivered a rousing speech affirming his own and his government’s loyalty to the Crown, and anticipating the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of 2012.

Chaired by Dominion Chairman Robert Finch, the programme included a reminiscence of his summer as League Intern to the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario by Zach Schwartz, a student at the University of Western Ontario, who segued his remarks into the Loyal Toast; and a deeply-felt Toast to The Queen by Dr Roy Eappen, long-time benefactor from Montreal. Mr Kenney was introduced by League Director Christopher Smith.



After the Luncheon had concluded, many guests proceeded across the street to the Cathedral Church of Saint James, for Choral Evensong in Thanksgiving for the Accession, at which the Dominion Chairman read one of the Lessons. Guests had an opportunity to greet His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor, after the service.

all photos by Michael Hudson





## Tittle Tattle with the Titled – Part IV of IV

by the Late Colonel Strome Galloway

[A soldier with a distinguished military career, Strome Galloway was co-Founder of the Monarchist League of Canada. A prolific author and frequent contributor to military and heraldic publications, he sent this four-part article to CMN shortly before his death in 2005. Ed.]

Since the War, one of the most colourful and aristocratic aristocrats I have met was the late Sir Iain Moncreiffe of that Ilk. According to my very, very remote kinsman, the late Sir Windham Carmichael-Anstruther, Bt, Sir Iain, who was widely acknowledged as the arbiter *par excellence* of all social protocol, decorum and custom, violated most of those rules himself, claiming that since he was “the biggest snob in Christendom” he could frown on all social conventions, being in a position to make his own. I can vouch for this attitude of his, for while I was serving as Hon. Editor of *Heraldry in Canada*, I had occasion on several trips to the United Kingdom to visit with him both at Moncreiffe, where his family have lived for eight hundred years, and at Balcaskie House, the home of Sir Ralph Anstruther of Anstruther, Bt. At a beautifully set out luncheon at Balcaskie while the rest of us drank wine from costly stemware and had our plates set on silver place mats embellished with the Anstruther armorials, and with a dozen generations of Anstruthers looking down at us from the golden frames on the walls, Sir Iain stated that he preferred beer in a can, called for one and proceeded to drink it from that plebeian vessel. One of the world's leading heraldic scholars, Sir Iain is probably best known for his and Don Pottinger's *Simple Heraldry*, a masterpiece and indeed a monument to his memory.

The social changes wrought by two World Wars are clearly evident in the changed mode of living of the British aristocracy from that of their grandparents. The 14th Earl of Mar, who is also the 16th Earl of Kellie, acquainted me with that fact when I was his guest in Alloa at the foot of the Ochil Hills near Stirling. Lord Mar lives in the former Manse no bigger than a normal middle class residence. A couple of miles distant stands Alloa House, then vacant and available for some institution to occupy.



Balcaskie House – Sir Ralph drank beer out of a can!



Alloa House – 64 fireplaces for the servants to light

At that moment His Lordship was angling with a girls' school to buy the place. When he was a boy between the wars, he told me, this 64-room house had as many fireplaces, and staff which did nothing but light the fires, clean the ashes and carry the fuel. These were included among the twenty-some indoor servants!

Several years ago, when lunching at the Cavalry and Guards Club in London, one of our foursome was a lady who, when hearing that her escort's two Canadian guests were from Ottawa, revealed that her grandfather had lived in Canada's capital. Later on our host asked the lady if she had watched the rehearsal of Trooping the Colour on Horse Guards Parade the day before. She replied that



Marchioness of Lansdowne's drinks party turned out to be a charity function organizer



Nurse Edith Cavell: patriot shot by the Germans in the Great War



John Dewar, 2nd Lord Forteviot – no time for Strome!

she had, as she was in her uncle's study at the time, which overlooked the parade ground. I then realized that her uncle was Prime Minister Harold Macmillan, as 10 Downing Street's rear windows overlooked that place. This meant, of course, that her grandfather was the Duke of Devonshire, a one-time Governor General of Canada. Macmillan, serving as a junior military aide at Rideau Hall at the time, had married one of the Duke's daughters.

Although my Canadian military appointments over the past sixty years have on several occasions seen me in proximity to George VI and our present Queen, both at Windsor Castle and at Buckingham Palace, I have never been privileged to exchange words with either. The Duke of Edinburgh, however, is a different matter. Prince Philip happens to be Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Canadian Regiment of which I was for four years the Colonel. Contacts during his visits to Canada were close.

One of these was at Gagetown, NB, at an informal dinner given by the 2nd Battalion of the Regiment. HRH was making a two day-visit prior to visiting Washington to attend a meeting of the World Wild Life organization. I was asked to present our distinguished guest with a memento of his visit, and it so happened that a carved replica of a loon was chosen. In presenting it, as I removed it from the silver tray on which the mess servant brought it to the table, I said, “Sir, this is a loon. It is common to the waters of this province. In its bill is a pickerel which it is devouring. This fish is also common to local waters. It is carved out of a wood which is common to this landscape. It was carved with a common jack knife by a man named Leblanc, which is one of the commonest New Brunswick surnames. Sir, this damn loon is so common I'm almost ashamed to give it to you.”

Prince Philip took the piece with the expected admiring look, and, turning

from me to face the forty-odd diners, said, “I think Colonel Galloway has just given me the bird!”

Next morning, as I breakfasted with our distinguished guest, HRH said he understood that we had new coin called a loon. I replied that indeed we had, and, taking one from my pocket, placed it on the table for him to see, the loon's image up. “Turn it over, Sir,” I continued, “you will see a better picture on the other side.”

Once in London I ran into a British officer who had spent a year in Petawawa on exchange with the Canadian Army. We were surprised to see one another. After asking about old friends in Canada, he said, “By the way, I am going to a cocktail party at five. Would you like to come?” I said that it would suit me fine. “Great,” he replied, “I'll phone the hostess that you'll be arriving and I'll meet you there. She is the Marchioness of Lansdowne.” Then she gave me her Belgravia address and we parted company.

Several hours later as I was about to ring the bell on my hostess-to-be's door, a man in a black bowler and a grey suit came up behind me and asked, “Excuse me, but is this Lady Lansdowne's place?” I confirmed that it was as a maid answered the bell. Letting the older man precede me as we entered, my companion was almost immediately greeted by the hostess with “Oh, Lord Goddard, how nice of you to come.” He was none other than the Lord Chief Justice of England!

My friend arrived a few minutes later, easing the strain of my being a sort of hanger-on. However, I had identified myself to my hostess who immediately steered me across the room where she seated me on a sofa beside a woman to whom she introduced me, “Lady Marks – you know, Marks and Spencer.” I was then introduced to a Lady Charlemont, the Belgian wife of a British Viscount, who told me that during the Great War she was one of the nurses who assisted Nurse Edith Cavell in helping escaping Allied prisoners-of-war through her Brussels nursing home. Nurse Cavell, it will be remembered, gained her place in history when she was executed by the



Strome Galloway

Germans for this activity. It soon became evident that this party was really a committee meeting for arranging some charitable function. The Lord Mayor of London was among the guests, and it became an almost unbelievable experience when someone suggested that “Frankie” might be willing to come to England to sing at the event. It was then decided to phone “Frankie” and ask him. The transatlantic call was made – to Frank Sinatra – who agreed to come! Apparently the price was right...

One nobleman I did *not* meet was the 2nd Lord Forteviot. And one castle I did *not* visit was Dupplin Castle, his Perthshire seat. When I was warned for overseas draft in 1940, I wrote His Lordship stating that I would soon be in Britain and hoped I might be able to visit him Dupplin, pointing out that his mother and my grandfather were third cousins. My wish was not granted. His secretary's cold reply was that Lord Forteviot was busy on war work and could not see me – neither could I even see Dupplin Castle, apparently. His name, I should reveal, was John Dewar, the wealthy son of the founder of Dewar's distillery, which latter was raised to the peerage by Lloyd George's government in 1917. So much for being a poor relation! I have never (knowingly) drunk a drop of Dewar's whiskey since.

Submissions for  
**MEMBERS'  
MEMORIES**  
are always welcome.

Please email CMN at [domsec@sympatico.ca](mailto:domsec@sympatico.ca)

or write to

PO Box 1057, Oakville, ON L6J 5E9

# BY THEIR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT

*The Monarchist League of Canada gratefully remembers those departed members whose bequests over the last decade have assisted to provide for the maintenance of the League's work across the Dominion of Canada whose Sovereign they faithfully served in life and whose welfare they forgot not in death. R.I.P.*



*Ronald Roy Anger, Toronto, Ontario*  
*William Atkinson, Ajax, Ontario*  
*Walter Heslop Bilbrough, Toronto, Ontario*  
*Ann Elizabeth Jean Brown, Orillia, Ontario*  
*Kenneth Connolly, Stoney Creek, Ontario*  
*Francis William Dollman, Victoria, British Columbia*  
*William Vernon Goodfellow, Hamilton, Ontario*  
*Ronald Powell Graham, Hamilton, Ontario*  
*Reginald Gordon Harris, Kelowna, British Columbia*  
*Isabel Louise Hill, Fredericton, New Brunswick*  
*Ruth MacKay Kennedy, Halifax, Nova Scotia*  
*James Milton MacDonald, Toronto, Ontario*  
*Eileen Evelyn Parker, Calgary, Alberta*  
*Natalie Platner, Markham, Ontario*  
*Helen Ralston, Toronto, Ontario*  
*Daniel Edward Sage, Corbeil, Ontario*  
*Grace Smith, Toronto, Ontario*  
*Murray W. Waterman, Calgary, Alberta*  
*Elsie Wight, Ottawa & Toronto, Ontario*



A prominent League member and benefactor, Mr. Alex Paton of Victoria, BC, has written a letter on the subject of wills, which he kindly gave permission for the League to circulate in any way that might be helpful. The Dominion Chairman sent it, along with a covering letter from the League, to all Life Members and to major contributors. If you would like to receive copies of this material, The Dominion Secretary would cheerfully send them to you on request. In his final paragraph, the Chairman stated, "As I reflect on what, together, we have accomplished over this last quarter-century and more, nothing would give me greater satisfaction than to know that some of our most dedicated members will wish to help continue the work which we have endeavoured to do in life."

## Make Sure The Work Goes On!

Members who would like to ensure the continuation of the work of the Monarchist League of Canada in the years ahead, so that generations of the future may know the benefits of the Monarchy, are urged to consider the League's needs in making their wills. A suggested form of bequest, devised by the League's Honorary Solicitor, is provided below.

*I give and bequeath (or, in the case of real property: I give, devise and bequeath) to the Monarchist League of Canada Incorporated, P.O. Box 1057, Oakville, Ontario L6J 5E9, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ .*





# QUEEN HEAD OF STATE: HARPER REBUKES GG

“...an end to the silly notion that the Governor General is head of state...” – Finch

In what constitutional and media commentators dubbed “an extraordinary reminder” to the Governor General, October 8 saw Prime Minister Stephen Harper’s Office release a statement reaffirming in unambiguous terms: “Queen Elizabeth II is Queen of Canada and Head of State. The Governor General represents the Crown in Canada.”

Mr Harper’s unprecedented lecture about Canadian constitutional reality came after Mme Jean had twice claimed for herself the role of “head of state” in an October 5 speech to an executive meeting of UNESCO – the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization – held in Paris.

Reflecting on the advantages of diversity in creating a peaceful society, Mme Jean had observed, “I, a francophone from the Americas, born in Haiti, who carries in her the history of the slave trade and the emancipation of blacks, at once Québécoise and Canadian, and today before you, Canada’s head of state, proudly represents the promises and possibilities of that ideal of society.” Later in the speech, Mme Jean remarked on having met outstanding young people in places “that I have travelled as head of state.”

Professor Emeritus David Smith of the University of Saskatchewan, author of two major studies of Canada’s Crown, told reporters “I can’t recall that ever happening before,” but welcomed the PM’s implicit rebuke, saying “There seems to be a misunderstanding on the part of Rideau Hall as to the constitutional position of the Governor General under our system.”

University of Western Ontario Dean of Law Ian Holloway also affirmed the distinct roles of Queen and Governor General, telling media, “I think the Monarchist League is right.”

Monarchist League Chairman Robert Finch had been widely quoted in October 7 media reports as criticizing Mme Jean’s usage. On the next day, Finch praised the Prime Minister’s remarks, calling them “refreshing” as coming from the Governor General’s constitutional advisor, and hoping “this puts an end to the silly notion that the Governor General is head of state – de facto or otherwise...Serving as The Queen’s representative...should be reason enough to want to be a Governor General...you don’t need to strive to be something more than that to earn Canadians’ respect.”

Rideau Hall declined comment in the face of the Prime Minister’s intervention. Reacting to Chairman Finch’s criticism the day previous, its press spokesman stated “As the representative of the Crown in Canada, the Governor General carries out the duties of head of state, and therefore is de facto head of state.” Media commentators pointed out that two federal government publications, Crown of Maples and an online study guide for immigrants preparing for their citizenship tests, contradicted this position and affirmed The Queen’s role as head of state.

Further support for the Prime Minister’s statement derives from the ruling of the Federal Court of Canada in the *Chainnigh* matter (review of General Hillier’s ruling that Military Officers must swear Allegiance to The Queen), released January 21, 2008, in which Mr Justice R.L. Barnes wrote: “Whether Capt Mac Giolla Chainnigh likes it or not, the fact is that the Queen is his Commander-in-Chief and **Canada’s Head of State.**” (Emphasis added)

## THE BACK PAGE

### DO YOU KNOW A CARING CANADIAN?



The good folks at the Honours Secretariat of Government House say that they’re always looking for thoughtful nominations of deserving Canadians to be considered for various Honours and Awards. One of the most accessible of these is the Caring Canadian Award – for Volunteers. Founded by the late Governor General Roméo LeBlanc, the Award recognizes Canadians for unpaid voluntary activities, most often behind the scenes at the community level. They have given extraordinary help or care to individuals, families or groups, or supported community service or humanitarian causes. Recipients usually have been involved in these activities for several years and normally have not been recognized with a national or provincial honour. If you know a friend, neighbour or member of your community who deserves this unique honour, please complete a Nomination Form. You can find it online at [http://www.gg.ca/honours/awards/ccca/index\\_e.asp](http://www.gg.ca/honours/awards/ccca/index_e.asp) or the League will happily send you one on request.

### MONARCHIST LEAGUE NOW ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER

The Monarchist League of Canada has launched a new Facebook Page. This new online tool will allow us to communicate with members already using Facebook as well as the broader Facebook community. It also includes features such as video and photo sharing, an events calendar, and a discussion forum. League presence on Facebook and other online social networking sites gives yet another opportunity to convey our message and to recruit even more members to our cause.

If you are already a Facebook user, please sign-up to become a “Fan.”

 <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Monarchist-League-of-Canada/53071821078>

 The League’s Twitter profile page appears at <http://twitter.com/monarchist>

### WHAT DO YOU THINK OF CHANGING CANADA’S MOTTO?

We are told there is widespread support for changing Canada’s Motto to reflect the *three* seas at our borders. (See May 11 item in Round Up from the Realms, p.24). What do you think about any possible amendment of the existing Motto? We will print a sampling of your opinions in the next issue of CMN. Send your comments to or PO Box 1057, Oakville, ON L6J 5E9.

### UNIVERSITY BRANCH SEEKS TRANSLATORS FOR MULTI-LINGUAL PROJECT

Student Monarchists at Toronto’s premier university have decided that one of the best contributions they could make to enhancing the visibility and understanding of the Canadian Crown on the multi-language campus – and beyond – is to begin a project of translating the League’s educational booklet and related materials into a variety of languages – including Russian, Bengali, Hindi, Cantonese, Mandarin, Spanish, Tamil and so forth. To this end they seek members’ generous assistance in offering their services to translate some part of these documents.

Since the League is blessed with a diverse membership who speak many languages, they hope that some of you will be able to assist. If interested, please contact the project coordinator, Alain Bartleman, at [Alain.Bartleman@weareloyal.ca](mailto:Alain.Bartleman@weareloyal.ca)

### BLOG WITH BOB!

The Dominion Chairman, Robert Finch, writes a Blog which both informs and amuses Monarchists. Be sure to catch Bob’s news and views at at <http://dominionchairman.blogspot.com/>

To accommodate the above late-breaking news, the balance of items originally scheduled for THE BACK PAGE may be found on p. 21 – Ed.