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THE MONARCHIST LEAGUE OF CANADA – 33rd ANNIVERSARY 1970-2003

OTTAWA UNVEILS NEW PHOTO PORTRAIT, COIN EFFIGY & STAMP OF HER MAJESTY ON CORONATION DAY

BOUDRIA LAUDS CANADIAN CROWN

based on a personal report by Major Leo J. Regimbal, Chairman, Ottawa Branch

On Monday the 2nd of June, the Golden Jubilee Anniversary of the Queen's Coronation, I joined Paul Benoit and Arthur Bousfield, Monarchist League Dominion Vice-Chairmen representing John Aimers who had other commitments, along with Garry Toffoli and Claudia Willets of the Canadian Royal Heritage Trust, at the Senate in Ottawa in order to witness the unveiling of the new portrait of Her Majesty. This new portrait will replace the one

that was hanging in the Senate Chamber since 1953. A second copy of the new portrait will also hang in the Commons.

The ceremony was held in the anteroom of the Senate and there were quite a number of guests from all levels of Ottawa society in attendance. Don

Boudria, the Minister of State and

Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, was the principal speaker at the event.

Paying warm tribute to The Sovereign, Mr

Boudria remarked: "It is fitting that the voices of young Canadians be heard today because we are not simply celebrating the unveiling of a portrait. We are as well celebrating the institution of the Canadian Crown, exemplified by Her Majesty and her eleven representatives in Canada. It has always been central to the history of

our country and I am heartened to note that young Canadians are increasingly eager to learn more about their history, institutions, symbols and values – those things that draw us
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The new Official Photographic Portrait of Her Majesty The Queen, taken at the Museum of Civilization, Gatineau, during HM's Golden Jubilee Homecoming to Canada in October, 2002. The Queen is wearing the Sovereign's Badges of The Order of Canada and The Order of Military Merit. Courtesy Dept of Canadian Heritage

Coronation...

together as proud citizens of this magnificent country...

"C'est l'an dernier, au cours du voyage que Sa Majesté effectuait au Canada dans le cadre des célébrations de son jubilé, que j'ai pu me rendre vraiment compte de ce que la Reine représente et des sentiments qu'elle fait naître dans le coeur et l'esprit des Canadiens. En tant que ministre présent, j'ai assisté à plusieurs événements alors que Sa Majesté était dans la région de la capitale nationale, et je n'ai cessé d'être étonné par l'affection et le respect chaleureux que des Canadiens de tous âges, de tous horizons et de toutes origines témoignaient à leur Reine. En 2002, ces sentiments s'accompagnaient de remerciements sincères pour les 50 années de service dévoué et d'attachement à notre pays. Le jubilé a donné lieu à de nombreux moments inoubliables, et j'ai été honoré d'y prendre part."

The Minister then invited two students from Queen Elizabeth II School of Ottawa to read the personal message that they, and their classmates, had sent to Her Majesty. In turn, he read and gave them a copy of the letter that Her Majesty sent them, in which she thanked them personally for having sent her their good wishes on this the 50th anniversary of her Coronation. The Queen went on to observe "De bien des façons, ce message évoquait les nombreuses occasions de



Arthur Bousfield with Hon David Dingwall, Minister responsible for the Royal Canadian Mint, at Unveiling of new effigy of HM for Canadian Coins held at the RCM on Coronation Day 2003

réjouissances que les Canadiens, et particulièrement les jeunes, ont su créer pour célébrer pour mon jubilé lors de ma visite en octobre dernier."

The portrait, taken last October during Her Majesty's visit to Ottawa, was then unveiled to enthusiastic applause by the assembled audience. The Canadian Forces String Ensemble enlivened the affair with an interesting selection of themes along with the National and Royal Anthems. The unveiling ceremony was followed by a short reception in a room adjacent to the Senate Chamber.

Later that afternoon, we attended the unveiling of the new effigy of Her Majesty at the Royal Canadian Mint. The ceremony was short but interesting. Hon Steven W. Mahoney, PC, MP, Secretary of State for Selected Crown Corporations, and Hon. David C. Dingwall, PC, President and CEO of the RCM, were in attendance, with Mr. Dingwall presenting the address and unveiling the effigy accompanied by the artist, Suaanna Blunt. After the unveiling, he gave the floor to media questions and he, as well as Ms. Blunt were interviewed at length afterward. All in all, the activities of the day were most interesting and enjoyable. For me, the company was greatly appreciated and the conversations, superb!

Not to be outdone, the Canada Post Corporation chose Coronation Day for the launch of its new definitive 48¢ stamp paying tribute to The Queen's Anniversary. An initial printing of 20 million will be available in panes of 16 stamps. Similar to last year's Golden Jubilee stamp, additional quantities will be printed as needed throughout the calendar year. The stamp, which closely resembles the 2002 Golden Jubilee issue, features the traditional symbol of Canada, the maple leaf and an image of the Queen.