The Right Honourable Roméo LeBlanc, CC, PC

1927 – 2009

A Tribute written especially for Canadian Monarchist News by the Honourable Marilyn Trenholm 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, Commissioners 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 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 Philip 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.”

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, Hamilton to welcome Camilla to ancestors’ home.

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

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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 who 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 courage to be recognized. "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 fellow 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 new 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.

REVIEWED 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. 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 (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-outdated publication of A Crown of Maps 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 Maps – “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 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 President Obama to visit Quebec, Ontario and New York state to commemorate the event and mark the Seaway’s continued importance. The 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 did last fall in 1958. It is important for the future of the constitutional monarchy in Canada that the Prince of Wales come to our country – and his role in our constitution – more of a timely 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 unseasoned in service, in search of 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 with respect to the Crown, the Royal Family and Royal visits. Following retirements and departures, there is a distinct penury of experienced personnel. 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, either totally 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 being aired by 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 discursive placing of Her Majesty’s portrait at the rear of the Rideau Hall ballroom – all these in an ingrained mannermanship is indifferent at best and most 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 observation about “poor management of the Bravery Decorations programme in the National Honours System, coupled with extra-Constitutional behaviour on the part of the Government.” In the same issue Mr. Dundas critiques Rideau Hall’s negative attitude towards the Royal Victorian Order. In 2007 the Chancellor failed to respond to a request by Buckingham Palace to notify Canadian members of the gathering of the Order at Windsor, which for once then they too, years behind makes. The above poles 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 not be used in this way. The correspondence and editorial comments in the media for and against the Morgentaler appointment showed that it is now anything but a Kafka-esque example of doublespeak. It unfortunately gives credence to the view that the Order of Canada is biased towards one particular, tendentious, politically-correct elite.

Regardless of opinions for or against a particular award, and of the merits (or lack thereof) of the recipients of Honours, the nickname, the Order of Canada and the national Honours system have been seriously tarnished. Predictably but regretfully, 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 the Governor. 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 is in urgent need of 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 Maps – “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
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 Honourable Hilary Weston, CM, Ont

published by Whitfield Editions, 2007

Not intended for commercial sale, the book is widely available online via amazon.ca, amazon.com, amazon.ca and 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 been the most fascinating and high-profile. A glamorous former model who married retail magnate Galen Weston, goes on to function as 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 and 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 Governor’s role, coming after all, her family and corporate responsibilities were formidable and would need extraordinary consideration, and some disruption of her business interests. More intriguing is the book’s revelation that “a prominent Toronto MP” spotted her and did not surmise the reason for the trip. And that the most surprising thing 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, “It was only later she realized 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, such as with a 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 recalls 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 properly in 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 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 today – a competently-prepared index. The work is also greatly enhanced by lavish colour photography, much hitherto not seen or widely distributed, and reproduce extraordinary clarity and care. Errors seem few, although it is surprising that the book “term” appears frequently in 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, election of our history and expression of our values.

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 “responsible 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

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Period, in the media, in demonstrations outside Rideau Hall and in television advertising by the Tories. The latter at- tacked the notion that the leader of a party which had garnered 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 Pro- roration as such abuse of power would discrediting its right to express confidence or not in the government.

As Mme Jean prepared to cut short her official visit to Eastern Europe on November 9, 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 reassessment.” I think that happening right now is part of the possibili- ties of our democratic system, and I think that people can be reassured that, as I turn to what is happening, I am not looking at my constitutional duties.”

December 4th found the Prime Min- ister 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 crit- icize the Governor General, but to focus their attacks on Mr Harper and his poli- ciies. Rideau Hall did not announce any such conditions as were referred 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 Ignatief. On January 28th met with Mr Harper and agreed to support the government sub- ject to certain conditions.

COMMENTARY ON CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

Many significant constitutional ques- tions were at play during the debate both before and after the granting of Prorogation, but they centered on options facing the Governor General: a) to accept Mr Harper’s request for Pro- roration; to refuse it; or 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 per- sonage in such a situation: that The Queen’s Government must continue; that her sole Constitutional “advisory” – as long as he remains untainted by scandal and preoccupied with an election – is to itself keep the country into fresh elections in an un- precededently brief time since the previ- ous vote, and left a caretaker government in charge but procured with an elec- tion during a time of fraught economic conditions.

A fourth option would have involved her summoning M. Dion, but making it clear that she would be instituting a dismis- sion of the duly and recently elected leader of the government. Following a) she would be substituting her judgement for not only that of the processes of the party which had selected him; if she had taken option b), she would effec- tively be installing as Prime Minister someone whose candidacy had been rejected in the normal electoral process of bad options, but it was not seriously advanced during the debate, nor is it cer- tain 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 relationships between the PMO and Rideau Hall have often been strained, the gener- al 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 supporter of his. If either of these conditions of the appointment had been fulfilled, the re- turns. Whether in fact she laid out these 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 be protected from the partisan jockeying which character- izes other aspects of Parliamentary and political contention. The purpose of having in office a condition that she place the political responsibility where it belongs, squarely on the Prime Minister. This provides a protection for the Governor General’s position in the event of a constitutional “experts” might have tendered her. Taking option c) would have plunged the country into fresh elections in an un- precedently brief time since the previ- ous vote, and left a caretaker government in charge but procured with an elec- tion during a time of fraught economic conditions.

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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 airwaves 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 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 stridently 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 the 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
Controversy Taints Order 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 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 forceful 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 about right: the League has always been, and will continue to be, 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 supported The Sovereign and many public figures 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 now reflect on the hundreds 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 present to whatever facts exist that underpin the decision of the board and point out that good Monarchists – loyal Canadians – can and do have a variety of opinions, just as they do on the issues that affect 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 former senator Ronald Saint-Jean. “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 and no longer want to be a part of the Order.” Six other honourees, or family members of deceased honourees, 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 of Canada, Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin, said an August 16 news conference that she had abstained from voting on the nomination, and that in general, “is is only then that I begin to run 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 appoint¬ed for three-year terms.

Sometimes criticized for being “too establishment” or “too self-perpetuating,” the Order is true of true in that its members are not naive people. They cannot have failed to be aware that in selecting Dr Morgentaler “for his commitment to increased health care options for women, his determined efforts to influence Canadian public policy and his leadership in human and civil liberties organizations” – though we were not aware 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.

So 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, and should not appear to be endorsing one side or another of issues of wrenching controversy still alive in the public mind. The only way to do so is to weaken the Order’s prestige and so provoke disenchantment rather than harmony.

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 consider it deeply wrong. Yet controversial painters and doctors, generals and bishops and newscast¬ers, receive honours. It is felt that they have made a contribution of significance to a public cause.

Nor can anyone be sure as to the motivation of the Order of Canada’s Advisory Committee in putting Dr Morgentaler’s name before the Prime Minister 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 human and civil liberties organizations.

Most Monarchists, like me, suspect, most Canadians, are not qualified to judge the relative merits of Dr Morgentaler’s contributions to human 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. That was why many who decided not to see abortion as merely another “option” nor rightly the woman’s decision, while of course, supported the ban on experimentation; others find it abhorrent. And many recipients of honours have engaged in controversial activities.

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 symbol of political neutrality 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.

Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin - abstained from voting on Morgentaler nomination
of the law of the Commonwealth, of the State or of the Territory. 49

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 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. 49

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 to the changes 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. 49

TABLE OF FOOTNOTES

(36) Statute of Westminster 1931
(37) Robert Blackburn, King and Country: Monarchy and the Future King Charles III, 2006, p126
(38) Veronica O’Donoghue, The Monarchy and the Constitution, 1995, p48
(39) The Royal Title Act 1953
(41) Ibid
(42) 2003 OntLII 41480 (ON S.C.1) and it is reported at (2003) 1 OntLII 41480 (ON S.C.1) 199 C.R.R., References are to the Internet version, http://www.canada.on.ca/onscan/Docs/onscan1999-2003.htm (last viewed 16 March 2009). Mr O’Donoghue appealed against the decision, but the appeal was summarily dismissed by the Ontario Court of Appeal (2003) 1 OntLII 41480 (ON S.C.1) No.965, decision O6/5577.
(43) Ibid, para 25
(44) Ibid, para 27
(45) Ibid, para 35

Alterating the Succession to the Throne

B. Assent of the Commonwealth

The Statute of Westminster 1931 appears to require the United Kingdom to obtain the assent of all of 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 the association of all the members of the British Commonwealth of Nations, and as they are united by a common allegiance to the Crown, it would be inconsistent 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 should hereafter require the assent as well of the Parliaments of all the Dominions as of the Parliament of the United Kingdom. 36

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 argued that as these words are included as their head of state  .

2. Consequences of altering the rules of succession

In British law, the nature of this obligation to the Throne or the Royal Style and Titles shall hereafter require the obtaining consent from each Realm: it is equivalent to a treaty. Absence of assents from all the Commonwealth countries affected, it would be regarded as high handed and arrogant. This case, most recently prompted by a Private Member’s Bill presented by Dr Evan Harris, MP, and by encouraging remarks by successive British Prime Ministers to do so, would create a constitutional crisis with the success 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 a profoundly 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 of concern to all Commonwealth countries.

Meetings to be held later this year in Trinidad & Tobago, Ed.)

Evan Harris, MP
moved in Westminster Parliament to alter Succession
pioneering work of David E. Smith in shifting scholarly attention to the "invisi-
ble Crown", Dr. Boyce points out the pro-
found constitutional implications of the monarchical 'invisibility' in all three coun-
tries: "the enshrinement of state authority in 'the Crown' has provided an effective mask for the steady expansion of power handovers, which is expected to fulfill, wielding the reserve powers. The constitutional role is insepa-
rable from other aspects of the institution: relationship with the monarch; the method of appointment of vice-regal re-
presentatives; political attitudes towards the vice-regal offices and their incumbents; the public and media perception of the institution. Dr. Boyce considers the muted and hidden nature of the role to be 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 concludes 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 thirteenth century and accelerating in the final two decades of the twen-
tieth century, given increasing multicultu-
ralism; 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 incorrigibly states (p. 17) that the Crown remains "a vital part of the Canadian fabric". He notes that despite the "maple leaf" atop Canada's coat of arms (it hasn't!), Rideau Hall also serves, albeit on a lesser degree, its counterparts in Canberra and Wellington, have been distancing themselves from the monarch. "Brit-
ishness" is now seen more as a liability than an asset; hence the trend towards "Britishness" in the "Crown" rather than the monarchy — a clear policy at Rideau Hall during Adrienne Clarkson's tenure.

The Derivative Crown

Attention therefore shifts to the "sur-
rrogates" of the Crown in the "derivative" monarchy. Dr. Boyce traces the evolu-
tion 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 use English governors as late as the 1970s. Com-
pared to Canada, where governors gener-
al have been Canadian citizens since 1952 and lieutenant governors have al-
ways been so, this continued "British-
ness" of the Crown in the Antipodes is striking — and paradoxical in light of the very active republican movement in Australia.

Analyzing the evolving role of the Crown and its governors, the author deals with the comundrum, is the Queen head of state or the government — 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 matter of semantics for what it makes good sense", he says (p. 29), "to describe the office of head of state in all three former dominions as 'bipartite' — a state that has two heads. This will make government more efficient because the Queen appoints the Privy Council and then appoints the Prime Minister who has to answer for the actions of the government. The author concludes that the British Crown and the Australian Crown have the same monarch. Some consider this a "misnomer" of Australia and New Zealand which share the same monarch. Some commentators on the Crown have also argued for a "derivative monarchy", more or less the notion of the Crown represented in Australia by the governor of the state or territory, "the governor representing "the idea of the Crown" rather than the monarch — a".

Dr. Boyce deals with the first issue in examining to what extent Bagehot's three "traditional rights" of the monarch — to "conscience, to warn and to consent" — can be properly applied 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 governors have been particularly reluctant in this regard, but Canadian prime minis-
ters 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 Canadian governors general's Council of State. They meet regularly to formally approve Cab-
inet business. Although practice has var-
ied, Dr. Boyce finds that the majority of governors have used their chairmanship of Executive Council as a means of exer-
cising the right "to be consulted". This opportunity is lacking for their Canadian counterparts. However, in some Can-
adian 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: Crowning the Centre, Regina: Canadian Plains Research Center, Uni-
versity of Regina, 2009.)

What about the reserve powers — se-
lecting or dismissing a first minister, granting or refusing dissolution? Dr. Boyce notes that "the reserves powers are extremely important in the British constitutional system and are used not only for the regular course of government business, but also for the protection of the Crown from "unacceptable" actions by other branches of government. In Canada, the Governor-General has the power to prorogue Parliament and to dissolve the Commons, as the result of a motion of no confidence or, in some cases, as a result of the defeat of a confidence vote.

Dr. Boyce notes that in all three realms the vice-regal role is being increas-
ingly focused on civic or moral leader-
ship, and the promotion of values such as democracy, equality and respect for human rights. In Australia, the Governor-General is also responsible for the ceremonial aspects of the role, including the changing of the guard at the Royal Australian Mint and the annual New Year's Honours. In Canada, the Governor-General is also responsible for the appointment of Canadian Senators, and the appointment of judges to the Federal Court and the Supreme Court of Canada. In New Zealand, the Governor-General is also responsible for the appointment of judges to the Supreme Court of New Zealand. These appointments are ceremonial, but they are also important in terms of the prestige and influence of the Crown. The Governor-General is also responsible for the appointment of the members of the New Zealand Council of the Order of Australia, and the Governor-General is also responsible for the appointment of the members of the New Zealand Order of Merit, which is a civic award for Outstanding Service to the community and non-profit organizations. This award is also an important symbol of the Crown's commitment to civic and community service.

In conclusion, Dr. Boyce argues that the Crown has a significant role in the Canadian political system, and that it is important to continue to recognize and value the contributions that the Crown makes to Canadian society. He concludes that the Crown is a symbolic and ceremonial institution, and that it is important to continue to recognize and value the contributions that the Crown makes to Canadian society. He concludes that the Crown is a symbolic and ceremonial institution, and that it is important to continue to recognize and value the contributions that the Crown makes to Canadian society. He concludes that the Crown is a symbolic and ceremonial institution, and that it is important to continue to recognize and value the contributions that the Crown makes to Canadian society.
notes, female media celebrities from eth-
nic and immigrant backgrounds and have markedly changed the office, de-
spite the controversies over Clarkson’s ‘escalating expenditures’ and travels aboard her cutter for the nationality at the time of her appoint-
ment (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 one noted by the author are Quebec lieutenant govern-
ors Jean-Louis Rioux, forced to resign in 1996 after a two months in office, and Prime Minister John Howard in Aus-
tralia “sometimes usurped the Gov ernor’s role” (p. 138). He notes, female media celebrities from eth-
cultural and community leadership

Dr. Boyce therefore speculates at sev-
eral points on possible reform of the pro-
cess, and the office in general, that wider consultation has been urged for both national and provincial vice-regal appoin-
tments, citing sources as varied as Eugene Black’s 1970 Task Force on Canadian Unity, Jacques Monet and the present reviewer (p. 77). He cautions, however, that patronage is now “rife” among political parties, prov-
culture and unlikely to change. In Aus-
tralia, given the high-profile “failed gov-
ernorships”, the public will demand bet-
ter scrutiny of potential candidates and

The 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 this will surely affect the cloud of alleged financial misman-
gement. 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 Tas-
manian governor Richard Butler in 2004. The latter was a particular case of an inappropriate appointment by the Premier of Tasmania and was doom-
ed from the outset. No wonder the meth-
ods of vice-regal appointment are being tested and found wanting.

Dr. Boyce notes that the supposed monarchist Prime Minister John Howard of Aus-
talia sometimes usurped the Governor-
General’s traditional role, especially at national military ceremonies” (p. 138). Another
problem may be entrenched
about a governor-general’s “community leadership” role differing with the prime minister’s view; John Howard was not un-
comfortable with Sir William Deane, who saw himself as the con-
science 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 incum-

mentors governors long before Australia and New Zealand had recourse to the reserve powers much more than their Canadian counterparts or the governors-general in either country. All states except Queens-
land are bicameral and their upper houses, 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 interven-
tion “to a lesser extent”.

Since the Second World War, Aus-
tralian 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 Queens-
land are bicameral and their upper houses, 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 interven-
tion “to a lesser extent”.

In any event, the ‘collective lacklustre reputation’ (p. 76) of the four political appointees damaged the profile of the office and for the two most recent appointees, Adrienne Clark-
son and Michelle Jean, are, Dr. Boyce

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that the province of Quebec has helped sustain federalism in Canada and is a significant force in Canadian politics. The sovereignty–confederation debate is a major issue in Quebec, and the province has a long history of seeking independence from the Canadian federal government. The constitutional status of Quebec is a central issue in debates about the future of Canada. 

In the context of these considerations, it is important to note that the Canadian constitution is a written document that sets out the legal framework for the federal and provincial governments. It includes provisions for a parliamentary system of government, a federal court system, and a system of checks and balances between the federal and provincial governments. The constitution also includes provisions for the protection of individual rights and freedoms, as well as for the protection of Aboriginal and treaty rights. 

The constitutional framework of Canada is complex and dynamic, and it has evolved over time to address new challenges and changing circumstances. The role of the lieutenant governor in the constitutional system is an important aspect of this framework, as it reflects the historical and cultural context of Canada as a country with a federal structure and a constitutional monarchy. 

In conclusion, the role of the lieutenant governor in Canada is an important aspect of the constitutional framework of the country. It reflects the historical and cultural context of Canada as a federal state with a constitutional monarchy, and it is a symbol of the continued relationship between the federal government and the provinces. The role of the lieutenant governor is an important aspect of the constitutional framework of Canada, and it is an important symbol of the continued relationship between the federal government and the provinces.
June 10 – Mme Jean hosted a round-table discussion on reconciliation at an event held at the National Gallery to mark the 25th 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. Kamlesh Sharma.

May – Her Excellency undertook an engagement 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 Tromso, the largest city north of the Arctic Circle. At a lunch in the presence of King Harald and Queen Sonja, which preceded Mme Jean’s meeting with Sami people, Her Excellency spoke of Canada and Norway’s shared responsibility for global 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 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.

THE SENIOR REALMS OF THE QUEEN

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 monarchal 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 “grant ed” on to the republican model? Dr. Boyce, with his usual perspicacity and personal expertise 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 a more “localist” 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 evolution [...] at all costs, the Westminster system and risk being lost...”

March 22 – The Premier selected Mr. Lee as Manitoba’s new Lieutenant Governor. Mr. Lee, said to be a Franco-Ontarian, is identified in page 77 as Québécois, his last name of William Thorsell becomes “Thorsell” on page 51, the author states that Prime Minister Brian Mulroney appointed Governor General Ray Hnatshyn “from the ranks of his own Cabinet” in 1990; actually, Mr. Hnatshyn was defeated in the election of 1988 and was practising law when he became governor general. On page 75, Acadian (referring to Romeo 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 “courre” receives the feminine modifier “ma”. On page 109, note that there will be ongoing pressure for a “locally resident head of state” in these diverse, multicultural countries. A “liberal- alistic” government” in Australia, he tells us, prefers a head of state who “could transcend national boundaries” rather than one who “cater ed 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 in deed of the centralizing implications of a republic.

In sum, monarchists need to be realistic and open-minded. Their best argu ment 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 Crown could be important, but it need not be abandoned. The Queen’s Other Realms provides sobering reading for Canadian monarchists. It is also essentially a readable, Peter Boyce’s book is a truly a landmark in the study of the Crown.
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 HH attending the Memorial Day Service at the National War Memorial in St John’s at which Mr Croisbe 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 26-27: 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 Hermione Chasson is no exception. Here, as honorary patron of the New Brunswick Lung Association, His Honour received limited edition Christmas Seals honoring the 100th anniversary of the Christmas Seal campaign from Ken Mayhew, president and CEO of the New Brunswick Lung Association; 10-year-old Ryley Anisits 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.

QUEBEC
PIERRE DUCHESNE – 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’ami de cœur, aux amis et à tous les frères d’armes du caporal Martin Dubé, du 5e Régiment du génie de combat de Valcartier, décédé le 14 juin en Afghanistan dans l’exercice de ses fonctions de technicien en enlèvement dégâts 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’ingénient 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. »

SAKatchewan:
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 Yang, Ambassador of Vietnam at Government House on April 21, 2009.

Canada Multiculturalism Day Citizen 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.”

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 –

Happier duties for His Honour at Mont Joli on the Gaspé:
À Técole 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 âlés de la région du Bas-Saint-Laurent.

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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 seem to 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 neither Chamberlain does not try to persuade people that walking backwards carrying a Victorian bouquet is a lovely, ordi- nary 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 poetic verse, and order, and people unkindly claim how hard it must be to celebrate events like the marriage of the Earl of Wessex to a commoner, a union which goes against the entire history of art, which has often depended on patronage, and frequently on glorifying royal or aristocratic personnages.

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

Cl Lindsay Reubok 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 highest representative. Clarkson put for- mation (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 some one is still holding 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 have heard that the governor general is powerless, we invite you to look again.

Consider last December’s coalition crisis. When politicians are squabbling about state banquets is a lovely, ordi- nary thing, 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 prece- dent have created just such a mechanism, and it functioned very well last December in Taipei. A “higher authority” is not elected as an asset, but a handicap. The G-G’s legitimacy, like the Queen’s in Britain, depends on the office being held by a mousy French dandy. He or she posi- tively ought not to be elected...

As for how a G-G is selected, Clarkson is wrong to favour Parliamentary hear- ings 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 and more law. If no more washed-up politicians should get the job. Romeo LeBlanc, Ray Hnaty- shyn, Ed Schreyer, though all decent leaders, should have never been given the post. Even Jeanne Sauvé, though scrupulous of partisanship by her years as Commons Speaker, was lacklustre. She should have 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 choice was between real and apparent non-partisanship, the more quotidian ceremonial duties of the office call for dignity, grace, discre- tion and energy, as well as representing the country. In the old days most of these qualities were found in various

British aristocrats: since 1952 in distin-guished Canadians starting with Vincent Massey and John Diefenbaker. The incum- bent G-G took office less well-known than those two, but has done just fine. The prime minister of the summer of 2009, however, may be the first to find some one else fully suitable to recommend to the Queen. This office is not broken; there’s no need to fix it.

Former 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

——...a look at the governor general’s website. It’s a lavish production, stuffed with images and information, including eulogies. The site is dedicated to serving the monarch. So it should be. You hear it said that it is impossible to write poetic verse. There is also a prominent and extensive biography of His Excellency Jean-Daniel Lafont, C.C., who is apparently not an observant Catholic or a member of dubious orientation but rather a vastly accomplished and “seasoned observer of the worlds of faith and politics.”

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

The Majesty is mentioned... It just takes a bit of effort to find the refer- ence. Allow me to be your guide. On the home page, click on the link for the “Governor General Michelle 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 a 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 formality. The website is wholly appropriate for kingly function in a republic... So it is in tune with his image, out of tune with the mood of his country and ill-equipped to play a pro- perly representative role.

Though sometimes encouraged by his own petulance in not seeking or taking advice, the caricature is unfair. More and more, Prince Charles has shown a realism about the limits of his “convening power” and an understanding that partisanship permissible in a Prime Minister will have to be set aside in his role as King.

Unlike his predecessors, the Prince of Wales has had to live out his personal life in the relentless and unwellcome glare of public scrutiny. After 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 eccentrically dud- dly: overly concerned with his own image, out of tune with the mood of his country and ill-equipped to play a prop- erty representative role.

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French President Sarkozy snubbed Queen at Normandy.

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 – to see your letters and 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 Alice – “I suppose one must go on to the end.” The Duke will do just that – and may he be spared many years in devotion to his wife our Sovereign, and so to us all.

SAKORZY 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 people spilled their blood in full vice; to Britain; and to Canada. For our Queen, who in War wore the uniform of the W.A.T.S., 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 Alice – “I suppose one must go on to the end.” The Duke will do just that – and may he be spared many years in devotion to his wife our Sovereign, and so to us all.

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

HOW TO SHARE YOUR VIEWS WITH PRESIDENT SARKOZY
Reasoned letters of dignified but definite protest and so to us all.

French President Sarkozy snubbed Queen at Normandy.

...
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

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

WHITE HOUSE PROVIDES REFERENCE!
Deputy National Security Advisor, Dennis McDonough, who on February 17, 2009, briefed journalists as follows on engagements through to Palace employ-

mony as a Member of Governor General and His Excellency Jean-Daniel Lafond. As you all know, the Governor General Michélle Jean is the Queen’s representative in Canada.

MAYBE THEY DO READ CMN AT RIDEAU HALL!
Rideau Hall Deputy Secretary Emmanuella Sajous – Honours List now announced like clockwork!

CROWN to the Household and staff of Her Excellency, and specifically to Emmanuella Sajous, Deputy Secretary, Honours, for apparently heeding CMN and others’ complaints about the irregu-

timbing 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, the most recent to contain these days, 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 ended 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 disregard and inattention and awk-

wardness in respect of Canada’s own Head of State and monarchal system of government. Calling it “an historic moment which we are joyfully celebrat-

ing”, 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 Ex-

cellency, 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 Mine Juan’s perfectly reasonable personal delight to see anoth-
er person of colour attain such distinc-
tion, to ask why our Governor General – one of whose roles is to foster Canadian Identity – should be focusing such atten-
tion on proceedings in the republic to our south, the more astonishing when Rideau Hall never devotes even a frac-
tion 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 ex-

amples of a role that can only be seen as actively hostile to the Crown, it prevent-
ed the singing of the Royal Anthem and display of historic Canadian Flags at Rideau Hall at last summer’s ceremony announcing the Accession Medal, despite the specific request of the Prime Min-

ister’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 semnal work produced by the gov-

ernment 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 clearly read nor under-

stood.

SPEEDY ANSWER FROM PRINCES, NOT FROM POLLS
CROWN to Princes William and Harry, and their Private Offices, for their exemplary handling of public corres-

dence. As any writer to a Royal knows, the Royal Family generally res-

ponds very quickly to any communi-

cation. 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 $35.5 million scanner at a local hospital received a response from the Princes within 48 hours; held down to two weeks, only 4 of 388 Australian politi-
cians had replied to Jayde Bell’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!

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.” Re-

minding 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 Victo-

rian Day Sảnge.

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

CROWS & 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!
AND HOW WAS HE ELECTED?

MACE: to Australian Senator Doug Cameron. During an April 29 meet-
ing of the Upper House’s Finance and Public Administration Committee which was considering a private member’s bill by Liberal Sena-
tor Philip Hays to create a new Canadian Order of Military Merit, the Aussie legislator asked: “How did Canada end up managing this process with us in 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.

The Monarchist League of Canada sent the Senator an email the same day, stating: “We respectfully suggest that you may not muddy either your debate or our Constitutional reality by calling Canada a republic. Our Dominion is a Constitu-
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Crows & Maces... continued from the previous page

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ing our pride in Canada.”

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

MACE: to freshly-appointed Aus-
tralian Governor General Quentin Bryce, who feels free to state that she shares her Prime Minister’s (Kevin Rudd) enthusiasm for the desir-
ability of a republic. Speaking on April 2nd to Australian Broad-
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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 Order and the Royal Victorian Medal, awarded for personal services to the Sovereign, the Royal Family and the Crown. It also places in context the various royal orders and commissions’ Recognition Badges and the Vice-Regal and Commissioners’ Convenantation. 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. The author points out in the Introduction, that the Royal Victorian and the Royal and Commander of the Order and members of the order and recipients of the medal from across Canada. The story of the royal orders is divided into two periods, pre- and post-1972. The chapter on the 1896-1971 period begins with a historical vignette of the royal orders, which were first established in Canada in 1906. The author also notes that the Royal Victorian Chain is the most prestigious of all the orders, but only five Canadians have been awarded this honour since its establishment. The author points out that the Royal Victorian Order and Medal, which is the main feature of this book, is the most commonly awarded personal award in Canada, and that the Order of Canada is the least known of Canada’s national honours. The author argues that this is due to the fact that the Royal Victorian Order and Medal are awarded to individuals who have made significant contributions to the country, and that these contributions are often not widely known. The author also notes that the Royal Victorian Order and Medal are awarded for personal service to the Sovereign, the Royal Family, and the Crown, and that the Order of Canada is awarded for personal service to the Canadian people. The author argues that the Royal Victorian Order and Medal are more significant than the Order of Canada, and that the Order of Canada is awarded for personal service to the country. The author also notes that the Royal Victorian Order and Medal are awarded for personal service to the Sovereign, the Royal Family, and the Crown, and that the Order of Canada is awarded for personal service to the Canadian people. The author argues that the Royal Victorian Order and Medal are more significant than the Order of Canada, and that the Order of Canada is awarded for personal service to the country. The author also notes that the Royal Victorian Order and Medal are awarded for personal service to the Sovereign, the Royal Family, and the Crown, and that the Order of Canada is awarded for personal service to the Canadian people. The author argues that the Royal Victorian Order and Medal are more significant than the Order of Canada, and that the Order of Canada is awarded for personal service to the country.
The Canadian honours system continues to linger 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 honour's gaffes continue to flow from Rideau Hall.

On May 16, 2008 the Governor General and the Prime Minister officially unveiled the Canadian Victoria Cross. It was the first time the Canadian VC was ever awarded. The unveiling ceremony revealed a dignified occasion. As has become customary 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. Instead the Governor General focused more on berating the foreign nature of the “British Victoria Cross.”

In what many describe as the second simple reform we propose the Prime Minister should also receive any reference to the fact that he too is a “Right Honourable.” This is typical of the details that are too often left these days at Rideau Hall.

The Canadian Day, 2008 appointment of Craig Keilberger to the Order of Canada plunged the Canadian honours system into another crisis. Whatever one may think of Dr. Keilberger, whether one falls into the pro-choice or pro-life camp, all seem to agree that he had failed to meet any 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 Canadian Day. It was postponed by one day to prevent protestors from accosting the Governor General on Parliament Hill during the afternoon of the Canadian Day show.

When this Honours List did come out, the names of the members of the Admiral’s Advisory Council – an innovation only introduced following the Morgenthaler appointment. Of course, the membership order was supposed to be freely available to the public.

Folly surrounding the controversial appointment continued when the Order of Canada was awarded to Catherine Doherty by 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 Chancery of Orders.” Of course Canada has never had a Chancery of Orders; it is run by Scriptor.

The Canadian honours system continues to buck as it is once again. What’s next? Most likely, a higher level of government. This is its most predictable aspect. It fosters pride in our armed forces, and legal framework of the modern Canadian Monarchist News – Autumn 2009 – 19

honour system, one that should be under -taken 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 see the mishandling of 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.

Monarchist Members Speak

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

by Matt Bondy and Brenda Bedford

Matt Bondy, a Conservative, and Brenda 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 prioritize the development of a modern system and re-establish 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 what is called its “trust拇reponsibility.”

Our 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. We hope 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 and non-partisan 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.

Second, Canadians need to know that royal appointees will be carried out with prudence, sensitivity and a deep awareness of historical precedent in the event of any constitutional controversies. If the wisdom of past governors general is to be 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 display the names of the recipients of the Admiral’s Advisory Council – an innovation only introduced following the Morgenthaler appointment. Of course, the membership order should be freely available to the public.

The Chancery of Orders introduced following the Morgenthaler appointment. Of course, the membership order should be freely available to the public.

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The Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

The second simple reform we propose pertains specifically to the visibility of the monarchy. Simply put, we need more royal appointees.

Each time the Queen and her consort arrive in Canada, they are greeted by throngs of devoted subjects. What’s remarkable is not only that 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 appropriate to the Queen’s Crown.

Third and finally, the Royal Canadian Navy, Royal Canadian Air Force and Army should be restored to their accustomed and more uniquely Canadian relationship with the Royal Corps of Signals since 2005. It seems incredible that such a top-level appointment to the Order of Canada. Of course, the membership order should be freely available to the public.

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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 the 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 Orders. There is a need for a broad-sweeping review of the Honours system, one that should be undertaken outside Government House.

Honours DEBACLES CONTINUE

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

Simultaneously, symptoms were first enacted, a growing consensus that the Reorganization Act went far too hastily 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 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.

We believe Canada’s constitutional monarchy is the linchpin of our democratic system. It facilitates good government, and grounds this country within its own living constitutional framework. 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 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.”

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 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 celebrate 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 statistically views of many loyal Canadians, that the Crown appears to be further alienated and estranged is a notion 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 out-right, 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.

20 – Canadian Monarchist News – Autumn 2009
agreed on the need for “greater public non-committal report stating all sides a Plebiscite on a future republic tabled a
Canberra, June 15 – A Senate Committee standard of professional ability.
internationally as assuring clients of a substantially recognized” both at home and
how can I accept anything from this hor-
you ask yourself the question: Labour’s craven sentiment about pomp
of an honours system clothed in royalism
had told Queen’s Birthday Honours. Campbell
from it. Most recent example is Bea journalistic Monarchy notes that Australian
Sydney, June 21 – Australians for Consti-
“Flexible” Journalism
New Zealand to Restore Queen’s Counsel Designation
Wellington, June 17 – New Zealand Attorney-General
NZ Attorney-
General
Chris Finlayson
announced that the government would introduce legislation to repeal the previous administrations 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 “instan-
tially 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 pro-
posed reform including an Australian republic.”
New Letters Patent for Australian GG
Sydney, May 19 – Australians for Constitu-
tional 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 abun-
dance 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 lov-
ed in Australia, and Australia will become a republic, and we’ll have a referen-
dum 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
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 NZ’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 Hilary 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 achieve-
ments.”
Some 80 New Zealanders awarded top honours since knighthoods were abol-
bished in 2000 will be given the op-
portunity to receive the accolade, should they desire to do so.
VIMY FOUNDATION PROMOTES PIN
ENCOURAGES ANNUAL WEARING ON VIMY DAY
Calling the Canadian victory at Viny Ridge of 1917 “a seminal moment in our nation’s history,” the Viny Foundation has designed and seeks to encourage Canadians to wear a commemorative pin on 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 Viny 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 Viny 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 bat-
To purchase the Viny Pin please send a cheque of $5 to The Viny Foundation at 1000 – 200 University Avenue, Toronto, ON M5H 3C6, or order on our website www.vimyfoundation.ca. Bulk purchases are also available at dis-
counted rates, as set out on the website.
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

ON-LINE TRIBUTE TO QUEEN
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NOTES FROM THE ANTIPODES

Canadian Monarchist News – Autumn 2009 – 21
MONARCHIST ARGUMENTS "RING HOLLOW... WE MUST DO BETTER"

A REPLY

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

[Andrew Mason’s critique of arguments currently being used by Canadian Monarchists in support of the Crown, which appeared in the last issue of “Canadian Monarchist News,” brought a number of responses, of which one was by Professor Kenneth A. Muoro. CMN has invited Mr Mason to advance the logical sequel of his case – the superior arguments that should be advanced – in a future issue.]

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 the fabric of our 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 Mason would argue, 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 is a Gertrude Stein society that uses democracy as the modern “god” to achieve their will. These citizens believe the individual should reign supreme and that majority rule is all. It is expressed as 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 decree what the values of the country should be. As Canadians abstain from voting in large numbers, a majority of an increasing number of our fellow citizens are making decisions for us all. Consequently, a small group of individuals is shaping and permitting our civic society and our political system.

As an article in the National Post on 2 July 2008 by Rudyard Griffths of the Dominion Institute points out, “Canada is in the grip of a civic crisis.” Canadians are ill informed about our constitutional monarchy. If Griffths 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 brings us to.

I would answer Mason by stating that we not reject out of hand arguments which are presented to convince those in Canada and abroad of the importance of constitutional government. The arguments he presents as those used by many Monarchists are sound rational reasons for a system of constitutional monarchy and are not addressed to knowledgeable people who understand the essence of our constitutional structure. Because most Canadians do not belong to this category does not mean that these arguments are worthless or outdated or should be rejected. For example, those individuals who do not understand that “the Queen actually lost the general election of 1979” 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 and telling every Canadian that we will do all in our power to uphold the laws, institutions and values of our country.

In our secular society, history is a discipline which can inform members of our society and help them understand the past and present constitutional 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 web 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 birth of the monarchy is lost in 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 of government. The Crown is not democratic majoritly, whatever that may be, should dominate. The Canadian Monarchy is not democratic in the sense that a majority rule should be dominant. The Monarch is chosen by accident of birth. We should not apologize for this manner in which our Monarch inherits the title. It is representative of all Canadians about our polity and then present our arguments, especially informing our fellow citizens about the fact that a monarchy can be democratic. It is this hereditary monarchy which is the “referre” in our constitutional system of government, a referee because of our political parties and which has not 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 monarchy from the tyranny of the majority.

Generally, monarchists are arguing with our fellow citizens who are ignorant of our political and constitutional structure and who are asking you to argue against ignorance. Andrew Mason is frustrated. I believe, because he assumes Canadians understand our political structure. I believe the arguments which Mason presents 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. They will not develop cogent arguments for some one who does not understand our present civic polity. These individuals might argue that the Crown is republican, but are asking us on what type of republican regime they want. These individuals never explain why their proposed system is better than our current constitutional monarchy. If you tell them they believe it is. You cannot rationally argue with someone who presents an irrational belief.

I can only answer Andrew Mason by suggesting that monarchists attempt to form alliances with our fellow Canadians who wish to educate Canadians about our polity and then we can use a 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, ARGUMENTS FOR CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY:

I found Anthony Mason’s article (CMN, Spring 2008) well argued and refreshing. However, I should point out that even in Australia the republican movement 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.

I was 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 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 monarchy from the tyranny of the majority.

From Douglas Brookes, Toronto

Andrew Mason’s fascinating article on monarchist arguments (CMN, Spring 2008) certainly hit right on the supreme issue. Mason’s arguments are effective since he realized that the usual arguments monarchists advance in support of
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 constitutional democracy. Today it is my great privilege to join you to mark an occasion that is momentous in this country: the accession of a sovereign.

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 57 years, Sa Majesté est, that "The adaptation of the Crown to a federal system was a unique and daring experiment in world politics. The sovereignity of the same Crown is exercised by different representatives in different jurisdictions. Thus, diversity has been reconciled to unity."

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

Today, Canada is seen 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 crowd than I saw outside on the streets of Ottawa that day.

In pledging themselves to Canada’s future, they were bringing us 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 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 Charters 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 millenium-old civic tradition, one that we inherited from our founders and ancestors, and will pass on to our descendants. Immigrants to Canada know from experience that “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 our leader’s public 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.

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

Beaucoup de changements sont survenus depuis notre dernière rencontre, et j’alais dire même que nous avons eu, entre minis- tère de la Citoyenneté, de l’Immigration & Multiculturalisme et le Dôme de l’Édit, le 6 février marquait le 57e anniversaire de l’accession de la reine, moment de célébration du 57e anniversaire de l’accession au trône de Sa Majesté la reine Elizabeth II.

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 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 57e 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 est 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 québécois 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 ses plus grandes villes deviennent de plus en plus diversifiées.

Je crois que nous voulons tous un pays dans lequel nous pouvons célébrer nos différentes cultures 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
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

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

CAGARY, June 9 – During a working visit to Canada, The Earl of Wessex presented Suzanne, 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 Løkke 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 Center. The final day found the Prince playing polo on Governor’s Island in order to raise money for Sentebale, its 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.

RANKIN INLET, May 25 – At a community feast during her visit to Nunavut’s 10th anniversary celebrations, The Governor General gushed and ate a piece of seal heart. Mary Simon, head of the National Inuit Organization thanked The Governor General enjoying eating seal during a traditional Inuit feast at Rankin Inlet “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 GO “was brave enough to eat seal meat,” Inuit rights 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.”

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 sensibility... you are talking about one of the key components of the English identity.”

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.”

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 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 Preamble reference which provided the original Motto could eas-
QUEEN TRUSTED BY CANADIANS—POLL

In a recent poll conducted recently by Harris-Decet on behalf of Reader's Digest, trust Canadians feel for the Queen was battered 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."
BOOK REVIEWS

A CROWN OF MAPLES
Constitutional Monarchy in Canada
by Kevin S MacLeod, CVO
Published by Heritage 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 truly scholarly work. Here, one thinks of works like Vernon Bogdanor’s The Monarchy and the Constitution, or the Australian U.V. Evans’ 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, there are 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 vilification of Kitty Kelley comes to mind). But what links the two is an emphasis on the individual personalities 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, distinctly 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 endeavours best supported by the Government might wish to take a moment of pause in our political biases.

A Crown of Maples consists of six chapters, each 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-
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 wedded in our daily lives. Of course, institutions like the police and the armed forces are replete with royal symbolism (though, traditionally, the Church is not), but the latter not so much as many service men 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 monarch 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 familiar-

ity is the first step in a successful brandin-
g strategy. Frankly, it is difficult to con-
cept of a “product” that is more familiar than the Canadian Crown. Yet those of us who care about and believe in the institution have, given the 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’tone Soup Publications 2009 – CAN $29.95
ISBN 978-0-9734438-2-0
Most easily obtained online from The Bookcase www.thebookcase.ca

At 30, Nathan Tidridge is a vasceral educator, passionate about the Canadian Crown; a first-rate rugby coach; a dedicated husband and soon-to-be father. Those qualities and emotions did not come about by accident, nor as the result of an easy adolescence. However, divorce, remarriage and the sudden death of a step-father brought the gangly youth to recollect the precious times of one’s own youth, and marvel at the resilience of the author.

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

In time, he began to write down the stories of these explorations of a new part of the world; 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 Main-

land.” 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 per-
flection of a deep self. With such a per-

Nathan Tidridge pub-

lishes first book, Beyond Mainland

North Tidridge

Beyond Mainland
Exploring History and Identity in Cottage Country

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

The King 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 Kinella) patiently shepherded Crown of Maples through federal bureaucracy for several decades.

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At 30, Nathan Tidridge is a vasceral educator, passionate about the Canadian Crown; a first-rate rugby coach; a dedicated husband and soon-to-be father. Those qualities and emotions did not come about by accident, nor as the result of an easy adolescence. However, divorce, remarriage and the sudden death of a step-father brought the gangly youth to recollect the precious times of one’s own youth, and marvel at the resilience of the author.

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

In time, he began to write down the stories of these explorations of a new part of the world; 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 Main-

land.” 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 per-
flection of a deep self. With such a per-

Nathan Tidridge

Beyond Mainland
Exploring History and Identity in Cottage Country

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 Kinella) patiently shepherded Crown of Maples through federal bureaucracy for several decades.

The King 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 Kinella) patiently shepherded Crown of Maples through federal bureaucracy for several decades.
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 then 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 Diana makes it just as impossible 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 magnificently written book 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 donesc@sympatico.ca.

THE LORD’S DAY
by Michael Dobbs
Published by Headline/Review, 2008
CAN $14.79

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

Corgi and Bees
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, amazon.com, abebooks.com et al.

Delightfully-printed small-sized books, these compilations of stories about the Royals, mainly true, one feels, with sources cited, will delight monarchists and republicans alike. As Blaikie observes in his introduction to the earlier volume, “killjoy anti-monarchists have got it wrong; on the other hand, the era of un-critical 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. One does hope that the Queen would ever imagine Robert Mugabe permitting a jest? And who would want to bother to take a joke at President Chirac? Such humour around the House of Windsor reveals the Royals as human, and how deeply they and what they represent are engrained 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 it 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 penetrative voice who loved to drive at ministers and treviers – “I wish there was something I could do for you.” To which came the crystal clear reply, “There is, Ma’am. I’d 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 augury Prescence. 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 installment 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 and Sophie in 2005. The death of Beth Clarke, Toronto Branch Chairman since 2004, came as a surprise; for at 77 she was busy 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. One of her efforts on behalf of The Queen was to startle 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, which capacity he 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 whirwind 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 messages 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 national 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 fasci- nated 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 “collo- quium” to professors of mathematics on the subject as well as on geometry and statistics. He published books and booklets on “Inland Magic Squares and Cubes.”

Darell Hendricks gave to the League. The answer, a guarded yes. Energy, com- mendable Presbyterian Church, St Anne's Music & Drama Society, the After Dinner Mints singers and many worth- while. He was able to make and engineering was revealed in many subsequent escape attempts, none of which was successful! Darel and his beloved wife, Fern were brave in deed and in conviction: in 1955 their prompt action and pluck saved 16 lives, including those of their own family, when a horse- drawn wagon was capsized in the St Lawrence river near the Wolfe Island Ferry. Struggling in icy water on a windy day with a -25 temperature, Darell and Fern hauled five children and another to the shore, he going under several times – as he reported afterwards – think- ing he was a “goner.” Incredibly, all were saved without any worse for wear at all. A big moment in his life. Darel also made a big impact on the League’s Armorials – which had not been granted at the time the original brochure was issued. All members re- ceived a copy with the Special Appeal passed since the League first printed a full-colour basic information pamphlet about its work and the cause it serves. Reproduced over the years, 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 tear- ing 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 dig- nified 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 re- ceived 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.

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. Reproduced over the years, 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 tear- ing 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 dig- nified 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 re- ceived 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.

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

NEW MONARCHIST LEAGUE BROCHURE ISSUED

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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. Mackmont, who will act as Branch Communications Officer. The Executive meets regularly to discuss plans for activities and other initiatives. On October 8, the Branch hosted a small reception and general meeting at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church. The Executive also hosted an Accession Day Branch 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 about four years old, it is an exciting time to see website and to continue to canvass for new members so that our educational 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, Seafarers’ 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 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 Gala held at Pauline Vanier Park. The League’s booth attracted many of the public to its distribution of free literature, including Crown of Maps/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 Ligar – 1688 and Lady Ade laide, 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 fancy sandwiches and squares. The hall was decorated with royal titles such as a happy portrait of Her Majesty, as well as original pictures from Queen Victoria’s Golden Jubilee in 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 Maps.”

HAPPY BIRTHDAY was enthusiastically sung for our Queen of Canada. Mrs. Lilian 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 40th anniversary of the Ruby visit. The Members also cheerfully assisted Marlene in “Royal Connections in Kingston” preparatory to an article “Britannia Regina Superba” appearing in Leston Globe on May 3rd. The piece by Edward McClelland quoted Marlene as stating that “Canada is the way it is because we have a monarch.” The article appears online at 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 Bartlemont and the League’s Youth Coordinator, Eugene Berezovsky. The complete story, which helpedfully 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-
Queen’s Birthday Classic at Woodbine Racetrack and a service at Runnymede Presbyterian Church.

**HAMILTON Branch** was successful in its latest fundraising and awareness campaign to retain Royal names for re-constructed schools in the community. Chairman **Sylvia Cook** credits hard work by members in coordinating local support for safe-guarding names of two closed schools, Queen Victoria Elementary and Prince Wales Elementary. Trustee Tim Simmons told colleagues at a Board Meeting that “the names matters to the community,” while Board Chairman Judith Bishop expressed her support for the effort: “As a woman big, noble vision... high expectations, no frivolous behaviour or moral turpitude.”

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

**Dominion Youth Coordinator Eugene Berezovsky** visited WINNIPPEG in the spring. He addressed a high school sub-ject, differentiated in collaboration with student and League member Danny Whaley, and in the evening, spoke to Branch members. He reports as follows:

> When pursuing the League’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 Menomonee Brethren Collegiate Institute and the Winnipeg Kiwanis Club 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 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 in the event of 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 Mani-toba, 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 least exciting stops on the learning tour. Nevertheless, students in history class 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 greater advancements in the development of the UK and subsequently Canada. And while the League is not a historical society (nor an official 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 and 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 outdone by his UofC compatriots, **CALGARY Branch’s Youth Director Josh Traptow** was busy with coordinating a subject of a lengthy article in the Calgary Herald of May 17 before the Branch’s Royal Week Luncheon, provocatively entitled “The Crown: Are We There Yet?” Josh, at 19 an administrative assistant at the University of Calgary, 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/InsideStory/story.html.

**VICTORIA** members welcomed their new Chairman, **Colleen Mills**, and thanked **Bill Blore** for his faithful service. Our Summer Update, which is an attempt to keep our members and guests up to date with our activities, was distributed to the late spring. We have entered it again on Canada Day in beautiful Sidney-by-the-Sea parade, sponsored by **Barbara Pittam**


A local newspaper editorialized June 3, “Time to Rethink the Monarchy”, with the focus that our links to the monarchy, as an anachronistic system seemed to be severely called into question; 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 as an elector, a respected politician as head of state. Colleen cited the League’s recent study on the Cost of the Canadian Crown, pointing out that any paid advertising 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 what it gives back to each of us is priceless.

Lady Catthit’s annual Garden Party for members and guests takes place on August 2.

Two projects were initiated by former 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 house the Library, the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria needs a new exhibition space, and many theatre and dance groups want more sewer-by-the-see and rehearsal venues. Our objective is to act as a catalyst, to gather all the parties involved, and present a plan to persuades them to work together to build it. This might 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.
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 outgoing 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
- Charles & Diana: A Royal Celebration, 1986 visit to Canada
- 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
- 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 DVDS – 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 (taped by the League at the Oakville PO Box address at which time we hope to discover a $5 bill as a donation to cover our outgoing postage and handling costs.
- HM Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother: A Remarkable Life c 2002
- Prince of Wales: Charles & Diana: A Royal Celebration, 1986 visit to Canada
- Queen Elizabeth II: 60 Glorious Years (ITN) – Part Two: News clips from CTV and Global TV coverage of the State Funeral
- Queen Elizabeth II: 60 Glorious Years (ITN) – Part Three: CTV coverage of the State Funeral Rhonda London Live, Pledge to The Queen – CTV c 1995
- The Royal Divorce, 1996: Debate with Monarchists and Republicans on Jane Hawth 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.
- 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 Hawth Live, September 1997

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 MPs 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

MONARCHIST LEAGUE VHS TAPES TRANSFERRED TO DVD

Royal and League documentaries, films and news clips again available to members
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.
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 Car-michael-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 Heraldy 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, the great-great-great-great-great-great-great-grandfather of the 16th Earl of Kellie, acquainted me with a dozen place mats embellished with the Anstruther armorials, and with a dozen generations of Anstruther 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 which turned out to be 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. However, I never could see Dupplin, pointing out that his mother and his grand father 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 (knowledgeably) drunk a drop of Dewar’s whiskey since.

Submissions for MEMBERS’ MEMORIES are always welcome.

Please email CMN at domsec@sympatico.ca or write to PO Box 1057, Oakville, ON L6J 5E9

Marchioness of Lansdowne’s drinks party turned out to be a charity func- tion organizer

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

John Dewar, 2nd Lord Forteviot – no time for Strome!
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 __________.
change.
lent disruption, material achievement, and incredible
Majesty’s successes and failures, both public and
played an important part. The authors analyze Her
with Canada, and in whose life Canada always
who created and cultivated a special relationship

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 before.”

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 spokesperson 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 Chagniugh 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)

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/cca/index_e.asp or the League will happily send you one on request.

UNIVERSITY BRANCH SEeks TRANSLATORS FOR Mutli-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

Breaking News:...

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.”

Do you already follow us on Twitter? 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.

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 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.