

# **Canadian Monarchist News** Les Nouvelles Monarchiques du Canada

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An occasional Newsletter for members and friends of The Monarchist League of Canada

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THE MONARCHIST LEAGUE OF CANADA - 51th ANNIVERSARY 1970-2021

# **ELIZABETH II** at 95 our Queen, Friend & Head of the Nation

# PAYETTE DEPARTURE DAMAGING L.A. CELEB CULTURE FOR HARRY, IN THRALL TO OPRAH QUEEN, CHARLES, CAMILLA, WILLIAM, CATHERINE, LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS DO THEIR DUTY

Report and commentary by The Monarchist League of Canada

There are two distinct kinds of celebrity these days. One is self-seeking, often financially rewarding, embraced and enabled by even "serious" media. Frequently it is also selfish, short-lived and shallow.

The other is selfless, not focused on monetary gain, more than

### occasionally distorted by sensation-seeking media pandering to an under-informed audience. Happily, the long arc of history and sober second thought dub it valuable for humans and civilizations alike as the stuff of lasting happiness, the bulwark of greatness. So, let's ask a few questions.

# THE PAYETTE FIASCO: DAMAGING TO OUR CROWN

Who on earth briefed Julie Payette as to the expectations that apply to any Governor General, yet still allow plenty of room for particular enthusiasms and causes? If indeed "someone" did so, how could the message have been so misunderstood? Who did due diligence prior to her selection, no great talent in HR being needed to suggest it might begin with recent employers. And who imagined that allowing her to import her Private Secretary into the particular culture once a source of pride at Rideau Hall could end happily? What indifference caused many



Julie Payette: let down Queen and country



pols and bureaucrats over the years to permit the "Household" at Rideau Hall to become a revolving door, with employment eventually the locus of abusive, unhappy behaviour recently documented in excruciating detail? How could a clearly brave, talented and intelligent woman for whom the country initially wished only success, and which admired her journeying through the vasty depths of Space, have been allowed to steer her Ottawa course so off-chart? And what is the plan to rebuild the deracinated and depopulated talent pool at Rideau Hall? The lack of a seasoned, loyal team to run The Queen's Canadian Home was a recipe for any GG to run into problems. Remediating that absence is as important as choosing "the right" person to represent our Sovereign. There is good rea-son to believe that newly-appointed Secretary to the Governor General Ian McCowan is well equipped for the enormous challenge facing him.

The Payette fiasco is damaging to the Canadian Crown for several reasons, beginning with folk wondering how the appointment could go do wrong, and asking whether even the government thinks it is of little importance? As well, knowledge of Civics, while improved since the sixties and seventies, remains lamentably shallow, and allows for a worried citizenry, egged on by no-nothing media and their "polls", to declare the Monarchy irrelevant, the sky about to fall and so on ad nauseam. In the restrictive climate of isolated households, COVID-restrictions, fatigue and worry, rumour and sensation abound and gain a currency beyond proportion.

Then, too, a fallback argument of some monarchists has been "Well, if you don't care for the 'British' roots of our Monarchy, in fact day-to-day it is our fellow Canadians, the GG and LGs, who "are" the Crown." Clearly, if the Royal soap opera is unappealing for some, to find its supposedlyworst feature transplanted by scandal at home is anything but helpful. Logic then follows: if the system is not ideal in either its birthplace nor its roots, maybe it's time for a new one.

Not that much considered republican opinion exists that The Queen's 95th and a Platinum Jubilee might not remedy: true, yet shallow in implication. And the mere notion of an Australian-style debate/referendum down the road is appalling - as Canada would then be reduced to enduring a permanently-diminished and partisanally-debated Monarchy in a state of endless controversy, a so called "Crowned Republic" a term used by some Down Under "monarchists" who should know better!

# McCOWAN NAMED GG SECRETARY

Jan 28 saw the Prime Minister bring new leadership "to restore a healthy work environment" at Rideau Hall by plucking Ian Mc-Cowan from a senior position at the Privy Council Office to become Secretary to the Governor General. Ottawa insiders praised the appointment, calling him "a good fit" – "intimately acquainted with the ways of Ottawa, he can call anyone and get action immediately," Considered probably the best qualified to serve since the revered Esmond Butler, his early recruitment to Rideau Hall of former staffers from the halcyon days of David Johnston augured well, as does his good understanding of the personal role he has to play as Secretary. It is hoped that McCowan restores a high level of loyalty and competence to enable the next Governor General to share particular interests while conforming to the dignity, norms and historic expectations of anyone who represents The Queen.







# WHY DO WE FEEL SO CONFLICTED ABOUT HARRY?

left, Oprah: allowed allegations without names above, Harry – once

our Harry!

The Royals mirror our own families, wherein we have favourite siblings and loved elders, along with unique rituals and hallowed traditions, all jockeying for place with naughty uncles and unemployed cousins. And not infrequently a doting parent will "excuse" a child's fault, a loving granny slip him a few bucks and his kin agree that the (5th) job or the (3rd) wife will surely be his salvation. Love is wonderful, foregiveness admirable and patience the gift of the saints.

However, most of us are not saints – secular or sacred.

Harry, O Harry. We will never forget that brave boy – our brave boy – walking the long and lonely miles behind his Mother's coffin, so alone even as billions watched. The Hooray Henry years succeeded quickly by heroism, the maturity to give up the in-theatre military service he loved so that his mates would not be threatened. The deep concern of all he had learned encapsulated in his founding the Invictus Games. Our pride at his Canadian courtship, where he could move through Toronto streets freely, buy a panini at the local Italian bakery and spend a weekend without the intrusion of media. The happiness at his marriage, bi-racial and bi-continental, set to stand for a new normal of diversity and devotion, perfect for his role as Commonwealth Ambassador. His anticipated partnership in a life of service with his

brother and their wives.

So, with his Grandfather gravely ill, the world rocked by COVID, the sacrifices to "normal" life being embraced by his family and the Realms, how could he have allowed himself on Commonwealth Sunday, no less, to become part of Oprah's travelling circus of celebrity, with Canada retrospectively nothing more than a way-station on the road to Hollywood?

At once both hurtful to our Royal Family and injurious to the Crown in a way that made the peregrinations of a sad Duke of Windsor seem as nothing by comparison, the manifesting of grievance culture on US television by two children of privilege, at least one of whom should have known better, is lamentable.

Let's be clear about one thing: anyone who says she feels depressed or suicidal should be listened to, believed and found professional help. However, the narrative of how these feelings were apparently not dealt with is beyond belief – Harry says he was "ashamed" to confide in his family. In other words, his amour propre trumped his duty to his wife? Any other resource failing, he could have gone to his father, his brother, his grandmother – and in short order the best medical assistance would have been procured.

The rest was deplorable: a farrago of venting, of slamming family in public including two of our future Kings, of simpering over love of

### IN THIS EDITION OF CMN

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grandmother yet implying she presides over but unaware of some racist conventicle. She who has been the soul of the multi-racial Commonwealth, with countless Black Prime Ministers, many having emerged from colonial rule, esteeming her as confidante and friend. And Oprah - hitherto a much-admired interviewer of substance - abandoning journalistic standards in favour of mutual tear-shedding; giving virtually nary a tough challenge to the endless references to "they said", "them", "the firm" and other unidentified objects of criticism; not to mention adding supposed cuteness by doting on the now best-known chickens in California. Pace Winston: Some chickens! But whose necks were actually being wrung?

We'll opine one likely result of this woeful misadventure: greatlyincreased odds on Barbados determining that its future lies in becoming a republic. Of course that is for Barbadians to decide. Many of the island monarchies across the Caribbean have at different times contemplated what Barbados is calling the end of the colonial era, but none has acted on it. One might imagine various scenarios leading such a country to ditch the Crown: an authoritarian leader bent on accruing untrammelled power; a scandal at the vice-regal level; perception of Royal indifference to a natural disaster. Or indeed, some rational discussion engaging debate on the topic and then persuading the public of the advantages of a republic. But if The Queen's Sovereignty is terminated in Barbados now, the world will know who sent the storm that brought the end of the reign of the only monarch Barbados ever enjoyed.



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Our Queen: admired Head of multi-racial Commonwealth

### QUEEN, CHARLES, CAMILLA, WILLIAM, CATHERINE

How The Queen keeps calm and carries on is beyond imagination. What a Monarch! Within days of the cannonade from California HM was showing her newly-acquired ease in Zoom calls. Smiling and seemingly imperturbable in her 95th year, she can joke with an Australian Premier about a new statue honouring her as easily as she celebrated British Science Week. Care, concern for others,

Queen's Zoom call with South Australia Governor & Premier



a pitch-perfect statement on the controversy - what an example for the rest of us who grumble about isolation or standing in lines for shots and shopping!

Charles, however stricken at his fatherhood being panned even as his own father was ill and hospitalized, showed some of his Mother's phlegm by managing a laugh when reporters shouted questions about the interview as he left an engagement. Camilla, who well understands the nature of the British tabs. went on to continue her useful campaign for reading, sharing her catholic taste in books with a public for whom tv and internet have diminished literary pursuits. Hardly glamorous work this - but her enthusiasm and persistency is the admired stuff of the working royals.

No less has this constancy been true of William and Catherine. How we loved Will's utterly spontaneous rejoinder to the media jackals: "The Royal Family is very much not a racist family." Called out by the brother who, one might have thought, was joined to him by the most indissoluble ties of bereavement and hurt, in the past, and by the supportive bonds and excitement of shared service into the future. He is evidently possessed of the emotional maturity to encourage his children on the UK equivalent of Mothers' Day to write cards to the grandmother they had never known. And Catherine of her own volition attended the "banned" vigil for Sarah Everard, the young woman murdered as she walked alone at night in London, the Duchess' unprecedented presence speaking louder than any TV show, and testifying to her spot-on judgement what a Queen she shall be!

### A BIG SHOUT-OUT **TO OUR** LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS

...how well The Queen is represented by all her Canadian vice-regals. And how well served by them are we as citizens...

Less covered by the media, and provided with far fewer resources than the Royals, The Queen's Canadian representatives in the provinces have continued to do their duty in the face of varying restrictions on socializing and movement, and to invent imaginative ways to undertake outreach and tweak tradition to meet the exigencies of social distancing and all that goes with being a good subject in

time of infection.

Who could not admire Her Honour, the Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick's solution to the impossibility of a New Year's Day Levee inside Government House. The public was as always bade welcome as Ms Murphy and her partner exchanged masked greetings and distributed treats through the windows of attendees' cars.

Bien que son programme soit res treint par le virus. Son Honneur le lieutenant-gouverneur du Québec, J Michel Doyon, a continué de faire sentir la présence de la Couronne, que ce soit en entreprenant la remise de la Médaille du lieutenant gouverneur pour mérite exceptionnel au Centre de la Famille Valcartie, l'Inauguration de l'ancienne poudrière française de la Citadelle de Québec ou accueillant jeunes du camp de jour citoyen de l'Assemblée nationale du Québec.

Across the Rockies, despite the added burden of renovations to Government house, BC's Lieutenant Governor launched the Victory Over Covid-19 Garden. Inspired by the victory gardens of WWII, the first year of its operation eased food insecurity of the vulnerable by producing, harvesting and distributing an incredible TON of vegetables, ranging from kale to garlic. Ms Austin's Household collaborated with Premier Horgan's team and government partners to develop a safe approach to install the new Cabinet following the 2020 provincial election. The unique solution adhered to all public health regulations while complying to all legal and protocol requirements of our democracy in an engaging event.

Space doesn't allow for the entire record of vice-regal service by all, including Their Honours Janice Fillmon's ongoing Tree Project in Manitoba to Liz Dowdeswell's Zoom calls and partnering with Tourism Ontario to produce a number of agri-tourism adverts for various parts of the sector. www.dropbox. com/sh/1xi2tp9ovwhmgf8/AABK gAXcI-Ui6zS7R1mfWGbXa?dl=0

The point is: how well The Queen is represented by all her Canadian vice-regals. And how well they serve, doing their duty at trifling expense.

## **AND FINALLY: OF POLS, POLLS** & PUNDITS...

Prime Minister Trudeau replied to reporters' questions with calm neutrality rather than affirmative support for the Monarchy in Canada. "If people want to later talk about con-



# **Our Lieutenant Governors at Work**





Outside Government House, NS Lieutenant Governor Arthur J LeBlanc makes official draw for Family SOS, a charity providing support to families in the Halifax area.

How many dogs have their own page on a vice-regal website? Meet MacDuff Austin-Chester, Vice-Regal Canine Consort to Their Honours at Government House, Victoria - and a delight to all he greets there (except for his "righteous indignation" when squirrels, rabbits, crows or deer appear). The tradition of the Vice-regal's best friend continues with a very distinguished canine!



British Columbia's Lieutenant Governor, Janet Austin, with Shxwtitostel, a red cedar canoe carved by the Honourable Steven Point, 28th Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, which served as inspiration for the BC Reconciliation Award, for furthering reconciliation with the Province's Indigenous peoples, or inspiring others to continue reconciliation efforts. The first recipients will be honoured in April 2021.



The Queen's York Rangers visit with their Colonel, the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

Newfoundland & Labrador's Lieutenant Governor Judy Foote and His Honour Howard Foote adapt to COVID realities, including a series of virtual visits to raise spirits at long-term care homes throughout December, assisted by their dog Sailor Girl, a big hit with the residents!

Le lieutenant-gouverneur du Québec, J Michel Doyon, dépose une fleur pour marquer le 11 mars, la Journée de commémoration nationale en mémoire des victimes de la COVID-19.





87% OF THE 56% WHO COMPLETED MORE THAN 23% OF THE SURVEY THOUGHT IT WAS A WASTE OF TIME

stitutional change and shifting our system of government, that's fine. They can have those conversations. But right now, I'm not having those conversations." However, we are informed reliably that he has no intention whatsoever of touching the issue.

Opposition Leader Erin O'Toole has been a supporter of the Monarchist League of Canada, and remains a convinced monarchist.

NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh took advantage of the post-interview climate to re-assert his republican position, contrary to the long tradition of democratic socialist support for the Crown exemplified by figures such as Jack Layton and Allan Blakeney. He told CTV's Question Period that "I don't see the relevance of it, and I don't think that most Canadians do." The party is holding a Virtual Convention in April 9-11. At press time it was unclear if a rumoured republican resolution had been proposed and, if so, whether it would be selected for consideration by delegates.

Without any recent statement of Annamie Paul's position, the Green Party Leader previously indicated she had "no position" on the Monarchy, in sharp contrast to the support enthusiastically given by her monarchist predecessor Elizabeth May.

The pollsters have been hard at work questioning Canadians about their views on the Crown. Unfortunately, some persist in inviting negative opinion by asking leading questions about whether the country should continue to have ties to "the British Monarchy" which of course suggests ours is a foreign monarchy, alien to these shores. They might as well ask if we should continue with "the Papua New Guinean Monarchy" or "the New Zealand Monarchy." That said, all polls showed a significant shift in greater negative attitudes towards the Crown. Of course we'd rather see refreshed or greater support in these surveys, as the contrary makes news and implicitly suggests change is inevitably in the air. But we know that all polling is naturally conditioned by the news of the day – and we can expect they will begin to rebound as the country considers more fully the truth of what it has heard of late, and celebrates The Queen's 95th birthday, Prince Philip's 100th, and the unique celebration of a Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Indeed the same sort of happy events turned around the polls after the long nightmare of the disintegration of Charles and Diana's marriage.

media have had a field day with the Payette-Interview dislocation of the Canadian Crown, with as usual, sane and extreme positions jockeying for attention, the former usually becoming more prevalent as time passes while the vitriol appears rather more quickly. We thought the editorial in the National Post of March 13 struck the right balance; positive, reasoned – but not adulatory, either.

... The credit for this country's legacy of stable government, freedom, democracy, justice and the rule of law rests chiefly with the Crown, but we rarely hear this acknowledged by our politicians or the chattering classes... While racism is always inexcusable, this controversy is no more an admonishment of the Crown than the actions of our prime minister are a repudiation of Parliamentary democracy... the monarchy itself is more than just a group of individuals. It is an ideal. An ideal that holds that a country is more than just the sum of its parts; more than just the people who run it or its institutions. ... a monarchy can rise above the rough-and-tumble world of politics, offering stability and serving as a beacon of the ideals we strive to uphold. The royals themselves will not always live up to those ideals, because they too are human. But the Crown transcends even those who wear it... getting rid of the monarchy would not fix any of the problems faced by Aboriginals, or settle any of the disputes between First Nations and the federal government. It would only add legal complications since many First Nations have treaties that were signed directly with the Crown. And a lot of the injustices inflicted on Aboriginal people, such as the residential

school system, were perpetrated by the Canadian state, not the British. Reconciliation has always been Canada's responsibility, and it has always been within our power to achieve... It is, of course, true that Canada could become a republic, while retaining the system of government we inherited from Great Britain. But getting rid of the monarchy would entail sweeping constitutional reforms that would require tremendous effort and huge expense, with very little benefit. It would also necessitate a historic agreement between Canada's increasingly disparate regions and nationalities that could very easily tear the country apart. Far better to stick with a system that has proven remarkably stable and successful for over 150 years, and a Queen who has served us extremely well for nearly 70. Long may she reign.

What more can we say? This has not been a tempest in a teapot. Nor will it prove the undoing of the Crown's representing "all that is best and most admired in the Canadian ideal."

There is sadness, and much to be reflected on, not least that when we speak from choler and disappointment, we perhaps deepen the divisions of all who hear us: family, country, Commonwealth – albeit we may imagine our venting to be satisfying.

But there is also joy: the example of our Queen and her succeeding generations; the gifts of unsung heroes ranging from first responders to Lieutenant Governors; the calmness of our national life despite pandemic. The long view is surely promising, as Clough reminds us, for although the sun seems to emerge so slowly, "But Westward, look: the land is bright."

# THE CASE FOR THE CROWN

The next four pages of CMN in English and in French – is the League's newest flyer, designed to summarize major arguments for Canada's constitutional monarchy. You can find it online in the publications section of our website – monarchist.ca – or request colour copies from domsec@symparico.ca – surely all readers can think of three people to whom they could give a copy!

# **BIEN FONDÉS DE LA MONARCHIE CONSTITUTIONELLE**

Les quatre pages suivantes du NMC en anglais et en français – est le plus récent dépliant de la Ligue, avec les principaux arguments pour notre monarchie. Vous pouvez le trouver en ligne – "publications" de notre site Web – monarchist.ca – ou demander des copies de *domsec@sympatico.ca*. Sans doute tous nos lecteurs peuvent penser à trois personnes à qui ils pourraient donner un exemplaire!



Pundits in traditional and social



# LA LIGUE MONARCHISTE DU CANADA THE MONARCHIST LEAGUE OF CANADA

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# BIEN-FONDÉ DE LA MONARCHIE CONSTITUTIONELLE 9 avantages-clés

**CHEF DE NATION VERSUS CHEF D'ÉTAT** Jour après jour nos représentants élus démocratiquement sont au cœur de débats profitables à propos desquels il y a parfois de la controverse. C'est bien. Cela encourage la recherche de la réussite et la réalisation d'accomplissements pour des objectifs à la fois partisans et personnels. Le Premier ministre est tour à tour le Chef du gouvernement et « leader » d'un parti politique suscitant parfois certaines divergences. Le Souverain représente, quant à lui, l'unité au sein de la nation et ses représentants ont la confiance de tous les Canadiens. La monarchie protège et rassemble à la fois tous ce que les Canadiens recherchent et demeure constante malgré les élections et les changements au pouvoir : c'est-à-dire une société tolérante et responsable. En présidant plusieurs événements dont les Jeux Olympiques, la célébration de la Confédération canadienne sur la colline parlementaire, la Reine et sa famille soulignent l'importance d'une participation non-partisane mettant ainsi l'emphase sur le pouvoir unificateur de ces grands rassemblements, lui conférantainsi une autre dimension.

GARDIEN DE LA LIBERTÉ Le Parlement, la Reine, le Sénat et la Chambre des Communes. Aucune loi, aucun règlement ou dépense n'est autorisé sans l'assentiment royal. Le Parlement est élu et dissous avec son accord et en son nom. C'est également en son nom que sont élus les représentants officiels et les diplomates; que les accords sont rectifiés et les commissions d'enquêtes formées. En temps normal ce n'est qu'une formalité. Toutefois la prérogative « royale » s'assure que l'accord des lois prévaut en apportant une garantie de neutralité non-violente et non-partisane – pouvant éteindre les débuts d'incendies constitutionnels tel qu'expliqué par Frank McKinnon un politicien scientifique de l'Alberta – si le débat politique devait dégénérer. Ainsi même un gouvernement populaire ne pourrait déclencher des élections simplement pour justifier un point de vue ou une démarche quelconque.

ARBITRES DU FÉDÉRALISME : ONZE **COURONNES** Le Canada est un État fédéral : notre Constitution donne le pouvoir de légiférer dans certains domaines à Ottawa et dans d'autres domaines aux provinces. Les gouvernements exercent ce pouvoir au nom de la Reine. Ainsi, il existe 11 couronnes au Canada - légalement appelées « La Reine du chef du Canada » ou « La Reine du chef » d'une province. La Reine est représentée par un Lieutenant-gouverneur. Les premiers ministres, dont le séparatiste René Lévesque, ont souligné l'importance de la Couronne dans leur Déclaration constitutionnelle clé de 1978. Puisque la monarchie donne l'autorité à chaque entité législative, elle garantit également que l'État de droit sera respecté dans le traitement des différends entre Ottawa et les provinces. Ces faits expliquent le fort soutien des provinces à l'institution de la monarchie, qui réconcilie l'identité régionale avec l'unité nationale.

**IDENTITÉ NATIONALE, STABILITÉ & FIERTÉ** 

La proximité géographique, les échanges commerciaux, les accords militaires ainsi que la facilité avec laquelle nous pouvons être envahis par les médias américains peuvent affecter notre identité nationale. Notre gouvernance favorise la loyauté et l'appartenance à un monarque plutôt qu'à une personnalité politique ou une idéologie. Cette différence nous apporte une culture distincte, à la fois dynamique et paisible. La monarchie constitutionnelle – version canadienne – procure la stabilité. Cet état de fait est confirmé chaque année dans le « Rapport sur le développent humain » produit par les « Nations Unies » et dans lequel le Canada figure régulièrement au sein des premiers pays. Les changements sont cependant inévitables et la plupart sont pour le mieux au gré des politiciens et des événements qui se succèdent. Les Canadiens ont voté dans non moins de vingt-deux élections depuis l'avènement d'Élizabeth II! La monarchie amène une stabilité malgré tous les changements. La souveraine possède plusieurs années d'expérience et constitue une figure de référence importante vu son parcours presque sans faille.

SERMENTS : UTILES ET PERSONNELS La loyauté la plus profonde des humains est envers les autres êtres humains. Les serments sont prêtés à la Reine par nos nouveaux compatriotes, les législateurs, les juges, les membres des FC et de nombreux autres fonctionnaires. Faire leur promesse à la Souveraine plutôt qu'à un politicien montre que leur loyauté ultime n'est pas envers des figures élues, mais envers les lois qui constituent le tissu de la société civilisée. Ces Serments soulignent que le respect de l'État de droit applicable à tous doit prévaloir sur la partisanerie agir pour promouvoir le bien-être d'un segment étroit de la société. Les Serments à la Reine reflètent également l'accent mis par le Canada sur l'importance de la personne, de la dignité et de l'égalité de chaque individu : dès que les nouveaux citoyens prêtent le serment de citoyenneté, ils deviennent des membres à part entière de la famille canadienne. Chaque Canadien prête allégeance à la Reine, rendant ainsi hommage à ses décennies de service à l'ensemble du Canada.

**UNE MONARCHIE PARTAGÉE** Les Canadiens possèdent une grande chance d'avoir à leur tête une Souveraine dont la figure emblématique est immédiatement et mondialement reconnue. La Reine ainsi que tous les membres de la famille Royale tissent un lien unique sans caractère militaire affiché entre tous les membres de notre population dans toute sa diversité avec le reste du Commonwealth. Les nations issues de la Nouvelle-Guinée jusqu'au Bélize, de la Nouvelle-Zélande jusqu'à l'Inde, reflètent également la richesse du Canada d'aujourd'hui. En 2010, notre Reine s'envola de Toronto vers New York pour s'adresser aux Nations-Unies. La veille au soir, la Reine annonça fièrement lors d'un diner officiel à Toronto : « Je voyagerai de ce Royaume nordique en tant que Reine du Canada ». Le Gouverneur Général et les Lieutenants-gouverneurs représentent la Reine et assument les responsabilités qui leur incombent au nom de la Souveraine. Cette disposition permet à notre pays de faire partager des traditions d'une ancienne monarchie dont hérite l'histoire du Canada, alors que, dans le même temps, nous nous remémorons des services offerts par des concitoyens illustres. Ne pensons qu'au Major-Général Georges Vanier, Lincoln Alexander, David Lam et Lynda Haverstock pour n'en nommer que quelques-uns qui ont servi la Couronne et notre pays avec grande distinction.

### UNE RÉFLEXION SUR NOTRE PROPRE HISTOIRE ET NOTRE DÉVELOPPEMENT La Monarchie

d'aujourd'hui puise sa source dans les racines du passé. Beaucoup des premiers peuples de Canada choisirent des chefs de tribu dont les rôles s'inspirèrent davantage des guides du temps passé. L'établissement de colonies françaises et anglaises au Canada a aussi nourri sa propre expérience de la monarchie. Les différentes vagues d'immigration ont connu leur lot en matière de connaissance du système monarchique comme forme de gouvernement. En 1867, les Pères de la Confédération ont dès lors unanimement opté pour la forme d'une monarchie constitutionnelle pour le Canada. En 1982, la nouvelle Constitution du Canada a entériné la Couronne de sorte que seul un accord unanime entre les paliers provinciaux et le fédéral pourrait changer la donne. Enfin, le Parlement a adopté unanimement en 2013 la « Loi sur la succession au Trône » qui supprime les barrières indépendamment du sexe pour statuer du futur monarque.

COMMUNAUTÉ, BÉNÉVOLAT, **RECONNAISSANCE** Dans leurs déplacements constants, la Reine, les membres de la famille royale et ses représentants au Canada apportent leur soutien aux communautés et aux secteurs bénévoles : une partie vitale de notre existence nationale. Ils inspirent de nombreuses personnes à rendre des services similaires. Ils créent et décernent des distinctions honorifiques non politiques à des concitoyens exceptionnels. Ces activités royales et vice-royales ne figurent pas souvent dans les programmes d'information nationaux. L'ouverture d'une nouvelle bibliothèque, la visite d'une salle de la Légion, un discours à un cours d'éducation civique dans une école ou un déjeuner avec un club de service local ne sont pas dans le collimateur des médias. Mais ils constituent la base de notre société civile et apportent une grande fierté et une aide importante aux communautés du Canada.

**UNE RÉPUBLIQUE : DISTRAYANT & INDÉSIRABLE** Personne n'a encore proposé un autre système de gouvernement pour le Canada qui refléterait de la même manière l'histoire de notre nation et serait supérieur à la monarchie constitutionnelle en termes de fonctionnement quotidien de l'État canadien. Les Canadiens se souviennent des débats constitutionnels déchirants du siècle dernier. De tels arguments n'ont rien fait pour aider les objectifs essentiels de la population : l'environnement, les salles de classe surpeuplées, l'accès aux soins de santé et le soutien aux familles monoparentales et à faible revenu. Un système présidentiel ferait en sorte que le Canada ressemblerait davantage aux États-Unis, combinant le rôle de chef d'État avec celui de chef de gouvernement. Comme nos amis américains l'ont redécouvert lors des processus de destitution dans l'administration Trump, cela s'avère parfois une combinaison malheureuse. Alternativement, l'élection d'un président ou d'un Gouverneur général créerait simplement un autre homme politique, offrirait un autre niveau d'ambition personnelle, nécessiterait une autre série d'élections et rendrait le titulaire de ce poste redevable aux intérêts des différentes factions et groupes auxquels le résultat devrait être rendu.



# THE MONARCHIST LEAGUE OF CANADA LA LIGUE MONARCHISTE DU CANADA

## monarchist.ca

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# **THE CASE FOR THE CROWN** 9 Key advantages

NATIONAL IDENTITY, STABILITY & PRIDE:

Easy travel to and from the USA, trade and military alliances and American media can muddle Canada's distinct identity. Our governance focuses loyalty via allegiance to a monarch rather than to a politician or ideology. This difference underlies our distinct culture, energetic and yet tranquil. Constitutional monarchy - the Canadian way - provides stability. This is confirmed each year in the United Nations' Human Development Index, which regularly ranks Canada high up in the countries the world. Change is inevitable, and much of it good; political leaders also come and go. Canadians have voted in 22 federal elections during The Queen's reign! The Crown provides constancy amidst so much change. The Sovereign has the experience of decades, without the taint of a personal agenda. Such continuity constitutes an important anchor in our society.

**HEAD OF THE NATION VS HEAD OF GOVERNMENT:** Day to day our democratically elected representatives engage in healthy partisan debate on issues about which Canadians disagree. That is good. It encourages striving for partisan goals and personal success. The Prime Minister is our head of government and leader of a political party. As such, his actions are often controversial. The Sovereign, however, is a force of unity as head of the nation, and with her team of representatives is trusted by all Canadians. The monarchy protects and exemplifies the things Canadians agree about, and remain constant, regardless of an election: a notably tolerant, mature society, By presiding at events such as the Montréal Olympics and Canada Day celebrations on Parliament Hill, The Queen and her family emphasize the nonpartisan, unifying nature of great national occasions.

**GUARANTOR OF FREEDOM:** Parliament – The Queen, the Senate, the elected Commons. No bill, regulation or spending is authorized without the Royal Assent. Parliament is summoned and dissolved in The Queen's name. Also in her name, public officials and diplomats are appointed, treaties approved, cabinets commissioned. Normally, this is a formality. However, "the Royal Prerogative" ensures that the rules of law prevails, and provides a nonpartisan, non-violent safeguard – a constitutional fire extinguisher as Alberta political scientist Frank MacKinnon has put it – should usual democratic processes ever be threatened. For example, even a popular government could not simply dispense with holding an election!

**REFEREE OF FEDERALISM: ELEVEN CROWNS** - Canada is a federal state: our Constitution gives law-making power in certain areas to Ottawa, others to the provinces. Governments exercise this authority in the name of The Queen. Thus 11 Crowns exist in Canada – legally referred to as "The Queen in right of Canada" or "The Queen in right of" a province. The premiers, including the separatist René Levesque, underlined the importance of the Crown in their key 1978 Constitutional statement. Since the monarchy gives authority to each law-making entity, it also guarantees that the rule of law will be followed in dealing with disputes between Ottawa and the provinces. These facts explain the strong support by the provinces for the institution of monarchy, which reconciles regional identity with national unity.

**OATHS: USEFUL & PERSONAL:** The deepest loyalties of humans are to other human beings. Oaths are taken to The Queen by our new fellow Canadians, legislators, judges, CF members and many other public officials. Making their promise to the Sovereign rather than to a politician shows their ultimate loyalty is not to elected figures, but to the laws that make up the fabric of civilized society. Such Oaths underline that following the rule of law applicable to all must prevail over partisanship – acting to promote the well-being of a narrow segment of society. Oaths to The Queen also reflect Canada's emphasis on the importance of the person, and of the dignity and equality of each individual: the moment new citizens take the Citizenship Oath they become full members of the Canadian family. Each Canadian gives allegiance to The Queen, so reciprocating her decades of service to all Canada.

A SHARED MONARCHY: Canadians are fortunate to have as our monarch an instantly recognizable world figure. The Queen and members of the Royal Family link our diverse population to a far-flung Commonwealth, unique in that it seeks no military advantage. These nations from New Guinea to Belize, from New Zealand to India – mirror the rich diversity of today's Canada. In 2010, our Queen flew from Toronto to New York, where she addressed the United Nations. The night before, The Queen proudly told an Official Dinner in Toronto that "I shall be travelling from this Northern Realm as Queen of Canada". The Governor General and the Lieutenant Governors represent The Queen and perform most of the constitutional functions of the Sovereign in her name. This arrangement allows our country to share in the traditions of an ancient monarchy stemming out of Canada's history, while at the same time we enjoy the services of distinguished fellow citizens - think of Major-General Georges Vanier, Lincoln Alexander, David Lam and Lynda Haverstock, to name but a few - who served Crown and country with great distinction.

A REFLECTION OF OUR HISTORY & DEVELOPMENT: Today's monarchy stems from our history. Many of Canada's first peoples chose chieftains whose role was much like that of other leaders in ancient times. Settlement by French and British people brought to Canada their own experience of monarchy. Many subsequent immigrants have also known the monarchical system of government. In 1867, the Fathers of Confederation unanimously chose constitutional monarchy as Canada's form of government. In 1982, Canada's new Constitution entrenched the Crown so that only unanimous federal-provincial agreement could ever alter it. Parliament unanimously passing the Succession to the Throne Act in 2013 removed barriers of gender in determining our future monarchs.

COMMUNITY, VOLUNTEERISM, RECOGNITION – In their constant round of travels, The Queen, members of the Royal Family and her Canadian representatives bring encouragement to the communities and volunteer sectors: a vital part of our national existence. They inspire many to similar service. They create and award non-political honours to outstanding fellow citizens. These Royal and vice-regal activities do not often feature on national news programs. Opening a new library, visiting a Legion Hall, speaking to a school civics class or lunching with a local service club are not on the media's radar. But they constitute the basis of our civil society, and bring significant pride and assistance to Canada's communities.

A REPUBLIC = DISTRACTING & UNDESIRABLE – No one has yet proposed an alternative system of government for Canada which would in the same way reflect our nation's history and be superior to constitutional monarchy in terms of the day-to-day functioning of the Canadian state. Canadians remember the wrenching constitutional debates of the last century . Such arguments did nothing to help practical concerns: the environment, crowded classrooms, access to health care and support for single-parent and lowincome families. A presidential system would make Canada more closely resemble the United States,

combining the role of head of state with head of government. As our American friends re-discovered during impeachment processes in the Trump administration, this proves an unhappy combination. Alternatively, the election of a president or governor general would simply create another politician, offer another level of personal ambition, necessitate another set of elections and make the holder of that office beholden to the interests of the different factions and groups to which the result was owed.

## monarchist.ca

# The Princess Elizabeth Gift Book, 1935

an Essay in celebration of the 85th anniversary of its publication and the 95th birthday of Elizabeth our Queen, BY ALASTAIR GLEGG

Princess, at nine you've taken a people for your friend, Let love be so unshaken until your journey's end...

This essay is quite unlike anything CMN has printed before. It traces with wit and erudition the fruits of an era when reading was a common pastime, and children's books were at once popular and demanding, whimsical and serious, not beneath the talents of some of the finest pens in the land, nor reliant on much illustration save the imagination of the brain. In such a world our Queen grew up. And how lovely to think of these authors' inventing new stories for her 10th birthday, and to the benefit of the Hospital that bore her name. We thought that the 95th birthday of The Queen was the ideal occasion for our reader so settle back and feel the masterstroke of the essayist open "the realms of gold". – Ed

ALASTAIR GLEGG was born in London in 1940 and grew up in Southern Rhodesia. After teaching languages in Rhodesia, Barbados, and Canada he joined the University of Victoria Faculty of Education where for 25 years he lectured and published numerous articles on Educational History and Administration.

n 1914 Princess Mary's Gift Book was published to raise funds for the wartime 'Queen's Work for Women Fund'. Authors and artists were invited to contribute stories, poems, or pictures, and some of the best-known did so. Twenty years later a similar project was undertaken, this time to support the moving of the Princess Elizabeth of York Hospital for Children from Hackney to a more appropriate location in the country. That was 85 years ago, and as the then Princess Elizabeth celebrates her 95th birthday this year I thought it an appropriate occasion to recall the contributions made by many famous authors of the day, several of whom had written pieces for the earlier volume as well.

James Barrie's piece comes first, appropriately enough, as it concerns a children's hospital in a chateau previously occupied by the Germans during the First Battle of the Marne in 1915. He describes it as "an odd little hospital that was mine" (he donated the funds to establish it) where a volunteer staff cared for local children who had been seriously wounded by shellfire or bombs. One night a Zeppelin was brought down by gunfire in the grounds: it had been on several bombing runs, but Barrie felt sure that "the airmen had no idea there were these small people

below." He says that in retrospect the hospital seemed gay, but it was not always so: however, as his most famous creation Peter Pan might have said, "If we cannot always be gay we can always make pretend".

Rudyard Kipling wrote a new Just-So Story about the Porcupine and the Hedgehog: Noah's son Ham was grooming the animals on the Ark,

# The PRINCESS ELIZABETH GIFT BOOK



In Aid of the Princess Elizabeth of York Hospital for Children

but the porcupine refused to be combed and slashed Ham with his spiny tail instead of saying Thank-You. Ham asked Noah for the lid of a big biscuit tin – ('Ararat Biscuits' – I missed the pun the first time I read it, but parents of small children in the 1930s would probably have got it) – and next time the porcucontinued on page 12



pine tried to slash him he used it as a shield and told him that for being so fretful he would have to go and live in a hole in the ground in Africa when the Ark came ashore. Because his little cousin the hedgehog had been so good and polite he would be allowed to go and live in England "all among gardens and box-borders and slugs where people will be glad to see you". Kipling died in 1936, as did Barrie, and perhaps these were the last pieces they wrote.

Animal stories have always been favourites with children, and Francis Brett Young, author of over 30 novels, described how three hungry cuckoos, finding no more food in the desert conditions of a South African winter, followed their friends the swallows and storks and flew all the way to England to a village in Worcestershire where they settled happily. Algernon Blackwood turned from his tales of mystery and horror to relate the story of Alexander III, a black chow dog, who did not intend to be left at home when his family went to watch the Jubilee Procession but set off on his own to see the King and Queen where he 'exchanged pleasant and friendly glances with his fellow monarchs'. L. A. G. Strong, perhaps best known for his Inspector McKay detective stories, told how two country gentlemen were concerned about the plight of small animals trapped in the middle of the corn field when it is cut, and arranged with a seagull to see that they could escape in time. Herbert Asquith, son of the wartime Prime Minister and brother of Violet Bonham Carter, wrote a poem called Come and Change in which a wizard invites children to choose their favourite animal into which he will magically transform them:

Everything you choose is here, Zebra, armadillo, deer, Every kind of dog and cat, Pard and panther, mouse and bat, Wild horse that knows not bit or shoe, Toad and tapir and kangaroo.

The echoes of Shakespeare's rhythms and themes reoccur in Walter De La Mare's poem Stars:

> If to the heavens thou lift thine eyes When winter rules our northern skies, And snow-cloud none the zenith mars At Yule-tide midnight these thy stars.

In the 1930s there was fierce competition among the popular daily papers, in which their comic strips played an important part, but they united for a good cause. Teddy Tail of the Daily Mail first appeared in 1915 and the author, Una Lascot, contributed a story about Teddy and his friends putting on a circus.1919 had seen the arrival of Uncle Oojah the elephant in the Daily Sketch, and 16 years later Flo Lancaster told how his friends watched the Silver Jubilee. The long-running comic strip of Pip, Squeak and Wilfred also first appeared in 1919 in the Daily Mirror and Uncle Dick" (B. J. Lamb) submitted a piece on how they got their names. That strip ran until 1956, outlasted only by Rupert the Little Bear who first appeared in the Daily Express in 1920, and whose author Mary Tourtel contributed an account of his adventure with robbers and giants. Walt Disney sent two colour cartoons of Mickey Mouse and his 'retinue' arriving for the party, complete with top hat and an ermine cape for Minnie.

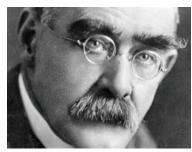
Enid Bagnold, who had served as a nurse and driver in France during the War and is best known as the author of National Velvet and The Chalk Garden, wrote a piece about storytelling at bedtime, and there are also tales whose popular heroes are now probably long forgotten: one about Woolly Bear, contributed by Shirley Cooke, and another about Hepzibah Hen, by Olwen Bowen who published numerous children's books in the 1920s. W. H. Davies the Welsh poet who in 1908 wrote Autobiography of a Supertramp based on his own world-wide wanderings, which even included losing a leg while jumping a railroad car in Canada, sent a verse about Street Criers.

I was initially puzzled by G. K. Chesterton's contribution, The Good Grocer (An Apology). Then I discovered that twenty years earlier Chesterton had written The Flying Inn, a satire based on the premise that Prohibition had come to England and that all the friendly pubs were effectively closed. Grocers were allowed to sell alcohol, but

The wicked Grocer groces in spirits and in wine, Not frankly or in fellowship as men in inns do dine; But packed with soap and sardines and carried off by grooms, For to be snatched by Duchesses and drunk in dressing rooms.

He offered the subsequent Apology for The Song against the Grocers because

...where far off in the warm western shires Steep sloping woods are dipped



Rudyard Kipling

in sunset fires The children told me that, aloof, alone, Dwelt the Good Grocer, whom I had not known... To you dear children of old days, I send This apologia to your early friend.

However, I think it unlikely that any of the children had ever read the original book, perhaps best known as it contains his poem The Rolling English Road.

As might be expected of that period there are some cautionary and moral tales: the prolific Compton Mackenzie put aside the sense of humour evident in Whisky Galore to tell of a Fairy Washerwoman who occasionally appeared on a Hebridean isle and could be heard by the stream beating out the dirt from tweeds and blankets with a heavy mallet as the crofters did. Big Hector ignored the warnings of the old women, and captured the fairy who agreed to look after his farm for a year if he promised to release her then. The farm prospered, and Hector became very rich, but he would not let her go after a year and cursed her, whereupon she vanished along with his good fortune. He died alone and in poverty, and "there is not even so much as a nettle growing green nor a loose stone to mark where once upon a time that ungrateful man lived".ebridean isleH

Big Hector unwisely captured her Big Big

Denis Mackail, James Barrie's official biographer and Rudyard Kipling's cousin, wrote about Rather Greedy Little Hugh who dreamed each night of having everything he wanted, but on his birthday could not wake up from a dream in which he had to go on and on playing with the train he had said he wanted so badly, even though he desperately wanted to stop. "Terrible, wasn't it. Are you feeling sorry for him? Well, but he was rather greedy, you know, and he had said "I shan't" and "I won't," and "Go away!" One oughtn't to say that kind of thing, ought one? Not even in a dream."





Walter de la Mare

James Hilton contributed another chapter of Goodbye Mr. Chips to remind the reader of the importance of honour and kindness, because "even when you are fighting systems ...there are human beings behind those systems". Hugh Walpole, the author of Rogue Herries and other historical novels, recalled his childhood when "it was considered good for children to do what they disliked". He was forbidden to enter his grandmother's drawing room, or to touch her little gold chair: of course he did so, and accidentally damaged it. He was sent to bed without supper, and "for weeks moved in a dreadful thick never-shifting cloud".

There are, naturally, several pieces about princesses. Margaret Irwin wrote historical novels, specializing in the Elizabethan period, and she contributed a one-act play about the little Princess Jeanne d'Albert who in 1541 was forced to marry a much older man for reasons of state. Perhaps not the most suitable topic, but happily in her fictional version the wedding was cancelled at the last minute.

Joyce Anstruther, who wrote under the name of Jan Struther and created the delightful character of Mrs. Miniver, contributed a poem called Princess Jane of London Town about a young girl who sees no reason to be jealous of a real princess:

I own no marble palace, but the Marble Arch is there:

- While as for crystal fountains well, I've got Trafalgar Square...
- I keep no golden coaches:
  - I always use instead
- My stately motor buses, of a rich majestic red; And miles of secret passages go winding underground
- With steely steeds to carry me wherever I am bound.

The Unromantic Princess is the title of a charming story by Elizabeth Bowen. As was the custom, fairy godmothers were invited to her christening, but they were "full of modern ideas" and gave the princess the gifts of Punctuality and Commonsense. Their surprisingly green and contemporary motto was "One should never fly when one could walk", but to their horror the Princess was once late for lunch because she had been talking to a boy who had written a poem for her. They took back their original gifts and replaced them with Good Looks and a Sense of the Ridiculous, which they claimed had brought many princesses to a bad end. She married the poet, and their children did not have Fairy Godmothers.

Poetry and prophesy have often gone together. In 1934, when contributions to this fund-raising book were invited, King George V, Princess Elizabeth's grandfather, was just 69 years old, although not in good health, and her uncle Edward was heir to the throne. Her father, the Duke of York, was next in line (assuming Edward produced no heirs) but few could have foreseen that he would be crowned king just two years later, following his father's death and Edward's abdication, and that the next monarch would be a Oueen.

Lord David Cecil, professor of English Literature at Oxford, contributed a poem about another Princess Elizabeth who would have to face a similar challenge:

But sometimes through a leaded pane Or stepping down the spacious stair I seemed to see another child Who lived there once in days that were... She paused, she sighed, she clenched her hands, The knuckles through her rings showed white, Then turning as in stately dance Moved sad and splendid out of sight.

The last poem in the collection is by the author and playwright John Drinkwater who also looked into the future, accurately foreseeing the respect and affection with which the young Princess Elizabeth continues to be regarded:

Princess, at nine you've taken a people for your friend, Let love be so unshaken until your journey's end... Still may the bells be ringing when we are dust and dead, To tell a princess singing because her heart is wed To ages all between the tale of ninety or nineteen, Or nine as any nightingale at noon among the green.



J M Barrie



G K Chesterton

The Princess Elizabeth Gift Book.(1935)

In aid of the Princess Elizabeth of York Hospital for Children. Hodder & Stoughton: London.

© Alastair Glegg Victoria, BC, Canada March, 2021



# League Notes



'Bill" Silver



The League will not dictate you eat Kale!

### WILLIAM (BILL) CHARLES CHAMBERLAIN SILVER, RIP

May 10, 1924 – March 13, 2021

The death of Bill Silver, at the great age of 96, marks a loss of an ardent monarchist and significant benefactor of the League from its early days, as well as a pillar of its Ottawa Branch. No one could meet Bill without feeling impressed by his ebullient spirit, fierce loyalty spoken gently, innate modesty and kindness. He had a phenomenal memory, practical wisdom and a natural bonhomie. Raised in Toronto, at 18 Bill enlisted in the North Nova Scotia Highlanders and was part of the D-Day landing in Normandy – his stint as a Prisoner of War in Germany is a story he shared only many years later. Back in Canada, Bill began what was to be a life long career with the Bank of Nova Scotia. This is where he also met the love of his life, Betty. Bill and Betty were avid travellers, loved cottaging in the summer, but most importantly treasured spending time with their family. Indeed Chaucer might have had forethought of Bill in describing one of his characters as a "very parfitt gentle knight." May his generous spirit rest in peace, and his memory be a blessing and example to us all. – JLA,WG

### QUEEN'S 95th BIRTHDAY - LEAGUE TO CELEBRATE: A NATIONAL VIRTUAL LUNCH ON SUNDAY APRIL 18

To celebrate our Queen's 95th birthday (April 21) the League is organizing a national Virtual Lunch on Sunday, April 18 commencing 1:30 pm Eastern. Moderated by Jonathan Brickwood and emceed by him with Jon Bradshaw, the ZOOM platform will host up to 100 League members. A highlight will be the participants' spending time in some virtual rooms to engage in conversation with other fellow monarchists. We've also invited some special guests to bring greetings – and are excited that so far we will be welcoming the Deputy Prime Minister of Canada (Hon Christine Freeman) and His Honour the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia. Limited "space" available; so do ask to participate as quickly as you can when the email invitation lands in your inbox about two weeks beforehand

### ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

Fed up with the distorted narratives about the Crown being peddled in recent months, the League determined it was time to take the offensive by widening our normal communication strategy to paid advertising in newspapers. When in 1970 the League began it work, papers were widely read, and advertising – expensive but affordable – drove membership recruitment with no small success. Such adverts now are hideously expensive, but they command a measure of seriousness and do reach that still-considerable part of the population who do not linger all day before a computer or smart phone.

Thanks to the generous support of members, February found the League re-entering these waters, with punchy notices appearing in the National Post, Ottawa Citizen, Halifax Herald and Victoria Times-Colonist. These gave way to the National Per-



sonals in the Globe & Mail; and to advertising in weekly community papers, well appreciated, carefully read and their ad rates far more reasonably priced. So far we have placed ads in eight such papers in the Greater Ottawa area, as well as several others in Alberta and Nova Scotia.

A considerable response to this campaign – in terms both of requests for our literature and new members – is encouraging us to continue as we spread more of our message around the country – and investigate other types of publications as well.

### BENEFACTOR ROBARTS FUNDS LEAGUE EDUCATIONAL BOOKLET REPRINT



For over a decade now, our great friend and benefactor Richard Robarts, of Windsor, Ontario, together with his wife Donalda, have financed the design and printing of our English educational booklets. You can view them online via the Publications section of the League website. These are colourful and picture-packed, intended for teachers and students roughly age 9 through high school. The greatest distribution of the tens of thousands distributed over the years has been through Members of Parliament. We write all federalist MP's at the beginning of each Session of Parliament, and offer them free copies to take on their visits to schools and other community organizations within their constituencies. We approached Dick as our supply ran down in the Spring, our reprint

# **League Notes**

being the more urgent as the former Governor General appeared on the cover. Our call was once again met unhesitatingly. We ask League members to consider passing on a copy to classroom teachers, 4-H club administrators, leaders in the various Scouting organizations, cadet groups. Thanks to the Robarts and you, the League pays the postage, and is happy to send them without charge.

### THANKS TO OUR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES FROM CHAIRMAN FINCH

Recent months have proved busy, and not always easy, for our media spokesmen across Canada. They have delivered clear explanations of the importance of our Crown, and kept their cool when provoked. It is a great band of volunteers, sometimes shrunk by a move, or other commitments or - believe it, and shame on them – employers' asking them not to speak out – "too toxic/ too controversial." So all the more heartfelt appreciation to Barry Mac-Kenzie, John Yogis, Karim Ál-dahdah, Étienne Boisvert, Jonathan Brickwood, Darcie Axelstierna, Josh Traptow, Keith Roy and Bruce Hallsor. Apologies to anyone inadvertently omitted.

### BRANCH ORGANIZATION PLAN SOON TO BE RELEASED

Chairman Finch writes: I am currently putting the final touches on the League's new Branch Organization plan. It is designed to jumpstart branch activities as the country opens up and COVID restrictions ebb. It will provide a clear road plan for branches - with expectations and goals, self-challenges and the like: lots of encouragement and ideas for programming; plenty of freedom to experiment, measure success and occasionally fall flat as we all do; high expectations and lots of support. All focused never on clubby-self-satisfaction or meetings for the sake of meetings, but on OUTREACH & EDUCATION. Stay tuned for its release in the Spring!

### NEW LEAGUE FLYER: THE CASE FOR THE CROWN

For information and extra copies of this latest League flyer, see the publications section of our website at monarchist.ca – see it on pp 7-10 of this issue.

### MEMBERS CHOOSE LEAGUE TARTAN: SCARVES TO COME!

One happy fact of life in an oftenpolarized world is that so many people of differing backgrounds consider themselves honorary Scots. You can see kilts and hear the skirl of bagpipes in India and Pakistan through North America and many other places across the globe. Thus when our member and benefactor Dr Oscar Vicente generously offered to register a League Tartan, we threw the design open to members - and were surprised to find no less than 50 entries! Narrowed down by several rounds of voting among Dr Vicente, Chairman Finch and Dominion HQ, four tartans were placed before the membership. Many hundreds of votes later, the design depicted here was chosen, designed by Carol Martin, of Beaverlodge. Alberta. The League is now consulting wool manufacturers with a view to having our tartan scarf available in the Autumn for use in 8-9 months of the year. Pre-orders will be taken once we have all details and pricing arranged.

### NEW BRUNSWICK BRANCH: GAINS VICE-REGAL PATRONAGE

Congratulations to Branch Chairman James Wilson, who recently received word that Her Honour, the Lieutenant Governor, was graciously pleased to grant her Patronage to the Branch. Ms Murphy also very kindly recorded a filmed greeting to members in New Brunswick.

### TRIENNIAL COST OF CROWN SURVEY UNDERWAY

We're delighted to report that the 8th Edition of The Cost of Canada's Constitutional Monarchy will appear this Fall, composed for the third time by Jonathan Bradshaw of Toronto. Once lauded in Macleans, this authoritative survey shows how much Canadians benefit from the Crown at relatively little expense. Its reporting will be adjusted to account for the impact of COVID during the current triennium.



LLANTS DE L'ÉT

# BY THEIR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT 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 is as follows:

> I give and bequeath to the Monarchist League of Canada, PO Box 1057, Lakeshore West Station, Oakville, ON L6K 0B2, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_.

The Monarchist League of Canada gratefully remembers those departed members whose bequests over the years have assisted to provide for the maintenance of the League's work across Canada. Among late members whose bequests have been received in the last several years are

Vera Olive Booth, Toronto, ON Annie Monique Daguet, Victoria, BC Lois Humphrey, Kingston, Ontario Joyce Kirby, Victoria, BC Madeline McCue, Halifax, NS Alexander Ray Paton, Victoria, BC Frank Price, Winnipeg Erik Searight, Burnaby, BC John Middleton Sturgess, London, Ontario Alison Watson, Regina, SK

# Au Secours de la Monarchie

# Porte parole au Québec de la Ligue monarchiste du Canada.

#### Par Karim Al-Dahdah

On assiste depuis quelques semaines à un déluge de contenu antimonarchiste dans les médias québécois. C'est comme si soudain, depuis le départ de Mme Payette, cette institution qui a si bien servi le Canada depuis sa fondation, était accusée de tous les maux. Car quand il s'agit de monarchie, les mythes et les accusationsabondent: inutile, dépassée, pompeuse, onéreuse, étrangère au Canada.Regardons de plus près.

Inutile et dépassée? Je ne reviendrai pas sur le rôle de garde-fou et d'arbitre du monarque dans une monarchie constitutionelle, il y a déjà assez d'articles à ce sujet, et je ne suis ni académicien ni constitutionaliste. Mais je sais que tout pays est fait de traditions, de symboles, de protocole et de gravitas qui sont importants pour son identité et le plus souvent reflètent son histoire et ses origines: le discours du Trône, les noms des régiments, les distinctions honorifiques, les armoiries sur notre passeport, l'effigie du monarque sur notre monnaie, le serment de citoyenneté; autant de belles traditions que l'on cherche si ardemment à abolir.

Pompeuse? Il y a quelques années, je me promenais dans les jardins de Rideau Hall à Ottawa. Rideau Hall, ce n'est ni Buckingham Palace ni le château de Versailles. C'est une grande demeure à la décointérieure somme toute assez contemporaine, entourée d'un grand parc ouvert à tous. Les gens y viennent se balader en famille. Ce jour-là, j'avais croisé un grand-père sympatique qui promenait son chien en compagnie de son épouse. Il m'avait fait un grand sourire en passant àmes côtés. Ce monsieur, j'allais l'apprendre, c'était David Johnston, gouverneur-général du Canada et prédécesseur de Mme Payette. Ni escorte sécuritaire, ni tapis rouge, ni fanfare ni trompettes. Corrigez moi si je me trompe, mais pour un chef d'Etat(de facto), on ne peux pas faire plus simple ni plus modeste.

**Onéreuse?** Dans les démocraties parlementaires comme le Canada, Îes poste de chef d'Etat et de chef de gouvernment sont séparés, et c'est tant mieux comme ça. Il n'y a qu'à regarder chez nos voisins du sud chez qui cette fonction est combinée pour pousser un soupir de soulagement. Ceci dit, il faut bien un budget pour un chef d'Etat. Au Canada, ce budget n'est pas très élevé par rapport à d'autres pays(autour du prix d'un café Tim Horton's par habitant). Et quand bien même le Canada devait un jour devenir une république, il y a fort à parier quece budget resterait le même, sinon serait plus élevé. La sécurité d'un Président de la République, les fonctions officielles, l'entretient des résidences patrimoniales (on s'entend que personne n'aimerait que les deux résidences officielles, Rideau Hall et la Citadelle de Québec ne tombent en désuétude) et tout ce qui constitue la majorité du budget de la monarchie au Canada, tout celà serait toujours là. Et non, le Canada ne paye pas de taxe à la Reine, ne couvre pas son train de vie ni le coût de ses chapeaux. L'argument économique ne tient tout simplement pas.

**Etrangère?** Oui, si l'on en croit la majorité des médias qui ne cessent de répéter les termes "monarchie britannique" et "Reine d'Angleterre" pour qualifier une institution typiquement canadienne qui, depuis le traité de Westminster de 1931, est constitutionellement et juridiquement séparée de la Couronne britannique. Sur les portraits, la Reine se tient devient le drapeau du Canada, porte la médaille de l'Ordre du Canada, et quand j'ai fait mon serment de citoyenneté \_l'un des plus beaux jours de ma vie\_ je l'ai fait au nom de la Reine du Canada. Son représentant, le gouverneur-géneral, est un citoyen Canadien. Le comble: un article paru récemment dans le Journal de Montréal, qui qualifie les Canadiens de "citoyens britanniques".De telle inexactitudes ne contribuent qu'à attiser les vieilles rancoeurs, réveiller les démons du colonialisme et entretenir la notion erronée que le Canada serait toujours inféodé à l'Angleterre. Dans un monde pré-Covid où j'allais à la rencontre des Québécois, nombreux étaient ceux qui me disaient: "la monarchie, celà fait aussi partie de notre Histoire. Arrêtez d'essayer de nous la retirer". L'autre jour, une collègue de

bureau originaire de Mascouche me disait: "notre Hisoire est précieuse, il faut la conserver".

Pour finir, il convient de le réaffirmer: la brève et malheureuse épopée de Mme Payette ne devrait pas servir d'alibi pour accuser de tous les maux une institution mal connue et mal-aimée mais qui a si bien sû remplir son rôle depuis plus d'un siècle; mais l'occasion de la solidifier et la faire redécouvrir à une population souvent mal informée mais qui ne demande pas mieux que de la connaître.Elle constitue un gage de stabilité et de continuité dans un monde en mal de repères et une formidable connection avec l'Histoire. Car la monarchie, c'est l'Histoire du Canada. Une Histoire non pas enfermée dans un musée, sclérosée; mais bien vivante, dynamique, à l'oeuvre. Les monarchistes aujourd'hui, contrairement aux idées reçues, ne sont pas de vieux anglos nostalgiques de l'empire britannique, mais des Canadiens d'aujourd'hui, de tous âges et de toutes origines, qui aiment ce pays, son histoire et ses institutions. Pour ceux qui rejetent l'idée de la monarchie, c'est souvent l'idée même du Canada qu'ils rejetent. Mais ça, c'est un autre débat.



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