

NEWSLETTER

South Saskatchewan Branch Monarchist League of Canada

The Chairman's Message

APRIL/MAY 2005

The month of May promises to be one which will go down in the history of our Province because of the visit of Her Majesty The Queen and HRH Prince Philip to help us celebrate the Centennial of Saskatchewan. It is about seventeen and a half years since their October 1987 visit. It is conceivable that they may not be able to visit this part of Canada in the future, so we all have a wonderful opportunity to greet our sovereign with strong affection during her visit. 17-20 May will come all too fast and the royal itinerary will provide a number of opportunities to see Her Majesy. The Provincial Welcome will be on Wednesday, 18 May at the legislature during which the statue of The Queen on her favourite horse *Burmese* will be unveiled by her. Another event will be the official opening of the extension to Government House on the morning of Saturday, 20 May prior to the departure of the royal couple to Alberta for their centennial celebrations. Our Branch of the Monarchist League will receive further details about reserved places for the official welcome and that will be shared amongst members.

April witnessed the marriage of Prince Charles and Mrs. Camilla Parker-Bowles. Many of us would have watched he event on the TV programmes but we can wish them both happiness in the years which lie before them, conscious that some may have had misgivings. Let us keep them in our prayers that they may continue to be guided by the hand of Almighty God.

Every year the Branch celebrates the official birthday of Her Majesty the Queen who was 79 on 21 April, This year's Luncheon will also celebrate the Centennial of Saskatchewan as a Province. There is a special mention of the event in this Newsletter but we are seeking to have 100 people attend in honour of the Centennial so please feel free to invite a relative or a friend to join with you. Contrary to some information circulating Her Majesty will not be at the Luncheon.

This edition of the Newsletter introduces the new masthead recently created by Pat Wagner, and we now have a branch website created by Scott Hazelwood to both of whom we express grateful thanks. In addition we have new headed notepaper and a leaflet describing the branch and its purpose. All of these initiatives are part of our vision for the future of the Branch as its now serves only the southern areas of our Province. We would enjoy having your reflections on these changes as you experience them.

On a personal note I was honoured with the presentation of the Centennial Medal by Her Honour The Lt.Governor at a recent ceremony in Regina. It was given in recognition of my role within the Monarchist League and my work with the Queen's Golden Jubilee Statue and what is known as the Saskatchewan Remembers Committee. In a wider sense it honours the whole organisation which you and I are proud members of.

As part of our membership let us continue to seek out prospective members amongst our family and friends as that will help to ensure the future of the League in this part of our province. GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

Obel F. Nichados

NEWS AND NOTES

Plan to attend the

ANNUAL QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY & CENTENNIAL LUNCHEON

Saturday, May 21, 2005 12:00 Noon The Hotel Saskatchewan, Regina

Guest: Mr. Glenn Hagel, MLA Legislative Secretary to Premier

Tickets: \$20.00

To obtain your tickets, contact:

Isabel Bailey 207-2050 College Avenue Regina, Saskatchewan, S4T 4M3 Telephone: 586-8975

Tickets are limited to 98 persons, so book yours early. Deadline is May 14. Make cheques payable to: South Saskatchewan Branch, Monarchist League of Canada

Branch Directory

Patron: The Hon. Dr. Lynda Haverstock
Lt. Governor of Saskatchewan
Chairman: Rev. Derek Nicholls, 949-8690
5336 Dewdney Ave. Regina, Sk. S4T 1C3
Editors: Mr./Mrs. R. Mynett, 642-4187
Box 1981, Assiniboia, Sk., S0H 0B0

Monarchist League Meeting

Friday, June 17, at 7:30 p.m. St. Mary's Anglican Church, Regina

The Royal Consorts

Speakers: Rev. Derek Nicholls
Jeannette Mynett

New Branch website

Scott Hazelwood undertook to create a website for the South Saskatchewan Branch of the Monarchist League. The website is now operating and includes a variety of information.

You can see the webside at:
http://monarchy.sasktelwebsite.net
Another webside of interest is:
Http://regalis.sasktelwebsite.net

October meeting of the Monarchist League

Friday, October 14, 2004, at 7:30 p.m. St. Mary's Anglican Church, Regina

Prof. Stephen Keny will speak about

The French Monarchy In Canada

Mark this date on your calendar, make plans to come, and tell others.

Officers and Board Members South Saskatchewan Branch 2005

Chairman: Rev. Derek Nicholls, Regina

Vice-Chairman: Bruce Farrer,

Qu'Appelle

Secretary: Raymond Mynett, Assiniboia

Treasurer: Isabel Bailey, Regina Community Relations: Pat Wagner,

Regina

Newsletter: Jeannette Mynett,

Assiniboia

(with Raymond Mynett)

Membership: John Morris, Moose Jaw Members at large: Scott Hazelwood,

Regina

Mildred Morrison

Regina

Margaret Nicholls

Regina

Honours for Members

Congratulations go to Jacqueline Shumiatcher for being honoured as the CTV Citizen of the Year.

Jacqueline Shumiatcher and the Rev. Derek Nicholls, Chairman of the South Saskatchewan Branch, have been presented with a Saskatchewan Centennial Medal.

Membership Renewals

Please remember to renew your membership to the Monarchist League. If you have any questions or concerns, contact John Morris, Membership Convener (694-4192)

Visit of the Queen and Prince Philip to Saskatchewan

The schedule of events for the visit of the Queen and Prince Philip to Saskatchewan on May 17-20 as part of Saskatchewan's Centennial has been officially announced and has been published in local newspapers. The Royal Couple will go to Alberta after their time in Saskatchewan to participate in that province's Centennial celebrations.

Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip will arrive in Regina the afternoon of May 17 and, after being welcomed by dignitaries, will spend time at the First Nations University. Thursday afternoon they will visit Lumsden. On May 19 the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will travel to Saskatoon for the Centennial Gala after visiting the RCMP Depot Division. Besides the various events they will attend together, the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will each take part in separate activities.

One of the primary public events will be on the morning of May 18. Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip will be at the Legislative Building for an official welcome ceremony, various ceremonial activities, some walkabouts, and the unveiling of the Golden Jubilee Equestrian Statue of the Queen on Burmese.

The Queen will go to Government House on May 20 to officially open the new addition which will be called the Queen Elizabeth II Wing. The Royal Couple will leave that afternoon for a week-end retreat before their official duties in Alberta.

Government House Centennial Project

An addition to Government House is one of the important Centennial projects for Saskatchewan. This addition, to be named the Queen Elizabeth II Wing, will be opened officially by the Queen. The addition will house a number of facilities including a visitor center, interpretive gallery, and gift shop. Also the gardens of Government House are being restored to their original design. Additional work will be needed for this because of damage done during a severe wind storm on April 14.

Donations for this work continue to be welcomed. Donations can be made to the Government House Foundation, #120-1230 Blackfoot Drive, Regina, SK, S4S 7G4.

Fund-Raising Projects

John and Heather Morris again have donated fifty roses to sell to raise money for the South Saskatchewan Branch. A brochure with information about the roses is included with this newsletter.

Each rose cost \$7.00 and comes in one-gallon pots with instructions. The roses can be ordered from the Morris's and can be picked up from the home of Derek and Margaret Nicholls between 10:00 a.m. and noon on June 18. Other arrangements for pick-up also can be made.

Thanks go to John and Heather Morris for making this project possible.

Also, there is some discussion about producing a calendar for sale. More information will follow later.

Annual Meeting of the South Saskatchewan Branch of the Monarchist League

The annual meeting of the South Saskatchewan Branch of the Monarchist League took place on Friday, January 28 at St. Mary's Anglican Church, Regina. Those at the meeting heard and discussed the annual reports, adopted a budget, elected officers and members of the Board of Directors, and looked after other business.

The Financial Report showed the following:

Forward from 2003 \$1,351.82

Total receipts: 1,862.60

Total expenses: 1,713.67

Balance \$1,500.75

Donations and proceeds

Donations and proceeds from the sale of roses made up much of the income. The branch newsletter, an important way for the membership to keep in touch, was the largest expense.

The proposed budget estimates income at \$675.00, and total expenses at \$825.00. This is a deficit budget. Please support any fund-raising projects and continue with your donations.

In his Chairman's Report, the Rev. Derek Nicholls spoke about the redividing of the Saskatchewan Branch into the South Saskatchewan Branch and the North Saskatchewan Branch. He commended the new branch for their work. He also spoke of the ongoing reviewing of how this branch does its work and invited comments from branch members. Finally the report indicated donations for the Equestrian statue of the Queen continue to be welcomed.

THE SENATE OF CANADA

Notes on the talk given by The Hon. Jack Wiebe March 4, 2005

There is a common impression that senators are feeble, old people who have been appointed to this position as a political reward. Such an impression could hardly be further from the truth. To know the Senate is to believe in the Senate and its very important role. It is vital to our constitutional monarchy.

The Senate has one-hundred, five seats with six seats for each of the Prairie Provinces. One reason the Senate was created was to give more equal representation from each region. For example, Ontario has a large percentage of seats in the House of Commons, but a much smaller percentage of the seats in the Senate.

The Senate also is a body of sober second thought. In the system of constitutional government it was felt that this kind of balance to the power of the government in office was beneficial. Thus Senators work hard considering and acting on laws and public policy. One can wonder why there has been so much criticism of the Senate. There has always been talk of reforming the Senate. Perhaps some are uneasy when the Senate really does the work it has under our constitution.

Many of the senators are not politicians. Members come from many backgrounds and walks of life. There is a wide representation of the Canadian population in the Senate which includes many women and visible minorities. Also, it is not true that most of the senators are old. The average age of the Senate is sixty-two years. This is just a little older than the average age of the House of Commons which is fifty-five years. Senators are required to retire by the time they turn seventy-five years old. In some European countries, members of an upper house of their legislative body can hold their seat for life.

Contrary to another common idea, Senators work hard. In fact there are penalties for frequent or long absences. Much of the work of the Senate is done in committees. Senate committees meet in various areas of the country, and their hearings are effective and efficient. Senators do much to study public issues. Since they can work without worrying whether or not they will be re-elected, they can take a long-term view of matters. Their reports deal with many issues that affect Canadians and can lead to important policy decisions.

The Senate must review all legislation. It can initiate many kinds of laws and often revises legislation coming to it from the House of Thus all legislation is Commons. seriously studied and debated. amendments proposed by the Senate is sent to the House. If the House rejects any proposed amendment and sends the law back to the Senate five times, then the matter goes to the Governor-General. Even before this happens, a long delay in the total process shows to the public there is a problem with the legislation.

The Senate has many traditions that contribute to its effectiveness. It can be improved, but it is of great importance for good government in Canada.

MONARCHY NEWS

Marriage of Charles, Prince of Wales and Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall

The marriage of Charles, Prince of Wales, and Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall took place on April 9. This wedding was overshadowed by the death of Pope John Paul II and delayed because of the Pope's funeral which was about the biggest funeral in history. Nevertheless this royal wedding did generate some interest, media stories and comments.

Ingrid Seward writes in Majesty:

Public opinion on the union between Charles and Camilla is divided and is likely to remain so. But those who are opposed to Mrs. Parker Bowles may wish to remember how, in the last year of her life, the late Princess of Wales had told friends she wanted Prince Charles "to make an honest woman out of Camilla." By that time, Diana and Charles had established a close and frank friendship. Diana was happy in herself and felt if he did not marry Camilla then all the fuss, all the heartache and all the pain would have been for nothing.

Time Magazine quotes Charles Mosley:

"Camilla is very English, understated and she has charm...she is no oil painting-certainly not as beautiful as Diana. Yet Camilla is socially and emotionally assured in a way that poor Diana was not."

The same article describes the important work of Prince Charles through the Prince's Trust. Most of the profits from its activities have gone to charity.

Royal Funerals

Princess Alice of Gloucester

Princess Alice of Gloucester, who died on October 30, 2004, was the longest-lived member of the Royal Family. The daughter of the Duke of Buccleuch, she married Prince Henry of Gloucester in 1935. Princess Alice was greatly involved with charity works and was president or patron of many organizations.

Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands

Prince Bernhard, husband of the late Queen Juliana of the Netherlands, died on December 1, 2004. He married Juliana, later the Queen, in 1937 She died in March, 2004. Prince Bernhard was active in war against Nazi Germany and became the Commander of the Dutch forces in 1944. After the war he actively supported culture, science and nature conservation movements; he was a founder and first president of the World Wildlife Fund, an organization with which Prince Philip is associated.

Sir Angus Ogilvy

Sir Angus Ogilvy, husband of Princess Alexandra of Kent, died on December 26, 2004. Angus Ogilvy gave unfailing support to the Royal Family and was patron to a number of charities.

Prince Rainier of Monaco

Prince Rainier died on April 6, 2005. He ruled Monaco for 56 years, making him Europe's longest reigning monarch. He did much for Monaco by expanding and modernizing the state. His marriage to Grace Kelly brought him fame and much happiness.