



Monarchy Matters

NEWSLETTER

**South Saskatchewan Branch
Monarchist League of Canada**

September, 2009

NEWS AND NOTES

**General Meeting
South Saskatchewan Branch
Monarchist League**

Friday, October 16, 2009

7:30 pm.

**St. Mary's Anglican Church,
Regina**

Program:

***The Work of the
PRINCE OF WALES***

Plan to come – Bring a friend

A Reminder

Bring and Buy Sale

**At the branch meeting
on October 16**

**Please come:
Bring something to sell
Be ready to buy an item**

You can bring:

- Craft items**
- Baking, preserves**
- Jewelry, knick-knacks
and the like**

Please watch for:

The Board of Directors will be making plans for the Annual Meeting. In the past it has taken place on the fourth Friday of January. Final information will be in the next newsletter

The Board of Directors will be making plans to celebrate the forty years the Monarchist League has been active in Saskatchewan. Please watch for further information. Ideas would be welcome.

Editor's Comments:

C. S. Lewis describes a scene in his book, *The Horse and His Boy*, in which the Crown Prince of Calormen, a large and expansive nation, has gotten permission from his father, the Tisroc, or ruler, to organize an expedition to kidnap Queen Susan of Narnia who has refused his offer of marriage. The Tisroc explains his reason for giving the prince his permission to the Grand Vizier by saying, "If the Prince succeeds, we have Archenland, and perhaps hereafter Narnia. If he fails - I have eighteen other sons and Rabadash, after the manner of the eldest sons of kings, was beginning to be dangerous. More than five Tisrocs in Tashbaan have died before their time because their eldest sons, enlightened princes, grew tired of waiting for their throne. He had better cool his blood abroad than boil it in inaction here."

What is the role of the heir to a throne? What is he to do once he has completed his education and has become an adult? Every royal family and each heir has had to face this question. There are no ready answers or rules at hand that can be followed. Each heir has had to answer this question himself in the context of his nation, society, and the times in which he lives.

Some heirs have had clear and considerable roles. They have acted as vice-regents, generals, royal assistants, and representatives of the ruler. Others have had no clear role and have been cast in the role of court attendant to the ruler and in general lived the life of the leisurely wealthy upper class. A few have even had their own courts apart from that of the ruler and even in opposition to the ruler.

Our own royal family has had examples of all the situations in which the heir might find himself. It is in this context that Prince Charles has had to work out his own role and work in the realization that he would be Prince of Wales for some time. He could not go back to some of the old models because society has changed so greatly over the centuries and now often has contradictory expectations. Not even the models presented by past Princes of Wales of Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries are adequate models for working out the role of the Prince of Wales in the present social context.

Prince Charles has answered the question of his role and work in a very able way. This says much about his capabilities. How he has met the challenges of being the heir to the throne and the way he has created a significant role for himself will be the subject of the program of the meeting of the Monarchist League on October 16.

It is important to understand what Prince Charles is doing and what he has accomplished. For one thing, now that his marriage situation has been resolved, little is reported of the many things he has done. Also, one often sees the monarchy in Canada supported primarily on the basis of respect for Queen Elizabeth, with the sense that when Charles becomes King, the status of the monarchy is much less certain. This is unfortunate. Charles will be a different kind of monarch, but I have every confidence that he will be an able one. Also, there is the need to commend the monarchy on the basis of its own quality as an institution for Canada.

Jeannette Mynett

A Good Book:

Princes of Wales – Royal Heirs in Waiting, by David Loades, is a very informative and readable book about the Princes of Wales and heirs who were not named Princes of Wales. It gives a summary of their lives and the historical context in which they lived. It also discusses the roles they filled as Princes of Wales and heirs to the throne. It can be ordered through *Majesty* or *Royalty Magazine*. David Loades is Professor Emeritus at the University of Wales and has written several books the history of royalty.

Did you know?

Earlier this year *Reader's Digest* conducted a survey to see which Canadians we trust the most. The Canadian that came in second in the survey was Queen Elizabeth.

Remembering 40 years of the Monarchist League in Saskatchewan

We will be marking the forty years the Monarchist League has been active in Saskatchewan. At times there have been two branches, one centered around Regina and one centered around Saskatoon, which is the present situation. At other times all of Saskatchewan has been included in one branch.

As a part of marking this anniversary, it would be a worthwhile project to include memories of events and activities of the Monarchist League in the province from the past. Thus you are invited to send in your stories and memories about the League in the province. Please send them to Box 1981, Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, S0H 0B0, or you can send them by fax to 306-642-3835, or by email to

jrm.her@sasktel.net by December 16, 2009 so they can be included in the next newsletter.

What do our politicians think about the Monarchy?

Frank Dwyer writing in *Irish Connections* tells of a conversation between his wife, Jean, and Michael Ignatieff. When he asked her if she was a Canadian citizen, she said she was not because she had never gotten around to it, and she was not sure she could swear allegiance to the Queen of England. Mr. Ignatieff replied, "Maybe we should look into that. Maybe its time we got our own head of state." What did he mean?

Members of the Monarchist League are being encouraged to politely write Mr. Ignatieff and asking him for his views on the Canadian Crown. They are also asked to let the Dominion Office know of what answer they receive.

As a matter of fact, as was mentioned in an earlier newsletter, it might be a good idea to see what views other politicians' have on the Monarchy. Why not ask your MP and candidates seeking election.

Meeting of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the South Saskatchewan Branch held a meeting on June 26 at St. Luke's Anglican Church in Regina. Matters that were discussed included how the forty years of the Monarchist League in Saskatchewan will be celebrated, and the need for a Nominations Committee along with ideas for fund-raising and other aspects of the work of the League.

Would you be prepared to help with nominations? Please let a member of the board know if you are.

Royalty Notes

Prince Charles 60th Birthday

Prince Charles celebrated his sixtieth birthday on November 14, 2008. The Queen hosted a concert and dinner at Buckingham Palace to mark the birthday. A number of members of foreign royal families were invited to the celebration. Some who attended included the King and Queen of Sweden with Crown Princess Victoria, the Prince and Princess of Orange, the King and Queen of Jordan, the King of Bahrain, and the Prince and Princess of Asturias.

In a way, it was business as usual for Prince Charles on his actual birthday. On his birthday he visited Beckton Community Centre in east London, met with pupils taking part in the Prince's Trust Team Programme, attended a concert for 200 children at the Royal Opera House and met Robin Williams after a charity performance in aid of the Prince's Trust.

Prince Charles at D-Day Celebrations

Prince Charles represented the Queen at the celebrations of the 65th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings in Normandy. There had been some hope the Queen would be able to go, but no one thought to send her an invitation, so Prince Charles was the one who traveled to France for the celebrations. He holds a number of military titles and ranks.

Engagement of Princess Victoria

King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden announced the engagement of his daughter, Crown Princess Victoria to her long-time boyfriend, Daniel Westling. The wedding will take place in the summer of 2010

Royal Wedding Anniversary

King Albert II and Queen Paola of Belgium celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary this year. They were married on July 2, 1959. King Albert became king in 1993 when his older brother, King Baudouin died suddenly; he had no heirs. King Albert and Queen Paola have three children and a number of grandchildren. The public part of their anniversary celebration was a garden party to which 5,000 people were invited.

500th Anniversary of the Accession of Henry VIII.

Henry VIII, the second Tudor Monarch, became king in April, 1509., succeeding his father, Henry VII who had founded the Tudor Dynasty. There are special exhibitions at Windsor Castle and the Tower of London and other special events to mark this anniversary. Also, a number of periodicals have had articles about Henry VIII.

Henry was the second son of Henry VII and Elizabeth of York. Since his older brother, Prince Arthur, was the heir, Henry was groomed for the Church, and was raised with his sisters. He received an excellent education. The death of his brother changed Henry's situation since he became the heir.

King Henry was not the most able of the Tudor monarchs, but he was one of the most colorful. He did much to enabled England to play a major role in Europe, and presided over a brilliant court. He is best known for his efforts to secure the Tudor succession which was the reason for his marital policies. None of his children had any direct heirs. Henry VIII was a controversial, but compelling king who captured the imagination of later generations.

Long Live the Queen

The April, 2009 edition of *Zoomer* includes an article about Queen Elizabeth which opens as follows.

"As our Monarch turns 83 on April 21, we salute her and join Elizabeth Renzetti is saying, Happy Birthday, your Majesty." (p. 74)

The article discusses how healthy the Queen is, how well she carries her years, how active she continues to be. It notes,

"The current monarch keeps her body fit by riding her horses and walking her dogs, and her mind keen through diligent examination of the events affecting her country...It is a little-known fact that the Queen is a bit of a policy wonk. Although her diary is not as full as it once was, her commitment to the job is unswerving; she still carries out hundreds of royal duties a year, from state banquets to hospital visits to foreign tours." She is Head of State of sixteen countries.

The same issue of *Zoomer* also includes an article by Charmaine Gooden on factors that enable the Queen to enjoy good health and commends them to others.

1 – Get regular medical screenings. The Queen gets regular medical check-ups since this is a good way of catching potential health problems early.

2 – Get regular exercise. The Queen is an avid walker and rides horses. Regular walking can have great health benefits.

3 – Stay mentally sharp. Prime ministers have noted the Queen's formidable grasp of current issues. She continually challenges her mind in various ways. This helps a person keep in mental shape.

4 – Manage stress. The Queen has had stress in her life of various kinds and

many issues to deal with. Thus she has learned to keep stress at a positive level. Chronic, destructive stress can be hard on one's health.

5 – Maintain a constant body weight. The Queen and Prince Philip have never appeared overweight. Keeping lean and trim helps one stay active.

6 – Eat a variety of healthy foods. The Queen has tapped into eating well with an emphasis on fresh fruits and vegetables, grains, poultry and fish.

7 – Drink a cuppa tea. The Queen enjoys her afternoon tea. Tea is known to have a number of health benefits.

8 – Alcohol...in moderation. All the Royal Family enjoys a small amount of alcohol every day. Studies have shown that a glass of red wine has benefits

9 – Keep a pet. The Queen enjoys her dogs. A positive response from pets can help one's mood and aid in having a sense of well-being.

10 – Stay connected. The Queen has a rich social and family life and has benefited from the stability of her sixty years of marriage to Prince Philip. It is important to have such stable relationships and to stay in touch with family, friends, and others.

11 – Help others-help yourself. Charity work is quite important to the Queen. She is patron to more than 600 organizations and encourages volunteering. This kind of sharing and volunteering can be gratifying, meaningful, and encouraging.

12 – Have a Spiritual Focus. The Queen is an active Anglican and attends church services on a regular basis. In her 2002 Christmas message she noted the fundamental importance of one's beliefs and the fact that the teachings of Christ and her faith gives her a basic framework for her life. Such a focus can give a positive meaning for one's life.

Queen's Birthday Luncheon Saturday, May 16

Members and friends of the Monarchist League gathered at the Hotel Saskatchewan on Saturday, May 16, for the Queen's Birthday Luncheon in honour of the birthday of Queen Elizabeth, Queen of Canada. Scott Hazelwood was the Master of Ceremonies for the the luncheon. Bruce Farrer, Chairman of the South Saskatchewan Branch, welcomed all who had come, especially those not members of the Monarchist League. Joan Faron played for the singing of O Canada, and, at the end of the program, for God Save the Queen. Keith Knox proposed the Loyal Toast to the Queen.

The program was a performance by harpist, Glenna Stewart. She was introduced by Cathy Farrer. Glenna played a variety of pieces having some royal connection, and provided an interesting commentary. She noted that Prince Charles had revived the tradition of the royal harpist which had done much to raise the profile of the harp. In the past the harpist was an integral part of the royal household, although the relation of the harpist and the king were not always good. She played *Ash Grove* to show a style of music that was played.

At times itinerant musicians were an important means of communication. Because of their role in providing information among Irish nationals, Cromwell worked to have harps destroyed. He failed to accomplish this. Glenna played *Danny Boy*, which is an Irish tune with lyrics written by a British Lawyer. Glenna then played, *The Skye Boat Song* which commemorated the

flight of Bonnie Prince Charles after the Battle of Culloden. Glenna noted how central the white cliffs of Dover are to the English experience and played the piece, *The White Cliffs of Dover*.

Glenna spoke of the respect the Queen has shown for First Nations. She played *Northwest Passage* to illustrate this regard.

Glenna spoke about the harp which is an ancient music instrument. Various materials have been used for the strings. Pedal harps actually came from France, and the pedals give a greater range of music possibilities. Those playing non-pedal harps are called harpers, while those playing pedal harps are known as harpists. Glenna answered some questions about harps. She concluded by noting the use of music at royal functions and by playing, *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*, a favorite among members of the royal family, and *Greensleeves*, which was erroneously attributed to Henry VIII.

Jeannette Mynett thanked Glenna Stewart for her music and commentary. Thanks were given to Isabel Bailey for all she did to organize the luncheon. Announcements were made about the Lieutenant Governor's garden party on July 1 and the next general meeting on October 16.

Branch Directory

*Patron: The Hon. Dr. Gordon L. Barnhart
Lt. Governor of Saskatchewan*

*Chairman: Mr. Bruce Farrer, Qu'Appelle
Editors: Mr./Mrs. R. Mynett, Assiniboia*