THE MONARCHIST LEAGUE OF CANADA
LA LIGUE MONARCHISTE DU CANADA

SASKATCHEWAN BRANCH

Patron: Her Honour, The Hon. Dr.Lynda M.Haverstock, Lt.Governor of Saskatchewan

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NEWSLETTER – September,2003

The Chairman's Letter

Since the last issue of our Newsletter many of us have had the opportunity to meet HRH The Earl of Wessex during his June visit to our Province. Wherever he went our royal visitor was personable and very much able to interact with all whom he met. Provincial organisers were delighted with the visit and what was acomplished. Many of our Branch members saw and spoke with Prince Edward in Regina, Moose Jaw, Lloydminster, Prince Albert and Melfort. A special article about his visit may be found in this Newsletter.

October will see our final programme for the present year when we host a Dinner for Her Honour the Lt.Governor on **Friday, 17 October**. I hope that as many as possible will be able to join us that night, but it is important to have your tickets booked not later than Tuesday, 9 October. We need to provide the Royal United Services Institute with numbers by that date. Please read the advertisement for the Dinner an another page.

Your Board of Directors is already considering the content of the 2004 programme and I hope that if you have suggestions you will contact me. My address is now the return address for our mailings as part of the heading of this Newsletter.

An ongoing concern for the Monarchist League is the need to maintain and to add to our membership. The policy at a national level is that if a member has not renewed their membership for two consecutive years their names will be removed from the membership lists. Sometimes members may forget to renew when they receive their reminder, and of course there is loss of members through death or moving away with no forwarding address to follow through with. Our Branch has a strong membership base with most of us renewing annually. May I encourage members who have not renewed to do so as soon as possible. Further, can you approach a friend or neighbour or family member to consider taking out a membership? We can provide membership application forms for your use if you need them. A strong need is to recruit young men and women into our Branch at this time. Thank you for your continuing support for our Branch.

Yours sincerely,

Derek F Nicholls

Branch Chairman

COMING EVENTS

Dinner with the Lt. Governor
Her Hon. Dr. Lynda Haverstock

Friday, October 17, 2003
6:30 p.m. – Social Time
7:00 p.m. - Dinner
Royal United Services Institute
1660 Elphinstone Street, Regina

Tickets: $17.00 each
Please contact Mary Salway at 586-7867 in Regina by October 9 to buy tickets. Tickets are to be purchased in advance.

Plan to come and bring a friend.

Annual Meeting
Saskatchewan Branch
Monarchist League of Canada

Friday, January 23, 2004
7:00 p.m.

- Details will be in the next newsletter.
- Please think about anyone you might nominate for the Board of Directors.
- Make plans to come and bring your ideas for the work of the branch.

NEWS AND NOTES

Celebration of the Golden Jubilee of the Coronation of Elizabeth II

A number of events took place to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

On June 1 a Festal Evensong was held at St. Paul's Cathedral in Regina commemorating the Golden Jubilee of the Coronation. This event was first announced at the Jubilee Luncheon in May. A number of members of the Saskatchewan Branch were present for the service. The Lieutenant Governor,Lynda Haverstock, gave the address at the service. She noted the changes that have taken place in the world since the Queen's Coronation. She said, "Throughout all the changes, positive and negative, Her Majesty has remained a symbol of stability, unwavering in her dedication to the institution of the Crown and to the peoples of the world. She has urged citizens and nations to use our now global interdependence for good."

All Saints Anglican Church in Saskatoon also held a festal Evensong to commemorate the jubilee of the Coronation. The branch assisted the rector by letting him know the names and phone numbers of members in Saskatoon.

There was a special Eucharist celebrated in St. John's Anglican Church in Moose Jaw in honour of the occasion. A special cake was served after the service. The jubilee of the Coronation also was marked during Morning Prayer in St. Boniface Anglican Church, Assiniboia.

Jubilee Statue Project

Members of the Monarchist League have donated about $7,000 towards the Queen's Golden Jubilee Statue Project. You can still make donations for the project. Donations can be sent to the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation, 2300 – 11th Ave., Regina, SK, S4P 0K1. Please indicate that you are a member of the Monarchist League.

The Statue will be of the Queen mounted on Burmese, the horse given her by the RCMP in 1969. This horse was her favorite mount until she was retired in 1987. Burmese was born on the RCMP re-mount ranch at Fort Walsh in Saskatchewan.

The Town of Maple Creek took note of the fact that Burmese was born near this community by raising $10,000 for the statue project. The town was presented with a model of the statue which will be displayed.

Directors' Meeting

The Board of Directors of the Saskatchewan Branch held a meeting on July 28, at the home of the Chairman, Derek Nicholls.

The directors at the meeting spent some time considering plans for future activities for the branch. Information on these activities will be in future newsletters.

There was some discussion on ways to assist in the distribution of Red Boxes to schools so they would be used effectively. The Red Box is an educational kit for schools on the institutions of government in Canada with a focus on the constitutional monarchy of Canada. The distribution of the Red Boxes is a project of the national organization of the Monarchist League of Canada. One thing that was noted was the importance of personal contacts. Please contact the chairman if you have any ideas on ways of assisting the distribution of these kits or if you could help.

The Board also is working on job descriptions for the particular positions.

The next meeting will be at noon on October 17.

Some Royal Notes

The Countess of Wessex has been named the new president of Girlguiding in the United Kingdom. She takes over the presidency following the death of Princess Margaret who had been the president of the Girl Guide organization. This appointment continues the long association of the Royal Family with Girl Guiding. The Queen is patron of the organization, and she and Princess Margaret were Girl Guides. The Queen Mother also served the Girl Guides in a leadership role.

A number of royal babies are expected or have been born recently. The Countess of Wessex is expecting her first child in December. The Crown Prince and Princess of Norway are expecting their first child in January, 2004. The Crown Prince and Princess of Belgium are expecting their second child. Their first child, Elisabeth, was delivered by ceasarian. The Crown Prince and Princess of the Netherlands also are expecting their first child in January. The King of Morocco celebrated the birth of his first son. Princess Martha Louise of Norway gave birth to a daughter.

Jubilee Birthday Luncheon

The Saskatchewan Branch of the Monarchist League held a special luncheon on Saturday, May 17, 2003 to mark the Golden Jubilee of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth, Queen of Canada. The luncheon took place at the Hotel Saskatchewan, Regina. All available tickets for the luncheon had been sold.

The branch chairman, the Rev. Derek Nicholls, led a silent tribute for Mr. Eric Burt and Miss Dorothy Goodale, welcomed those who had come, and introduced guests and new members. Mr. Logan Bjarnason gave the Grace before the luncheon, and Dr. Jacqui Shumiatcher offered the Loyal Toast.

The guest speaker for the luncheon was His Worship Mayor Pat Fiacco, Mayor of Regina. He spoke on 100 Years as the Queen City.

Mr. Fiacco noted that few cities have stronger ties to the Queen than Regina. There have been a number of royal visits to Regina over the years. An early one was by the Marquis of Lorne and his wife, Princess Louise, who suggested the name of Regina for the city. The city gave a warm welcome to King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1939. The crowds that came to see the king and queen were glad they had come to the city in the midst of hard times. Regina welcomed Princess Elizabeth, now our Queen, and Prince Philip in 1951. There had been a number of other royal visits, including a visit by the Queen and Prince Philip in 1973 to open the new RCMP museum. Prince Philip has been to Regina several times to present the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Prince Edward had visited Regina in 1994, and all concerned were looking forward to his sharing in the centennial of Regina. Prince Charles had a very successful visit in 2001.

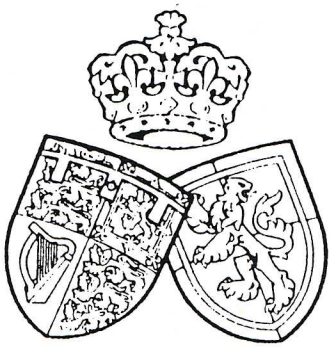
Mr. Fiacco noted other royal ties. These included buildings named for the Queen, various street names, and the civic celebrations of the Golden Jubilee and the 100th birthday of the Queen Mother. Mr. Fiacco expressed pride in the historic ties to the Monarchy which was a stabilizing influence. He applauded the goals of the Monarchist League. The Monarchy is a Canadian institution which would help the nation deal with the future.

Mrs. Pat Wagner expressed thanks to the mayor on behalf of all present for his remarks.

Derek Nicholls read greetings from a number of dignitaries. The first was from the Lieutenant Governor in which she sent greetings on behalf of the Queen and noted her contributions to Canada. Premier Calvert sent greetings in which he noted the contributions of the Monarchist League for the Jubilee celebrations as well as projects of the provincial government. Greetings also were received from Elwin Hermanson, Leader of the Opposition, and from Ron Osika, Minister of Government Relations.

Derek Nicholls recognized the contribution of several members, including Eileen Bancroft, and John and Heather Morris of Moose Jaw who had initiated a special jubilee rose garden in that city.

Dr. Michael Jackson announced a special service at St. Paul's Cathedral for the 50th anniversary of the coronation. Announcements also were given relating to the visit of Prince Edward in June and other coming events.



A BUSY ROYAL VISIT TO SASKATCHEWAN

When His Royal Highness, Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, visited our Provice from 18-22 June he had a very full itinerary to follow during that time. Initially his visit was to celebrate the Centenary of the City of Regina, but they were joined by Lloydminster and Moose Jaw whose centennials also occur in 2003.

The arrangements for the visit were coordinated by Dr.Michael Jackson who is a member of our Saskatchewan Branch. He and his staff worked hard for months to prepare for the visit, and their efforts were well rewarded when everything had taken place and they could relax and receive plaudits for their organisation.

In Regina Prince Edward was formally welcomed at the Legislative Buildings by the Lt.Governor, the Premier and his wife, government members and other dignatories. As part of the official welcome HRH unveiled a miniature of the statue which is being created to honour the Golden Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen. He was then taken to Regina City Hall for the civic welcome, followed by a walkabout in Victoria Park and a Civic Lunch at the Hotel Saskatchewan. In the evening he attended a gala evening at The Globe Theatre.

His second day was spent in Lloydminster, Prince Albert and Melfort where he saw cultural activities and he officialy opened a Cultural Centre in Prince Albert. Unfortunately, due to poor weather conditions he and his party could not fly back to Regina, so they came by road from Melfort which is a journey of about 4 hours.

On his third day he officially opened the new Indian University College in Regina, presented gold level awards to recipients of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, and attended a Dinner at Goivernment House hosted by their Honours Dr.Lynda Haverstock the Lt.Governor and her husband Mr.Harley Olson.

The final day was a Sunday and it began in Moose Jaw with a welcome by the Mayor, Mr.Al Schwinghammer and his wife Joan outside of St.John the Baptist Anglican Church. He was then introduced to Fr.Derek Nicholls, our Branch Chairman, who escorted HRH into the church for the regular Sunday Eucharist at which Fr.Nicholls was celebrant and preacher. Over 350 people attended by invitation and HRH read one of the lessons during the Service. This was Prince Edward's second visit to St.John's, the first being on 30 July, 1978 when he acompanied his parents HM The Queen and HRH Prince Philip.Following the Church Service HRH was taken to the Moose Jaw Armouries where he was officially installed as Hon.Colonel in Chief of the Saskatchewan Dragoons. This was followed by a Provincial Lunch at the Heritage Inn hosted by Premier Lorne Calvert and his wife. About 300 people attended. Following lunch HRH went to Crescent Park for a walkabout, during which he met large numbers of people, saw the newly-created Rose Garden created in honour of his mother's Golden Jubilee, and in another area he unveiled a few plaques to be placed in various locations in the park and the city. Following a visit to the Fair Grounds HRH flew from CFB Moose Jaw to Toronto by private jet, there to undertake some more commitments.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN

The Spiritual Dimension of Monarchy

Summary of talk given by
The Rev. Derek Nicholls
To the Saskatchewan Branch
Monarchist League
June 27, 2003

The idea for the talk came from the book, God Save the Queen: the Spiritual Dimension of Monarchy, by Ian Bradley. It is an appropriate topic as we celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Queen's Coronation. The author believes that the future of monarchy lies in its religious and spiritual dimension.

The ceremony for the Queen's coronation has changed very little through the years. The two central acts are the spiritual act of anointing her with holy oil and the placing of the Crown of St. Edward on her head as the outward sign of her majesty as Sovereign. The congregation gave its ascent by shouting, God save the Queen. Let us look at the spiritual background for the coronation.

The Old Testament provides the main sources for our understanding of monarchy as having a sacred and spiritual character. Most of the ceremony and ritual associated with the monarchy is based on Old Testament practice. The anthem sung at the moment of crowning has been used since the crowning of King Edgar in A.D. 973 and comes from the account in I Kings 1 of Solomon's crowning.

The Old Testament kingship goes back to the time of Samuel. The Israelites expressed the need for a king, so God reluctantly allowed Samuel to anoint Saul as their king. God also required Samuel to warn the people of the dangers of kingship. The fate of the people would be tied up with the fate of their king. The charismatic nature of personal leadership also would have to be taken into account. Saul did not fulfill his promises, so Samuel anointed David as the one named by God to replace Saul as king. David was a good king, but also sinned, so he was not allowed to build the Temple in Jerusalem for the Ark of the Covenant. It was from this time the following points are defined: 1) Kingship belongs to heaven and was vested in the gods; 2) Monarchs have a special responsibility for the weak and powerless; 3) the sacred nature of Kingship was celebrated in an annual enthronement ceremony; 4) Kings ruled by divine consent and had a prime duty to serve God. The king was not seen as divine, but as one set apart to rule by divine election.

The Old Testament records how the kings ruled and the ultimate fate of the people when the kings did not keep their promises to God. First Israel, then Judah were conquered and deported. During their captivity the people came to realize what they had sacrificed both spiritually and having a place of their own where they could gather to worship God. When Cyrus of Persia allowed the Jews to return to their homeland, they had the opportunity to restore their spiritual practices, which included the restoration of the Temple in Jerusalem and the sovereignty of God in their lives. The Chief Priests became the authority in royal matters. Even King Herod respected their role. Then Jesus came to bring in the restored Kingdom of God. Jesus did not come to be an earthly king, but as the Son of the Lord of all.

The Roman Emperor Constantine the Great converted to Christianity as a result of his experience of seeing the sign of the Cross in the skies. One result of this was the intertwining of Church

and State as the years passed. Prior to his break with the Pope in Rome, Henry VIII had written a treatise upholding Catholic teaching. For this the Pope gave him the title, "Defender of the Faith", a title which our present Queen holds. She is the Supreme Governor of the Church of England. Prince Charles has raised the question of whether the title should not be *Defender of Faith* as he recognizes the multi-faith gathering of people who now live in Britain.

The Celts saw kings as priest-kings having special powers and upholding the moral and spiritual order of their people. St. Patrick "Christianized" the rule of kings in Ireland and brought the Scriptural understanding to Kingship. Often Queens were first converted, and they brought their husbands into the Christian faith. We see the evolving of Christian sovereignty from Alfred to Edward the Confessor. They were seen as splendid and servant-like, pious and chivalrous, full of knightly virtue, gung-ho in triumphalism and supernatural magic. King John introduced the gift of "Maundy Money in 1210. Queen Elizabeth II holds the Royal Maundy Services in Cathedrals around the country and not just in London. Recipients are pensioners of modest income, selected on the basis of their service to the Church and community.

The reign of Charles I saw a conflict between King and Parliament because Charles was determined to hold to the divine right of kings. He saw himself divinely appointed by God and answerable only to Him. This eventually led to his death and the formation of the Commonwealth under Oliver Cromwell. Only when Charles II ascended the throne did Church and state reach some kind of rapprochement with each other.

While the political power of the British monarchy has steadily diminished over the last 150 years, its moral and spiritual influence has, if anything, increased, thanks largely to the firm personal faith and practice of Christianity of successive monarchs from Victoria to our present Queen Elizabeth II. The monarchy has embodied and personified the values of duty, service, self-sacrifice, stability, dignity, and moral principle. This has been combined with a certain distance and reserve, and a tendency to understatement and a commitment to discretion. The spotlight is on the personality of the monarch and of all members of the royal family. Not only is the sovereign, but also his/her family held up and taken as a model. Our present sovereign exemplifies all the values to which I have referred.

Finally, as we look ahead to the future role of monarchy, Ian Bradley believes that it will point beyond itself to the majesty of God. It will encourage the God-given human faculties of reverence, loyalty and worship. He sees this as the real sacramentality of monarchy. It derives its true sanction from the above rather than the below. Elizabeth II is, Deo Gratia (By the Grace of God), Queen, Defender of the Faith.

I hope that this presentation has given some awareness of the spiritual dimension of monarchy, and a new appreciation of our Queen who we recognize with affection in this Golden Jubilee Year of her Coronation in 1953.

Official Opening of the Prince of Wales Cultural and Recreation Centre In Assiniboia

The Prince of Wales Cultural and Recreational Centre in Assiniboia, Saskatchewan had its official opening on Thursday, May 22, 2003. The center was named for Prince Charles.

His Royal Highness unveiled the cornerstone and participated in the sod turning for the complex during his visit to Assiniboia on April 27, 2001.

The idea for this community complex was introduced in 1985. Much work has gone into planning and building the facility over the years. The Prince of Wales Cultural and Recreational Centre has the library, curling rink, the Assiniboia Campus of the the Southwest Community College, a movie theater, and, a community auditorium and cultural centre and banquet hall. The first event in the centre was the first polkafest in August, 2002.

A number of messages were received for the official opening. One was from St. James Palace, London. It read: "His Royal Highness has asked me to wish you all the very best for a memorable opening of this new facility. The Prince of Wales recalls with real affection his visit to Assiniboia in April 2001, and is glad that the Cultural and Recreation Centre which bears his name, and for which he broke the first ground, is now bringing benefit to the local community." This message was sent by James Kidner, Assistant Secretary to the Prince of Wales.

Messages also were received from Her Honour, the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, and the Premier of Saskatchewan.

There has been some discussion of the Saskatchewan Branch of the Monarchist League and the Royal Society of St. George together doing a day trip to tour this facility.

End Notes

Some Golden Jubilee Projects

John Morris reported on the Golden Jubilee Rose Garden in Crescent Park in Moose Jaw. He and his wife, Heather, were responsible for getting it established. The roses were put out this spring with the help of volunteers.

Christine Pike of Waseca donated a park bench in honour of the Queen's Golden Jubilee for her community.

Thanks goes to Wendy Jensen for her help and advice with the newsletter.

Thanks also go to John and Heather Morris for addressing the envelopes, and to all others who help in any way.

Next Newsletter

Please have items for the next newsletter in to Jeannette Mynett by November 30, 2003. You can mail them to: Box 1981, Assiniboia, Sk., S0H 0B0, or fax them to: 306-642-3835.