



Monarchy Matters

NEWSLETTER South Saskatchewan Branch Monarchist League of Canada

April, 2017

Annual General Meeting

**South Saskatchewan Branch
Monarchist League of Canada**

Friday, April 21, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Guide Hall, Regina

All interested people are welcome.

Bring your ideas for programs for the Monarchist League and for its work.

Enjoy the time with others in the Monarchist League

Nominations for the Board of Directors should be sent to: Scott Hazelwood (306-525-6608; scott.hazelwood@sasktel.net). Please obtain the consent of the person you wish to nominate

Annual Queen's Birthday Luncheon

Saturday, May 13, 2017

**Travelodge South Hotel,
Regina
Carlton-Cambridge Room**

12:00 Noon

Speaker – Mr. Bob Hawkins

Tickets - \$30.00

Deadline to buy tickets – April 25

Plan to come and bring a guest.

To purchase your tickets, contact Valerie Cade (306-545-9890); rvcade@accesscomm.ca). There is seating for 80 people, so you should get your tickets early. Tickets will not be sold at the door. They must be ordered and payment made for them before April 25.

General Meeting – October 21, 2016

The South Saskatchewan Branch of the Monarchist League had a general meeting on October 21, 2016, at the Guide Hall in Regina. The Chairman, Scott Hazelwood, opened the meeting and welcomed all who had come. This was followed by the singing of, O Canada.

The Chairman read a letter from the Queen thanking the branch for the birthday greetings sent from the Birthday Luncheon in May.

Isabel Bailey proposed that members could bring royalty magazines which members could borrow to read and return for others to use.

Members at the meeting raised concerns on why no mention or recognition was given the Monarchist League at the service at St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral honouring the Queen's 90th birthday. It was agreed that a letter to Michael Jackson be sent expressing this concern and disappointment.

Valerie Cade introduced the main speaker for the evening, Elder Betty McKenna. Elder McKenna is from the Aishnabae Nation, and is a direct descendant of Chief Yellow Quill who was one of the signatories of Treaty 4. She teaches at the First Nations University, is a Traditional Ceremonialist, and has served in a number of positions in the community. Elder Betty spoke to the meeting about Treaty 4.

Elder Betty McKenna noted that the First Nations leaders who signed Treaty 4 had felt forced to sign the treaty. The people themselves were divided as to whether the treaty should be signed. The Piapot Camp was very large and a very old camp. While the camp had been moved to various sites, the people had always returned to the one place. Archaeological work had shown layers of fire pits.

When the treaties were signed, many of the First Nations people did not understand all the issues. There was a language barrier, and there was a problem in translating the English into the First Nations languages. This resulted in much misunderstanding. The First Nations people saw themselves as a sovereign people and were prepared to share the land with the Europeans. They saw the land as Mother Earth which was not owned or to be sold. The Europeans saw all the empty land and wanted to take and develop it as a commodity. The First Nations and the Europeans had different ways of seeing things, and this caused many misunderstandings. This, along with the language barriers, caused breakdowns in communication. Also there was much pressure on the First Nations to assimilate quickly into the European society.

Even with the Truth and Reconciliation work, there are still problems. Too often terms and applications of what needs to be done is dictated by the governments. Those in governments still do not really understand the ideas and concepts of the First Nations. Also the pressure on First Nations to join the European-based society continues to be present. There is still much to be done to bridge the gaps between the First Nations and the rest of society.

Meeting of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors for the South Saskatchewan Branch met on October 7, 2016. There was some discussion on arrangements for the Queen's Birthday luncheon and programs for 2017. It was noted that it would be good to relate a program to Canada's royal heritage. Your ideas would be welcomed.

Personnel Notes

Condolences go to the family of Joyce Johnson who died on January 15, 2017. A celebration of her life took place at Westminster United Church. Joyce had been the wife of a former Lieutenant-Governor of Saskatchewan, William Johnson. A talented pianist, she had been an active member of the Monarchist League until failing health prevented her from coming to meetings.

The South Saskatchewan Branch welcomes Monique Goffinet Miller to Regina. She and her husband recently moved to Regina from Victoria where she had been an active member of the Monarchist League and chairman of the Victoria Branch until her move to Regina. She is a leadership and change management consultant and has been involved in media relations.

Tom Richards, who is from Regina and was a former member of the Board of Directors of the South Saskatchewan Branch has been appointed the Senior Representative of the Monarchist League for the Prairie Provinces. Tom Richards was the former National Chairman of the Young Monarchists, and attended Oxford University in England. He now lives in Saskatoon where he is reading Law at the University of Saskatchewan.

Kenneth Lane has been named the new Chairman of the Victoria Branch of the Monarchist League. He has been an active member of the League and involved in various undertakings.

Sapphire Jubilee-Queen Elizabeth II

On February 6, 2017 Queen Elizabeth reached another milestone in reaching her 65th year as Queen. While this achievement was not celebrated with great public fanfare, there was a 41-gun salute at London's Green Park. The Queen herself spent the day quietly at Sandringham. It was for her more of a day for quiet reflection.

Few monarchs have reigned longer than Queen Elizabeth. King Sobhuza of Swaziland reigned for 82 years and his reign remains the longest in recorded history. Emperor Franz Joseph I of the Austro-Hungarian Empire reigned for 67 years. King Bhumibol of Thailand ruled for 70 years. King Louis XIV of France reigned for 72 years.

Other Monarchy Notes

Queen Elizabeth is cutting back on her many commitments and undertook no overseas engagements in 2016. The younger members of the Royal Family now carry out a good number of the engagements and public duties once done by the Queen.

Princess Anne continues to be the hardest working member of the Royal Family, carrying out 179 engagements in 2016. The Prince of Wales now takes over an increasing number of the Queen's important official duties. When he becomes king, Prince Charles will bring much experience to his role as monarch. He is becoming one of the Royal Family's busiest members. Among other engagements, he and the Duchess of Cornwall completed a successful tour of Oman, the United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain, carrying out more than 50 engagements in seven days.

Prince Charles sons are also undertaking more engagements. Prince Harry toured the

Caribbean between November 20 and December 4, 2016, representing the Queen for a number of celebrations and events in seven nations. This was his second tour of the Caribbean.

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge will be taking up public duties on a full-time basis. Thus they are moving to Kensington Palace in London. Prince George has been enrolled in Wetherby School. This will likely mean that Prince William will have to give up his work as an air ambulance pilot. The Duke and Duchess have been living at Anmer Hall on the Sandringham Estate for three years where they could live as a family in much privacy.

Buckingham Palace to be refurbished

Buckingham Palace is to undergo a 10-year refurbishment, starting in April. The Queen will remain in residence at the palace during the work. This work will include the replacing of ageing cables, lead pipes, wiring, and boilers, many for the first time in 60 years.

Away from the splendour of the state rooms, Buckingham Palace is showing its age and is at risk from electrical, plumbing, and heating systems which were barely updated in the 1950's. This urgent overhaul of the palace was needed to prevent the risk of fire, flood, and damage to the building and its priceless art collection.

The Queen spends a third of the year at Buckingham Palace where she hosts many events, holds weekly audiences with her Prime Minister, and welcomes over 50,000 people to various banquets, receptions, and garden parties. The palace has 775 rooms, including 19 state rooms, 52 royal and guest bedrooms, 188 staff bedrooms, and 92 offices. The Chief Secretary to the Treasury, David Gauke, pointed out. "We must ensure

that the special architectural and historic nature of some of our greatest buildings (including Buckingham Palace) are protected for future generations."

Passing of King Bhumibol

King Bhumibol, King of Thailand, died on October 13, 2016, after a reign of 70 years. He had been in failing health for several years.

King Bhumibol was born in the U.S.A. where his father was studying medicine. His father died before his older brother abdicated as king, and Bhumibol's older brother was murdered under mysterious circumstances after a very short reign. Bhumibol finished his education in Switzerland before returning to Thailand to take up his duties as the king.

King Bhumibol has reigned through numerous coups and new constitutions. While Thailand is a constitutional monarchy, the king has been very involved in the public life of Thailand and travelled extensively throughout the country, regularly visiting the 72 provinces of Thailand, personally involving himself with the people. The King and Queen also carried out a number of successful foreign tours.

When King Bhumibol died, there was some speculation on who would succeed him. Thailand does not have a clear law of succession. King Bhumibol had three daughters and one son. The Crown Prince does not have the popularity or confidence that his sister, Princess Sirindhorn, does. However Crown Prince Vajirongkorn was acclaimed the new King of Thailand.

A note-The Lieutenant-Governor of Saskatchewan will be at the Queen's Birthday luncheon.