

## Cambridge provost studies knighthood

By OAKLAND ROSS

"I am probably the only knight ever to have taken notes during his induction ceremony," said Professor Sir Edmund Leach, Provost of King's College, Cambridge University, who spent almost two hours on Tuesday comparing the annual presentation of honours at Buckingham Palace to the pig sacrifice ritual of Borneo head-hunters.

Some 100 students were gathered in Stedman lecture hall D and all derived considerable amusement from the comparison.

### FLUSTERED VERSION

Sir Edmund, who looks and speaks very much like a flustered version of Robert Stanfield, is a noted anthropologist, a Fellow of the British Academy and a trustee of the British Museum. He was granted a knighthood by the Queen last year and the ritual surrounding his investiture aroused his professional interest.

He noted that animal sacrifices all over the world have three elements in common: a shrine, a place of sacrifice and a place for the congregation. This is also true of the British presentation of honours.

Sir Edmund admitted that, although the Borneo sacrificial pig is actually done away with, such is not quite the case for the victim of a knighthood. However, he said, the "dubbing" ritual (in which the monarch taps the shoulders of the knight-to-be with the Sword of State) is the symbolic equivalent.

### ANTHROPOLOGY

"I don't know what the people who originated all of this (the British ceremony) thought they were doing," confessed Sir Edmund, "but what is interesting to

me is that what they in fact invented is very anthropological."

Sir Edmund used a slide projector and coloured diagrams to illustrate the similarities between the religious rituals of pre-industrial tribes and the British investiture of honours. In Borneo, he said, the Boh (that is, the tribe leader) usually places his foot upon the pig at the precise moment it is skewered; thus, there is an identification between the deceased beast and the Boh — a form of apotheosis. The granting of a knighthood or a peerage is a similar sort of honour, he said.

### KNIGHTHOOD TRIVIA

Sir Edmund filled most of the lecture with anecdotal trivia concerning his own investiture.

He was informed of his knighthood in a letter from the Office of the Patronage Secretary (which drew titters from the audience). The letter concluded with a request to "please sign on the dotted line confirming that you will accept."

### PALACE QUEUE

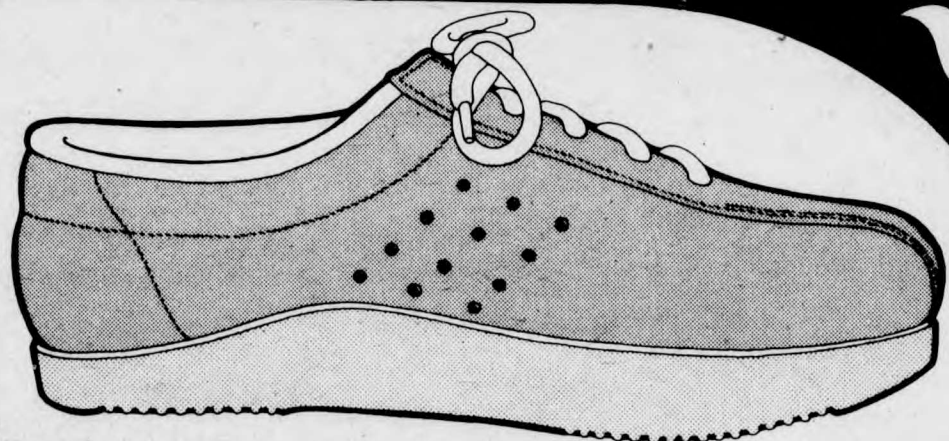
For the ceremony, Sir Edmund joined over a hundred others (the vast majority of whom were receiving honours far less exalted than a knighthood) to form a queue outside Buckingham Palace. All the men wore identical morning suits hired from Moss Bros. formal rentals. ("Moss Bros. must have a deal worked out with the Patronage Secretary.")

Sir Edmund said that his lifestyle has not changed drastically since he was created a knight. "My colleagues were amused," he said, "my daughter was offended and my secretary's self-esteem rose immeasurably."

## QUESTIONNAIRE

Percentage results on how 130 first year York students voted in a circulated questionnaire conducted by social science student Jerry Jordison. The questionnaire asked 43 questions designed to give some indication on how people feel about religion and mystical awareness. From page 1.

Question	Percentage Yes
Are you a vegetarian?	9
Do you go to church regularly?	22
Are you a Christian?	55
Do you pray?	62
Have you smoked marijuana?	55
Have you taken LSD?	18
Have you been hypnotised?	6
Is there really a devil?	39
Is philosophy an answer to life?	28
Is there fact in astrology?	46
Are we an image of God?	39
Is there fact in the Bible?	77
Is Jesus Christ your personal Savior?	33
Are humans a superior being?	47
Have you ever had an original idea?	72
Do you remember your dreams?	84
Are the mind and soul the same thing?	80
Do animals have souls?	50
Do you day dream a lot?	60
Is all illness psychosomatic?	11
Do you think plants have feelings?	54
Do you accept a virgin birth?	0
Is there a Heaven?	60
Is there anything beyond Heaven?	30
Have you ever studied yoga?	17
Have you taken the TM course?	6
Have you heard of Kirlian photography?	25
Is every thing relative?	58
Are there any absolute truths?	58
Can you speak in tongues?	12
Do you dream in colour?	63
Were you ever close to death?	42
Will the world end in the next 50 years?	8
Do you fear God?	38
Do rituals have meaning to you?	45
Are some things predestined?	66
Have you experienced God?	39
Are you an atheist?	12
Have you used an ouija board?	57
Have you read the Bible?	80
Would you want to be cremated?	37
Have you attended a therapy group?	12
Can you be saved acknowledging Jesus?	32



### This summer, sport a Root.

Run, walk or just lie around this summer in a Sport Root. Superbly crafted in great Canadian leathers, both inside and out. Available in cedar, coco, saddle or suede for men and women. Isn't it time you tried a Root, Sport?

For a free copy of the Book of Roots, write us.

Roots Natural Footwear  
1052 Yonge St.  
(Opposite the  
Rosedale Subway)  
967-5461

# Roots