

To the Royal Canadian Mounted Police

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To the Royal Canadian Mounted Police: —

The Sixtieth Anniversary of the founding of what is now the Royal Canadian Mounted Police will be a celebration in which members of the Force, their fellow Canadians, and those of the British Empire will have every reason to rejoice. The reputation of fearless determination of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in the cause of Justice is admired throughout the civilized world.

Originally founded to police territories acquired by the Dominion from the Hudson's Bay Company, your activities have expanded from that of mounted patrol to many activities in the nine provinces and on land, sea and air, in co-operation with various departments of the government. In the lonely Arctic, in the turmoil of the city, in the woods and on the plains, your presence assures that peace and order shall prevail. Dispatched to sea and into the air, duties marvelously strange to the constable of fifty years ago, you have met new and more complex problems with traditional distinction.

The honour of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police is large, yet contains only the most outstanding examples of heroism and sacrifice in the execution of duty. Many continue unswerving in their duty, rewarded in the satisfaction of work well done.

"The Mounties," as they are familiarly known, have been an important factor in the development of Canada. Their absolute integrity, high sense of duty and their persistent and rigid enforcement of the law have given to them a reputation which has greatly enhanced respect for the institutions upon which the preservation of British law and order depend.

The history of that part played in the administration of justice by the Mounted Police proves that they are as intent on conciliation as on accusation; their efforts have been almost as much devoted to the prevention of disputes and of crime as to the apprehension of those who have broken the law.

Many times in the history of the Mounted Police has one lone constable adjusted difficulties between Indian and Indian, White man and Red man, and served as guide, philosopher and friend to those who desired the advice of one whose honour was beyond reproach.

It is not my purpose even to make reference to the many outstanding and historical feats of the Force, but merely to express, on behalf of the people of Canada, their continued faith and admiration in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Yours faithfully,

R. B. Bennett.