

VISIT OF NEPALESE KING

Prime Minister Diefenbaker has announced that His Majesty Mahendra Bir Bikram Shah Deva, King of Nepal, accompanied by Her Majesty Ratna Rajya Lakshmi Shah, will, on May 27 and May 28, pay an official visit to Ottawa, where they will stay at Government House.

The King and Queen will be accompanied by the Ambassador of Nepal to the United States and his wife, by Brigadier Malla, Military Secretary to His Majesty, and by Mr. Pushparaj, Private Secretary.

It is planned that the royal party will also pay a private visit to Montreal.

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HISTORIC HOUSE RESTORED

An eighteenth-century house in Quebec City will come to life on April 30.

Restored jointly by the Quebec Board of Trade and the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, the Maillou House at 17 St. Louis Street is preserved for its architectural interest as a typical city house of the period and for its historical associations with British Army administration in Canada.

Mr. Alvin Hamilton, Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, will be the main speaker at the formal opening ceremony and will unveil plaques in French and English explaining the historic significance of the house.

Edouard Fiset, president of the Quebec Board of Trade and a member of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, will be chairman of the ceremony. Mr. Paul Beaulieu, Quebec Minister of Trade and Commerce, and Mr. Wilfrid Hamel, Mayor of Quebec City will also speak. The Most Reverend Maurice Roy, Archbishop of Quebec and Primate of the Catholic Church in Canada, will participate in the ceremony.

The Maillou House owes its name to Jean Maillou, a master contractor who built the original one-storey dwelling about 1736. During the period immediately following the Battle of the Plains of Abraham, the Military Council governing the city used the house for a meeting-place.

During the ownership of Antoine Juchereau Duchesnay, 1766-82, the house gained its two upper storeys. Over the years its occupants and owners have included Mrs. Elizabeth Fitzgerald, a widow who ran a fashionable inn in the city; Dr. John Mervin Nooth, superintendent of British military hospitals in North America and a well-known scientist; and John Hale, Deputy Paymaster to the British forces in North America.

Since Hale was responsible for the care of the Military Chest, a large sum of money used to pay army expenses, he had a vault built on the ground floor to safeguard the money. After

the house was acquired by the British Army in 1815, as much as £100,000 in gold and silver was stored within the vault's six-foot-thick stone walls.

During the time the British Army occupied the house, the chief office of the Army Commissariat and the Army Bill Office were located there. The Army Bill Office, which was on the second floor, paid the accounts arising from the War of 1812. Its bills, redeemable at par and backed by the unquestionable security and prestige of the British Government, were Canada's first paper money.

The Maillou House remained Crown property, being used first by the British Army and later by the Canadian Army until 1958, when it was transferred as a national historic site to the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources. The Quebec Board of Trade has been given a rent-free lease on the building for 30 years in return for its substantial contribution to the restoration, and its maintenance of the historic site.

Designation of the Maillou House as a national historic site by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada was based as much on its architectural as on its historic value. The mansion is a splendid example of early eighteenth-century architecture and construction. It illustrates a building style that has influenced Canadian architectural development.

The exterior of the house has been restored to the style of 1831. The ground floor interior is generally of the 1736 period. Visitors will be allowed to inspect a dining room furnished in the style of the early eighteenth century and the restored Military Chest office, which retains early nineteenth century appearance. A tourist information and reception centre is also located on the ground floor.

Most of the first and second floors are occupied by offices of the Quebec Board of Trade but the public is allowed access to the Army Bill Office on the second floor. This has been restored to its 1827 appearance largely through the efforts of the Bank of Montreal, which considers the office part of Canadian banking history.

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DAIRY PRICE SUPPORT

Agriculture Minister Harkness said in the House of Commons recently that the Government has authorized the Agricultural Stabilization Board to continue the present levels of price support for the dairy industry during the period May 1, 1960, to April 30, 1961.

The price support for butter during the dairy year, May 1, 1960, to April 30, 1961, will be 64 cents a pound for Canada First Grade creamery butter scoring 40-93, basis delivery Montreal, with appropriate price differentials for other grades and qualities.