October 26, 1977

four Royal Canadian Mounted Policemen. They later saw part of a jubilee regatta by the Ottawa Rowing Club at Dows Lake. That evening they attended a dinner given by Mr. Trudeau, followed by a gala concert at the National Arts Centre.

On October 16, Sunday, the royal visitors were present on Parliament Hill at an Interfaith Jubilee Thanksgiving service, where Prince Philip read the lesson. Later, they went to the Public Archives and National Library Building to inaugurate an exhibition of paintings.

An antique steam train took the Queen and Prince Philip to the village of Wakefield, a few miles from Ottawa, where they spent a short time before driving to the Prime Minister's summer residence at Harrington Lake. There they lunched and chatted with the provincial premiers. The busy day ended with the state dinner.

Included in the program for October 17, was a visit to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police headquarters to watch equestrian training, lunch with leaders of

New government for Manitoba

After eight years of New Democratic Party government, Manitoba voters have chosen the "free-enterprise" policies of Sterling Lyon's Progressive Conservative party (as noted briefly in last week's issue).

Lyon, recruited by former Premier Duff Roblin in 1958, and an outspoken opponent of socialism, assumed leadership of the party two years ago, after a brief retirement from politics.

Initial results of the October 11 election reveal a Conservative claim to 33 of the 57 seats, while the NDP retain 23 and the Liberals hold one. Prior to the election the NDP held 31 seats, the Conservatives 23, the Liberals three. Among defeated NDP members were Cabinet Ministers René Toupin, (Consumer Affairs), Peter Burtniak (Highways) and Ian Turnbull (Education).

Former Premier Ed Schreyer won his riding by a slim margin, Premier-elect Lyon captured a healthy majority, and Liberal leader Charles Huband ran third in his constituency.

Tax cuts

The Conservatives won support from voters disenchanted with what were called wasteful social programs and the Canadian cultural groups, a visit to a school where students were taking part in a French immersion program and a performance by ethnic groups at the Civic Centre. A dinner and reception for "Canadian young achievers" at the Chateau Laurier Hotel took place that evening, attended by the royal guests.

On the afternoon of October 18, the Queen and Prince Philip travelled by carriage from Government House to Parliament Hill, where after a royal salute by a guard of honour of the Royal 22nd Regiment and a fly past by Air Command, the Queen entered the Senate Chamber to deliver the Speech from the Throne. That evening they were guests at a dinner given by Senator Renaude Lapointe, Speaker of the Senate, and James Jerome, Speaker of the House of Commons, followed by a reception to meet members of both Houses.

Departure ceremonies were held the next morning at Canadian Forces Base, Uplands. The royal visitors took off in a Canadian Forces aircraft for the Caribbean.

high personal income tax imposed by Mr. Schreyer's government. Mr. Lyon's proposals to cut personal, corporate, property, gift, and mineral acreage taxes and to abolish succession duties appealed to the electorate, as did his determination to reduce the size of the civil service.

Although the new provincial government has no plans to alter the medicare or auto insurance programs initiated by the NDP, it will promptly introduce retroactive legislation upholding anti-inflation wage rollbacks for civil servants, previously ruled illegal by the Supreme Court. The Conservatives assume power within two weeks of the election.

Italian President to visit

The Prime Minister has announced the official visit to Canada, at his invitation, of President Giulio Andreotti of Italy, on November 20. This follows the Prime Minister's visit to Italy in 1975.

The meeting will provide an opportunity for lengthy discussions on several areas of bilateral and international concern.

During his stay in Canada, President Andreotti will visit Ottawa, Toronto, Quebec and Montreal.

Mr. Jamieson visits the Middle East, Spain and Greece

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Don Jamieson, left Canada on October 25 for a trip to Egypt, Israel, Spain and Greece. He will return on November 7.

Mr. Jamieson was invited to Egypt by Foreign Minister Isma'il Fahmi; to Israel by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan; to Spain by Foreign Minister Marcellino Oreja; and to Greece by Foreign Minister M. Dimitrios Bitsios.

On the agenda were discussions with the Foreign Minister and other leaders in each country on bilateral questions and on international matters of mutual interest. In his talks with leaders in the Middle East, Mr. Jamieson was expected to obtain an assessment of prospects for peace in that area, in the wake of recent developments.

The Minister's itinerary also included a visit to Canadian personnel serving with United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East.

Mr. Jamieson's presence in Spain marks an important step in Canada's expanding relations with that country.

House of Commons on TV

A 12-by-60-foot television control room, discreetly obscured by carved wooden panels, is the latest addition in the House of Commons. The \$4.8-million project, which will provide a permanent record of proceedings in the Commons, was in use the day before Queen Elizabeth's delivery of the Speech from the Throne, October 18. The system, described as an "electronic Hansard", will not replace stenographer's records.

Eight hidden, remotely controlled cameras, accompanied by carefully concealed microphones and wires, will function as "the eyes of the Speaker", for the benefit of cable and commercial television viewers across the country. Bright lights and brown desk blotters (to replace the green ones, which threatened to cast an unhealthy pallor on MPs' faces) are the only obvious changes in the appearance of the chamber.

Operating costs of the project are about \$800,000 a year – less than a third of the \$3-million annual printing bill for the Commons.