

COMMONWEALTH EDUCATORS IN OTTAWA

The Third Commonwealth Education Conference opened in Ottawa on August 21, and will continue until September 4. The Canadian delegation, in addition to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, will include representatives of provincial departments of education, the university community, professional associations and other organizations concerned with various forms of education. It will also include representatives of the federal departments and agencies that have responsibilities in connection with the Commonwealth Education Programme or in the field of education.

Approximately 200 delegates are present, representing the following governments: Antiqua, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Bermuda, Britain, British Guiana, Ceylon, Dominica, Fiji, Hong Kong, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritius, New Zealand, Nigeria, Northern Rhodesia, Pakistan, St. Lucia, Sierra Leone, Federation of South Arabia, Southern Rhodesia, Tonga, United Republic of Tanganyika and Zanzibar, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda and Western Samoa.

The Ottawa Conference is studying progress made since the New Delhi Conference in January 1962 in present areas of co-operation, such as scholarships, the supply and training of teachers, the provision of textbooks and the holding of conferences of experts. Among the new topics under discussion are the problems of adult illiteracy, co-operative arrangements for the planning and development of Commonwealth educational institutions and mass media techniques and problems.

PPCLI HONOURED BY CITY OF YPRES

The ancient Belgian city of Ypres, whose name is inscribed on the battle honours of numerous Commonwealth regiments, recently bestowed on the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry the venerable heraldic honour of the Freedom of the City, in memory of the regiment's stand against overwhelming odds at Frezenburg on May 8, 1915, concerning which the British War Office later announced that the Canadians had saved the day.

In this, the PPCLI's fiftieth anniversary year, the ceremonies at Ypres climaxed four days of celebrations, which included a trooping-the-colour ceremony for Lady Patricia Ramsay in Fort McLeod, Germany. Lady Ramsay is the former Princess Patricia of Connaught, for whom the regiment is named.

CLOTH HALL CEREMONY

The ceremony of granting the Freedom of the City took place in the concourse of the new Cloth Hall in Ypres. The original hall, whose tower and walls were smashed by massive bombardment during the First World War, was a landmark for thousands of Canadian soldiers who fought and died in the quagmire of the Ypres Salient.

Mr. A Dehem, burgomaster of Ypres, said he granted the Freedom "with honour and pride in memory of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light

Infantry, who fought so valiantly in the struggle for freedom". After the battle at Frezenburg, only 154 "Patricia's", commanded by a lieutenant, walked out of the trenches.

The honour was accepted by Major-General Cameron B. Ware, commandant of the National Defence College at Kingston, Ontario, and Colonel of the regiment. In return, General Ware thanked the burgomaster for the high honour and presented the city with a reproduction of a painting of the Patricia's in action at Frezenburg.

AT THE MENIN GATE

From the Cloth Hall, the 100-man guard of honour, led by their corps of drums, marched to the Menin Gate, stopping en route for the Colonel to lay a wreath on the Belgian War Memorial. The Menin Gate carried the names of all those Commonwealth soldiers who died in the Salient with no known grave. There are 557 PPCLI names engraved in the stone. A total of 1,289 members of the regiment were killed in action during the fighting round Ypres.

While PPCLI buglers sounded the Last Post, General Ware laid a wreath on behalf of the regiment and Brigadier J.A. Delalanne, a former regimental officer, placed one on behalf of the veterans. Twenty veterans of the PPCLI who fought in this campaign were present for the ceremony.

During the morning the veterans and members of the guard visited the Canadian Memorial, saw the remains of the trenches of Sanctuary Wood and such other memorable areas as Hill 60, Hill 62 and the Messines Ridge.

The 1st Battalion PPCLI is serving in Germany with Canada's NATO Brigade. The 2nd Battalion is in Edmonton, and the 3rd (Militia) is the Loyal Edmonton Regiment which also fought in the area of Ypres.

MAJOR RAILWAY FOR NWT

On August 29, the Great Slave Lake Railway will lay steel across the Sixtieth Parallel and enter the Northwest Territories. This will be the first time in the history of Canada's development that a railroad connected with the national railway system has been extended so far north.

To mark this historic event, a ceremony will be held at the Sixtieth Parallel presided over by Mr. Arthur Laing, the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, Mr. Harry Hays, the Minister of Agriculture, and Mr. B.G. Sivertz, the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories.

At 12:30 p.m. the construction crew will bolt in place a section of steel crossing Mile 300.3 of the GSL Railway. Mr. Laing, on behalf of the Canadian Government, will "drive a spike", which, in this case, will actually fix and firm the railway bolts connecting the steel section crossing the Sixtieth Parallel.

A cairn with a plaque provided by the Government of Canada will be unveiled in commemoration of the event. Present at the ceremony will be ambassadors and businessmen, officials of the Government, representatives of the Province of Alberta, Members

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