

Next morning, they left the car at their motel and travelled into the city by bus. Alighting opposite the Chateau Laurier Hotel, they crossed Confederation Square to look at the Capital's fine War Memorial. Then they strolled up Wellington Street on to Parliament Hill, the seat of the nation's Government. They stared up at the three main blocks of the Parliament Buildings and waited for the big clock in the Peace Tower to strike the hour.

Paul suddenly pointed out two familiar figures. "Mounties!" he cried. "Scarlet coats and cowboy hats — just like the movies. I wish they were on horses."

"You should see their Musical Ride!" Betty said. "It's really fun watching them drilling to band music, and then making their galloping charge at the end."

It was Douglas who drew the others' attention to the number of people who were entering and leaving the Parliament Buildings. "There must be something going on in there, Dad," he pointed out. "Could Parliament be sitting?"

"Usually it doesn't sit in July," replied Mr. Simpson, "but this year is an exception and Parliament is still in session. If you like we could go to the Visitors' Gallery in the House of Commons and see what's going on."

In the Gallery they listened for more than an hour to a lively discussion on the Government's plans to celebrate Canada's centennial in 1967. Both the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition spoke.

When they came out, Paul was full of questions about the working of Canada's parliamentary system. In particular, he wanted to know whether the Queen had the



ROYAL CANADIAN
MOUNTED POLICE

THE THREE MAIN BLOCKS OF THE
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
IN OTTAWA

