

Editorial

Fourteen years ago the Duke of Kent visited Canada with his brother the Prince of Wales. Since the last issue of the *Quarterly*, His Royal Highness, Prince George, the Duke of Kent, K.G.K.T., G.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., came again to this country, on a six-week tour that took him from coast to coast.

The Duke of Kent in Canada

This time His Royal Highness, the first of royalty to fly the Atlantic, travelled by bomber plane. His arrival in Canada on July 29 was shorn of all ceremony. It was not a pleasure jaunt: he had come on a mission—the formal inspection of R.C.A.F. units in the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan. Included in his party was Insp H. J. Evans of the Metropolitan Police, also a pioneer in the sense that he was the first Scotland Yard man to cross the Atlantic by plane.

Tall, vigorous, and trim-looking in his service uniform, the Duke came as air commodore. From Montreal's airport at St Hubert, he travelled to Ottawa where he inspected the Uplands and Rockcliffe Air Training Stations. Several times during his stay at Rideau Hall, he used mounted-police horses from the R.C.M.P. 'N' Division stables at Rockcliffe for morning rides through the grounds and near-by parks.

Air Commodore Kent's journey across the Dominion was marked by stops at all the important Air Training Schools—Trenton, Camp Borden, Winnipeg and others. When he visited the Winnipeg airport, there were twenty-three members of the Force on duty; afterwards a radio-equipped R.C.M.P. patrol car joined the royal *entourage* in the drive to Government House.

In cooperation with the R.C.A.F., the Royal Canadian Mounted Police assisted in providing escorts and traffic control for the Duke's party. On many occasions, His Royal Highness chatted informally with his escorts, the mechanics, electricians, students and instructors on various phases of their work.

When the tour was concluded, the Duke, through his aide-de-camp, Group Captain Sir Louis Greig, expressed his thanks and appreciation to members of the Force for the manner in which they fulfilled their duties.

Here is the body of a letter to the Commissioner from Sir Louis:

"His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent has asked me to write and thank you for the splendid cooperation which was received from the R.C.M.P. during his visit to Ottawa and the many other places throughout Canada.

The Duke of Kent was very much impressed with the efficiency of your Force at all times, and would appreciate it very much if you would convey to all concerned his heartiest congratulations and warmest thanks."

* * *

Two years have passed since the *Quarterly* announced that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police had been authorized to send a unit overseas. Officially designated No. 1 Provost Company (R.C.M.P.), this unit was made up of Force members from every province, the Northwest Territories and the Yukon.

The company is composed of men with wide and varied experience; men who have spent years on detachment, patrolled the boundary to enforce the