

FETED AT DINNER

THE ROYAL COUPLE WAS FETED AT A STATE DINNER HOSTED BY QUEBEC PREMIER ROBERT BOURASSA IN THE PARLIAMENTARY DINING ROOM WEDNESDAY EVENING.

IN A SPEECH, THE QUEEN, WHO WORE A BLACK VELVET GOWN WITH BILLING SLEEVES BUT NO TIARRA, TOLD FORMALLY ATTIRE DIGNITARIES THAT QUEBECERS HAD BEEN STRONG TO PRESERVE THEIR OWN CULTURAL IDENTITY.

BEFORE THE GALA EVENT, PARTI QUEBECOIS MEMBER ANDRE BOULERICE, THE OPPOSITION PARTY'S INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS CRITIC, SAID THE DURHAM REPORT HAS ALWAYS BEEN CONSIDERED "SCORNFUL" TOWARD FRANCOPHONES.

BOULERICE ADDED THAT FRANCOPHONE QUEBECERS HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE LIBERATION OF THE NETHERLANDS FROM NAZI OCCUPATION IN 1945 AND HAD ALWAYS HAD AN AMIABLE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE DUTCH PEOPLE.

PARTI INDEPENDANTISTE LEADER GILLES RHEAUME WAS EVEN MORE STRIDENT.

"SUCH A SLIP IS UNACCEPTABLE," HE SAID, DEMANDING THAT THE QUEEN APOLOGIZE FOR HAVING LAUDED "THIS SWORN ENEMY OF THE FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE IN OUR COUNTRY."

THE ROYAL COUPLE IS SCHEDULED TO TOUR QUEBEC CITY'S HISTORIC OLD QUARTER TODAY WITH MAYOR JEAN PELLETIER AND VISIT CITY HALL.

VICE-PREMIER LISE BACON WILL ESCORT THE COUPLE AROUND THE NEW MUSEUM OF CIVILIZATION AND PLACE ROYALE IN LOWER TOWN, BEFORE THEY ATTEND A PRIVATE RECEPTION WITH 450 MEMBERS OF QUEBEC'S DUTCH COMMUNITY.

IN HALIFAX, WHERE THE ROYAL COUPLE SPENT FIVE HOURS EARLIER WEDNESDAY, RESIDENTS WERE POLITE BUT SCARCE AS COLD WEATHER KEPT THE CROWD DOWN.

GOT PENCIL HOLDER

ONE OF THE CURIOUS HIGHLIGHTS OF HER STAY IN THE PORT CITY WAS THE PRESENTATION TO HER OF A METAL PENCIL HOLDER, WORTH AN ESTIMATED \$3,000, MADE ON THE SPOT BY STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY AT THE NOVA SCOTIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY.

QUEEN BEATRIX SAID HER COUNTRY, LIKE THE MARITIMES, HAS THE SEAS AS ITS LIFELINE.

"HERE IN HALIFAX THE EFFORTS OF THE SAILORS OF THIS COUNTRY TO BRING ABOUT OUR LIBERATION ARE UPPERMOST IN OUR MINDS," SHE SAID, REFERRING TO THE 1945 LIBERATION.

ABOUT 1,000 MARITIMERS OF DUTCH ORIGIN WHO ATTENDED A GALA PORCHED-SALMON LUNCHEON HOSTED BY THE PROVINCE ENJOYED SEEING THE QUEEN.

"SHE'S QUITE A LADY, YOU KNOW," SAID PETER BERKELAAR, OF BELMONT, N.S., BUT ORIGINALLY FROM CENTRAL HOLLAND.

"YOU SIT THERE AND YOU'RE WATCHING HER AND SHE GETS ALONG WELL WITH WHATEVER CROWD SHE'S IN."

FOR BARBARA BARNES, A HALIFAX RESIDENT WHO WAITED PATIENTLY OUTSIDE THE TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL TO CATCH A GLIMPSE OF THE QUEEN, THE DAY WAS

"EXCITING."

HER TEENAGE DAUGHTER, NANCY, AGREED.

"NO ONE EVER COMES UP TO THIS PART OF TOWN," SHE SAID, REFERRING TO THE CITY'S NORTH-END WORKING-CLASS NEIGHBORHOODS. "ANYONE WILL DO."