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The Crown in the crowd:

Informality marks the 1973 royal tour

"...It is as Queen of Canada that I am here — Queen of Canada and of all Canadians, not just of one or two ancestral strains. I want the Crown to be seen as a symbol of national sovereignty belonging to all. It is not only a link between Commonwealth nations but between Canadian citizens of every national origin and ancestry." The utterance of these words by Queen Elizabeth II at a dinner given in her

honour on June 26 by the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario concisely expressed the main theme of the royal visit that took Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh to 21 cities and towns in four of Canada's provinces. The informal mingling of the royal couple with the large crowds that turned out to greet them in Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan and Alberta conferred on this visit the

special character that led some newsmen to call it a "people tour". Some officials involved in the planning of the tour are said to have borrowed the apt Australian term "walkabout" to describe the informality of Her Majesty's numerous contacts with her Canadian subjects.

Thus at each stage of the royal progress — as such a tour would probably at one time have been called — the stiffness of the familiar formal ceremonies — the inspections of honour guards, the addresses, the presentations — was relaxed by a common touch, an easy communication with onlookers and wellwishers, that must have startled persons who had witnessed former royal tours.

Ontario

On their first day in Canada, after the official welcome at Toronto International Airport described in one report as "proper and somewhat subdued", the royal visitors spent an hour at the lakeside amusement park known as Ontario Place, where they attended a brief film showing and took a ride in a miniature train to watch a lighthearted variety show also attended by hordes of enthusiastic youngsters, who yelled their appreciation of this chance to see royalty at close quarters.

The Queen and Prince Philip spent their second day in Toronto making official visits to the provincial Legislature at Queen's Park and to Osgoode Hall, home of the Law Society of Upper Canada. At Osgoode Hall, Her Majesty opened the new Ontario Law Court by unlocking the main entrance with a silver key. It was during the provincial dinner held that evening at the Royal York Hotel, where the royal couple were staying, that Queen Elizabeth made the brief speech of reply from which the sentences quoted above were taken.

During the next two days, the royal train carried the Queen and Prince Philip east of Toronto to Cobourg and



Queen Elizabeth receives flowers from Trina Pelletier, daughter of Chief Leonard Pelletier, during her visit to Mount McKay in Thunder Bay, Ontario, on the recent royal tour. Trina is the 1973 Easter Seal Tammy.

Kingston and west to Breslau, Kitchener-Waterloo, London and Niagara-on-the-Lake. The Kingston visit was one of the three of four most significant stages of the royal tour, marking as it did the tercentenary of the city, which traces its historical origin to the foundation of a fort on the Cataraqui River in 1673 by the Governor of New France, Count Frontenac. Her Majesty unveiled a cairn in Confederation Park commemorating Frontenac's landing. The Mayor of Kingston presented her with a scale model of a 24-pounder British cannon of the year 1809 and several gold and silver coins struck to honour the tercentenary. In return, the Queen presented the Mayor with a royal grant for a new Kingston coat-of-arms.

"Your other London"

During the western part of their Ontario tour, which occupied June 28, the royal couple experienced the same enthusiastic welcome from the crowds at their public appearances as at Cobourg and Kingston. During the stop at the twin city of Kitchener-Waterloo, the Queen received a special medallion and the gift of a Conestoga Wagon — better known as the "covered wagon" of pioneer days in the Canadian and United States West. At London, the royal visitors were greeted with signs welcoming her to "your other London".

At St. Catherine's, as at most of the other points on the route, flowers were



Queen Elizabeth admires a sign held by one of an estimated 10,000 well-wishers who turned out to greet her in London, Ontario, on June 28.



Prime Minister Trudeau smiles as his wife, Margaret, greets Queen Elizabeth

on her arrival at Toronto on June 25 for a tour of four Canadian provinces.

presented to the Queen — in this case by five-year-old Susan Anne Chapman. The highlight of the royal couple's visit to Niagara-on-the-Lake was their attendance at a performance of George Bernard Shaw's *You Never Can Tell* at the Shaw Festival Theatre.

On June 29, the Queen and Prince Philip visited a new civic centre in the Toronto suburb of Scarborough, toured a downtown textile plant, and made a trip to the little town of Brampton, just west of Toronto. Hundreds of balloons billowed into the air as the Queen opened the new Scarborough civic square by releasing an artificial waterfall. The royal couple were again met by large friendly crowds and, despite a tight schedule, mixed with the onlookers.

Meeting with new citizens

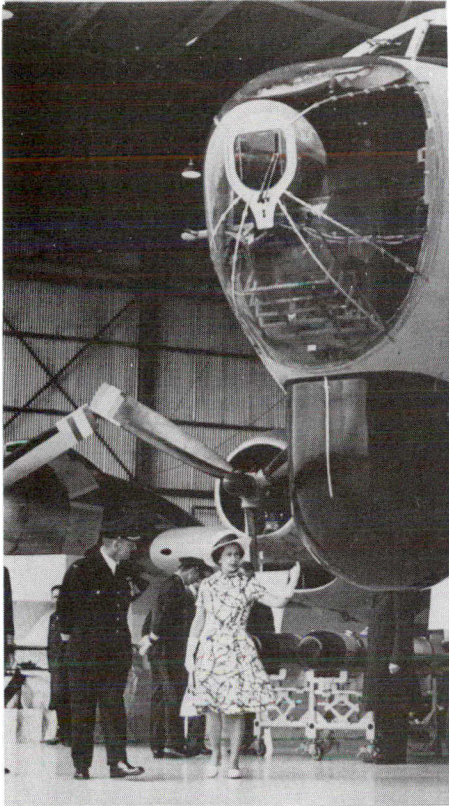
The emotional highlight of the day came at Brampton, just west of Toronto, where the Queen met 25 new Canadians who, only two hours earlier, had been sworn in as citizens. In her address, Queen Elizabeth again appealed for unity with respect for Canada's distinctive customs and traditions. "As Queen of Canada," she said, "I ask those who accept the invitation to become citizens to participate fully in the building of the Canadian society so that future generations can continue to live in peace and brotherhood."

Saturday June 30 was a day of special

pleasure to the Queen, who attended the running of the Queen's Plate at Toronto's Woodbine racetrack. After the race, she chatted with Jack Stratford the owner of the winning horse, Royal Chocolate, and with the trainer, Gil Rowntree, and the jockey, Ted Colangelo. She presented Mr. Stratford with a gold cup and gave Mrs. Stratford a gold and purple leather bag containing 50 gold coins.

Prince Edward Island

Prince Edward Island was the next province on the royal schedule. The occasion for this phase of the tour was the centennial of the island province's entry into Confederation. During their two and half days on P.E.I., the royal couple visited communities east and west of the capital: Montague, in the east, where they lunched and chatted with residents of a home for the aged; Summerside, to the west, the site of a Canadian Forces base; and Mount Carmel, still farther west, with its realistic Acadian Village, the work of local workers and students assisted by a Local Initiatives Project grant. As the Queen and Prince Philip passed the log buildings of the reconstructed pioneer settlement, they were saluted by high-school and college students from Montreal arrayed in uniforms representing the French and British opponents in the Battle of the Plains of Abraham in 1759 — La Compagnie



The Queen inspects a variety of air-rescue planes and equipment at Canadian Forces Base, Summerside, P.E.I. on July 2.

Franche de la Marine and the 78th Fraser Highlanders. At Summerside, before a crowd of 8,000, the Queen opened the Centennial Summer Games.

On the evening of July 2, the Queen and Prince Philip attended a special presentation of the musical *Anne of Green Gables* at Charlottetown's Confederation Centre.

RCMP centennial

The royal visitors left Prince Edward Island by air at noon on July 3, headed for Regina, Saskatchewan, and one of the top events of their tour – the centennial celebrations of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The flight was broken by a two-hour stopover at Thunder Bay, Ontario, at the head of Lake Superior – the result of the amalgamation of the “Lakehead Cities” of Port Arthur and Fort William. At the nearby Mount McKay Objibway Indian Resort, the Queen received the homage of five chiefs of the Robinson Superior Treaty in full regalia. An unusual feature of this brief visit was the singing of “Will Ye No Come Back Again” in Objibway.

In the late afternoon of the same day, the royal *Boeing 747* arrived at Regina, where the Queen and Prince Philip were greeted by the Lieutenant-Governor of Saskatchewan and a number of other officials. The guard of honour was provided by the RCMP Commissioner W.L. Higgitt at the Force's Depot, where four troops of recruits consisting of 32 men each were drawn up for Her Majesty's inspection and for the presentation of a new regimental flag or *guidon* (as such pennants are called in cavalry tradition). The former guidon, presented by King George V in 1935, symbolizes the history, tradition and service to which it belongs. (Inspection by the Queen had not been planned, but Her Majesty, on her arrival at Regina Airport the previous day, had said she would like to inspect the guard.) The old colours were borne off to the strains of the regimental march, to be draped in the RCMP chapel, and the new colour was placed over the drums.

The old guidon bears four campaign honours – the North West Rebellion in 1885, South Africa in 1901, the First World War and the Siberian Campaign of 1918-1919. The new guidon bears campaign honours for the Force's role in action in the Second World War. In the centre of the flag is the Force's motto “Maintiens le Droit”.

Her Majesty, who is Honorary Commissioner of the Force, handed the new colours to Commissioner Higgitt, after which a royal salute was given with the new colours. The Queen addressed the gathering, including 2,500 spectators, as follows:

Queen's RCMP speech

“For 100 years the Force has kept the peace in Canada and, during that time, it has helped countless organizations on all sorts of occasions. Today it is your turn, and, as your Honorary Commissioner, I am delighted to be with you for this very special anniversary. It is particularly appropriate that this parade should be held in Regina, which has been associated with the Force ever since its earliest days and which was its headquarters for almost 40 years. There are police forces all over the world but none has acquired the fame and reputation of Canada's Mounties. Your bearing and smart uniforms, together with your prowess in remote areas in arduous

conditions, have certainly contributed to this reputation. But there is a more important reason. Keeping the peace, particularly in an age of pioneering foment, is no easy matter. Yet, by their integrity, persistence and devotion to duty, the men of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police succeeded in maintaining law and order on a confidence of the civil government throughout a vast area which might otherwise might have succumbed to lawless claims. They gained the respect and admiration of all the people, whatever their origin, while the wrongdoer went in healthy fear of their efficiency, without losing faith in their fairness and justice....

“I particularly value your close association with my family. A contingent of the Force took part in Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee celebrations in 1897 and my grandfather's Silver Jubilee in 1935. The Force has been represented at every coronation since that of King Edward VII, and I well remember the splendid detachment at my own coronation. This connection is not limited to state occasions. Members of my family have enjoyed your protection during visits to Canada ever since my



At the RCMP centennial ceremonies at Regina, Saskatchewan on July 4, Queen Elizabeth, Honorary Commissioner of the Force, presents new guidon.



Queen Elizabeth enjoys a laugh as she and Prince Philip leave Woodbine Race-track in Toronto, Ontario, on June 30

after watching the one-hundredth-and-fourteenth running of the Queen's Plate. From Toronto, the royal couple

flew to Prince Edward Island to help celebrate the province's centennial, and to open the P.E.I. Summer Games.

During the royal visit to Thunder Bay, Ontario, on July 3, the Queen and Prince Philip were treated to some unshed-uled entertainment. Charles Lynch of Southam News Services described it as follows:

...Highlight of the day, if not of the tour, came at Thunder Bay, which was intended to be a mere punctuation point in the Queen's leap from Prince Edward Island to Saskatchewan, and then on to Calgary for the roisterous business of opening the Stampede.

But the people of Thunder Bay, having lured her down from the sky — she had to come down anyway to re-fuel — put on a show that would have had the royal hair standing on end, if the royal hair ever did such a thing, which it doesn't.

Ex-comedian

First, there was Mayor Walter Assif, who is Thunder Bay's answer to such famous [former] Canadian mayors as Charlotte Whitton of Ottawa and

Nathan Phillips of Toronto.

Charlotte's the one who asked the Lord Mayor of London, who was wearing his chain of office, whether he would flush if she pulled the chain.

And Phillips is the one who called Soviet Ambassador Amassasp Aroutounian "rotin' tootin'."

Well, this Mayor Assif is a former vaudeville comedian and he put on his act after they had whisked the royal party in from the airport to city hall.

He did a little soft shoe routine as the Queen and Prince Philip ascended the inevitable city hall platform, and then he welcomed Philip to Thunder Bay, saying everybody was glad to see "you and your wife".

This isn't exactly what the protocol books prescribe for welcoming

Elizabeth II, and the royal party broke up with laughter.

Mayor Assif went on with his act, saying he had a picture of a loon to give to His Highness.

Where's the loon?

When he called for the picture, it was nowhere to be found, and he roared: "Where's the loon?"

Finally, after scenes of mirth in which the Queen was seen to slap the royal knee — though she may have been smoothing her skirt against a strong wind that was blowing at the time — the picture was produced and Philip proceeded to admire it.

"Show the loon to the Queen," urged His Worship, and Prince Philip did, holding his sides...."

The Queen's speech at the provincial dinner at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto on June 26, 1973

I have very vivid and happy memories of the welcome received in Ontario during my previous visits to the province. Tonight, Mr. Premier, your kind words have once again displayed the same generous hospitality which I have come to know so well. We are both deeply grateful.

No one coming to Toronto after an interval of 14 years can possibly fail to notice the changes; the growth and the general improvement of standards. This material development is only to be expected in this age of technological progress. The only danger is to mistake material growth for social improvement. Structures may be bigger and more impressive, means of transport may be more sophisticated and there may be a wider choice of consumer products, but at the centre of it all are men and women and children. They are still the same size, they still function in much the same way and their ordinary human needs are not much different.

It is no good asking the question "Are people happier as a result of all this development?" Because

happiness is comparative and, in any case, satisfaction in the life of individual people is made up of so many different factors. It is difficult enough to define these factors for a homogeneous community but it becomes a real puzzle to provide for all the interests and aspirations of communities with such diverse backgrounds as live in Ontario and in Canada as a whole.

On entend souvent dire que le Canada n'a pas été un creuset et que les canadiens résistent à la fusion. Bien que dans tous les pays les minorités redécouvrent leurs souches et que cela engendre parfois des conflits, le Canada se distingue par son respect de la culture de chacun. Il élève l'identité culturelle au-dessus des débats politiques et en fait un droit. La seule exigence qu'il pose est que tous aient la possibilité de maîtriser l'une des langues officielles ou les deux.

The real measure of success of any community, whether it lives in a modern, urban, industrial world or in primitive conditions, is the sense of freedom, the ability to participate in

self-government and the social and cultural development which make all its members feel that life is worth living.

Mr. Premier, I have been moved and touched by the special warmth of our reception by Canadians, who cherish links between Great Britain and this country. It is a particular satisfaction to me that the Crown can be a powerful link between all the nations of the Commonwealth.

But it is as Queen of Canada that I am here — Queen of Canada and of all Canadians, not just of one or two ancestral strains. I want the Crown to be seen as a symbol of national sovereignty belonging to all. It is not only a link between Commonwealth nations but between Canadian citizens of every national origin and ancestry.

The Crown is an idea more than a person, and I want the Crown in Canada to represent everything that is best and most admired in the Canadian ideal. I will continue to do my best to make it so during my lifetime, and I hope you will all continue to give me your help in this task.

grandfather came as the Duke of York in 1901.

"Police work has always been most difficult and demanding, especially in a free and democratic society. It is going to become more difficult as communities get bigger and life becomes more complicated. It is going to become more demanding as the need to regulate and control complicated, modern communities become more pressing.

"I have complete confidence that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police will meet this challenge with the same success as in the past. And it is as a token of that confidence that I present you with this new guidon."

RCMP response

Commissioner Higgitt replied as follows:

"Your Majesty, you and your Royal Highness have done the Royal Canadian Mounted Police a very great honour by your presence here today and by taking part in our centennial celebrations. The Royal Canadian Mounted



Centennial, an RCMP horse, is accepted by the Queen as a gift during the

Force's hundredth birthday celebrations at Regina, Saskatchewan, on July 4.

Police has the honour of serving Canada for 100 years. Our long record of service to your family is also a source of pride to us and we welcome you here today not only as our sovereign but as our Honorary Commissioner. Through the service of consecration of our new guidon, which you have just presented to us, members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police have dedicated themselves afresh to the preservation of faith and truth, to the sanctity of their individual oaths, to uphold and preserve the law and to the service of Canada. While your words of praise and encouragement will long be remembered by all members who will be strengthened by them, they will have particular significance to the young members who are now standing before you and who have taken part in this solemn ceremony on this very historic square.

Centennial gift horse

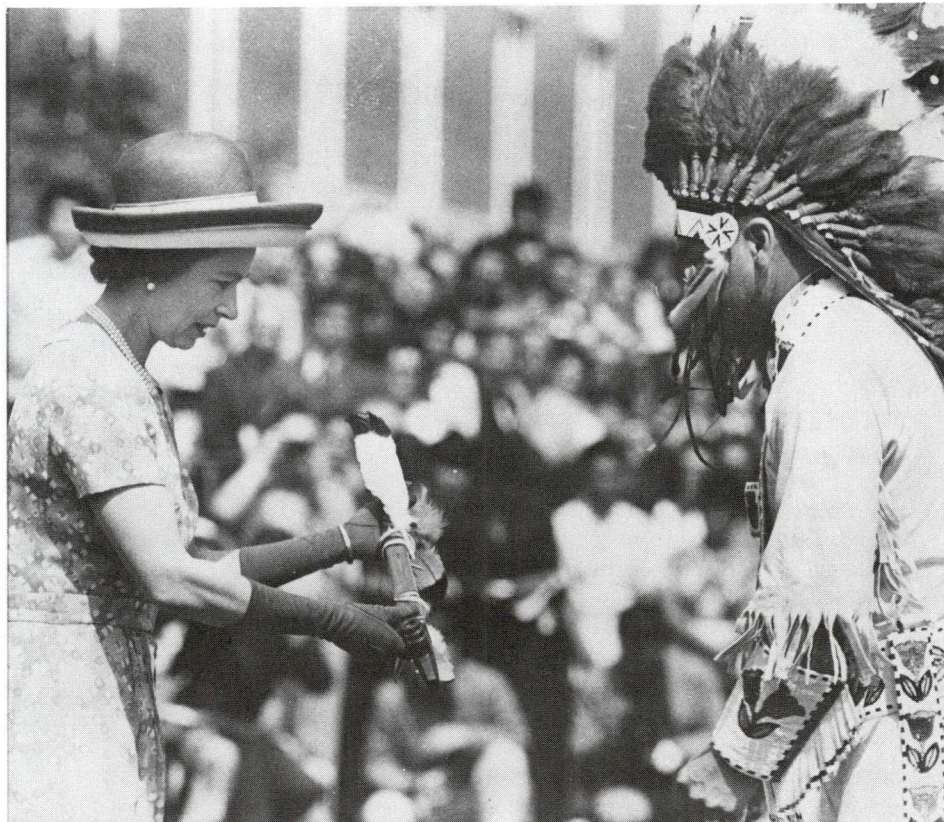
"It has been a source of pride to us that on a number of ceremonial occasions, Your Majesty has chosen to ride Burmese, a now famous Royal Canadian Mounted Police Horse, which my predecessor presented to you at Windsor Castle. To commemorate your presence here today and the centennial of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, you would do us a great honour if you would accept for your personal use a second Royal Canadian Mounted Police horse, named Centennial. While Centennial is somewhat younger than was Burmese, he too has been instructed to serve you well and we hope he will give you many hours of enjoyment and relaxation."

Centennial, a five-year old black gelding, full brother of Burmese, was led forward for the Queen's expert inspection as the Commissioner ended his remarks. After backing off from a royal pat, he bucked spiritedly and committed the political gaff of the year by presenting his hind quarters to the royal view.

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Chief David Ahenakew, President of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians, has just presented a peace pipe

to Queen Elizabeth during a visit to the RCMP Training Depot at Regina, Saskatchewan, on July 4.

On this occasion, the Queen was also presented with a peace pipe by Chief David Ahenakew, President of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians.

Royal opening for Stampede

The final major event of the royal tour was the attendance of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip at the 1973 Calgary Stampede. Arriving at the Stampede city just before noon on July 5, the royal couple went directly

The oldest surviving Mountie, John Locke Jamieson, 96, was presented to the Queen at the Calgary Stampede on June 5. He was 16 when he joined the North West Mounted Police, former name of the RCMP, in 1893.

to the Indian meeting ground, where they met Harold Cardinal, President of the Indian Association of Alberta, and a number of Alberta chiefs and their wives. In response to a declaration by Mr. Cardinal of support for the treaties signed by the Indians with

Queen Victoria, Queen Elizabeth assured the assembled chiefs that they might be "confident of the continued co-operation of my Government, which represents all the people of Canada".

That evening, after having, during the afternoon, visited Flare Square on the Stampede grounds to watch part of an RCMP centennial review, Her Majesty performed the final official act of her Canadian tour by declaring open the most famous rodeo and western extravaganza in the world. From the Calgary Stampede officials she received the gift of a bronze figurine of her horse Burmese; Prince Philip received a medallion.

The royal tour ended on the evening of July 5 with the departure of the Queen and the Duke by air for London, England.

Note:

All photos in this issue are by Canadian Press.