



CPA ACTIVITIES: THE CANADIAN SCENE

CANADIAN REGIONAL SEMINAR HALIFAX, NOVEMBER 1981

The Seventh Regional Seminar on Parliamentary Practice and Procedure will be held in Halifax from November 2-5, 1981. The theme will be "Improving the Parliamentary System" and each session will be devoted to a particular parliamentary function including the political function, the financial function, the legislative function and the investigative function.

This format will allow legislators from across Canada to discuss a wide variety of topics ranging from the role of committees, to the use of question period. There will also be an opportunity for a panel to review and evaluate the discussions.

Nova Scotia thus becomes the second province, after Ontario in 1979, to host a CPA parliamentary seminar. In 1977 the Quebec National Assembly also hosted a special seminar on "The British Parliamentary System: An Anachronism or a Modern Reality?" Thus it seems a tradition is developing of alternating seminars between Ottawa and various provincial capitols; a practice that can only benefit the growth of parliamentary institutions across the country.

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

FIJI, OCTOBER, 1981

The Fiji Branch will host the Twenty-Seventh Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference to be held from October 11-25, 1981. Invitations have been extended to all branches of the CPA, to the United States Congress, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the *Association internationale des parlementaires de langue française*, the European Parliament, the Commonwealth Foundation, former members of the Executive Committee and to the Commonwealth Secretariat.

The CPA Executive Committee meeting will take place in Suva on October 8 and 9. A mini-conference for delegates from smaller branches (population of less than 250,000) will also be held in Suva at the same time. Beginning on October 12, delegates from all branches will spend five days visiting various points of interest on the islands. The actual conference will start October 19. The agenda includes plenary sessions on "The Commonwealth and

World Security", "Control of Pollution and Protection of the Environment", "Commodity Prices and the Relations between Industrialized and Primary Producing Countries", "The Relevance of the Westminster Parliamentary System in a Changing World", "Parliament and the Security of the Executive", and "The Member's Responsibilities to the Nation, to his Party and to his Constituency". There will also be four panels where delegates will have the opportunity to discuss "Population Growth and Control", "The Year of the Disabled", "The Promotion and Development of Tourism", and "The Social Consequences of Continuing Inflation and Unemployment."

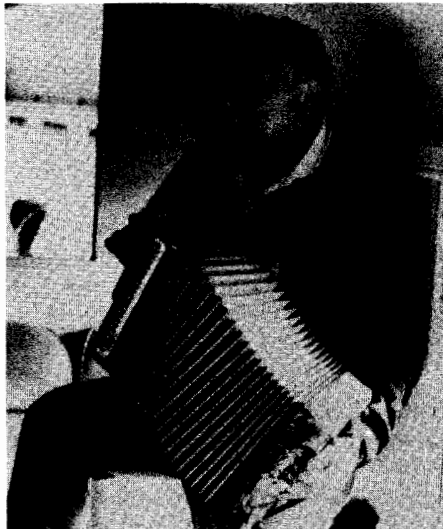
The goal of the conference, as for all CPA activities, is to provide a forum for the exchange of views on matters of mutual interest to parliamentarians and to facilitate understanding among individuals engaged in parliamentary institutions throughout the Commonwealth.

Erratum: In the last issue India was omitted from the list of countries elected to the Standing Committee of the Commonwealth Speaker's Conference. Subsequently Speakers from the United Kingdom, Zimbabwe and Malaysia were co-opted bringing the membership on the Committee up to ten.

CANADIAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE ST. JOHN'S, AUGUST 1981

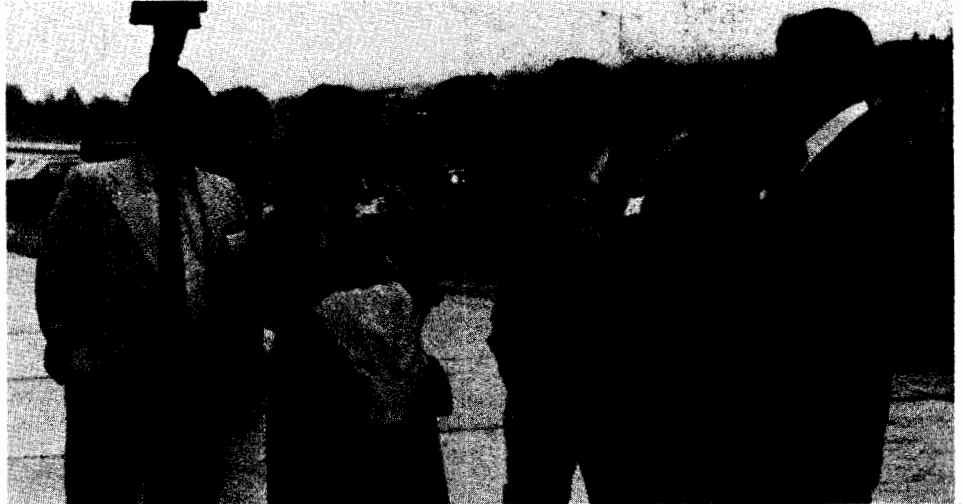
The Twenty-First conference of the Canadian Region of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association took place in St. John's Newfoundland, August 2-7, 1981. The conference was attended by some eighty delegates from all provinces and territories, as well as by federal members and senators. Representatives from the United Kingdom and eight Commonwealth Caribbean countries were also in attendance along with many observers, mainly parliamentary staff from across Canada. For the first time in CPA history a simultaneous translation of the entire proceedings was available in Inuktitut.

For many delegates the highlight of the working sessions was a discussion of "Elected Representatives and their Communications". It focussed on the question of electronic eavesdropping and whether such acts constitute a breach of parliamentary privilege. The discussion was led by a panel consisting of **Claude Vaillancourt**, Speaker of the Quebec National Assembly; **Walter Baker**, Opposition House Leader in Ottawa; **Ray Speaker**, Opposition House Leader in Alberta and **George**



During the excursion on the "Newfie Bullet" entertainment was provided by two local musicians and one "import", Steve Paproski, MP for Edmonton Centre.

photo: K. Bruce Lane



CPA conferences bring together parliamentarians from a variety of backgrounds. Shown here are **Irskine Sandiford** of Barbados, **Janet Fookes**, MP from the United Kingdom, **Len Simms**, Speaker of the Newfoundland House of Assembly, **Peter Fraser**, Deputy Speaker of the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly and **Walter Baker**, House Leader of the Official Opposition in Ottawa.

photo: K. Bruce Lane

McMinn, Deputy Clerk of the British Columbia Legislature. The conference discussed other issues such as electoral reform, constitutional reform, the role of committees, the transportation of dangerous goods and the Crowsnest freight rates.

By the end of the week-long conference delegates had experienced all sorts of traditional Newfoundland hospitality including a cruise on Con-

ception Bay and a lobster boil in Harbour Main. Perhaps the most unique social event was the house parties hosted by members of the House of Assembly. The hospitality offered by **Les Thoms**, **Tom Lush**, **John Carter**, **John Butt**, **Paddy McNicholas**, **Robert Aylward**, **Steve Neary**, **William Marshall**, **Gerry Ottenheimer**, and **Hal Andrews** was greatly appreciated and will long be remember by all who attended.



Malcolm MacKay, leader of the Nova Scotia delegation, presented a token of appreciation to the host of the conference, Speaker **Len Simms** of Newfoundland.

photo: K. Bruce Lane



PEOPLE

Appointments

The new Lieutenant-Governor of Newfoundland is Dr. **W.A. (Tony) Paddon**. A graduate of New York State Medical School, Dr. Paddon served as surgeon in the Royal Canadian Navy during the Second World War. For many years his father, Dr. Harry Paddon, had provided medical services to the isolated outposts along the Labrador coast, a tradition continued by his son who eventually succeeded him as head medical officer in Northwest River. Tony Paddon later served as director of northern medical services for the International Grenfell Association. Over the years he has received the Order of Canada and many other awards for his humanitarian work. Upon taking office on July 1, 1981 Tony Paddon became Newfoundland's seventh Lieutenant-Governor since that province joined Canada in 1949.

The New Brunswick Legislative Assembly has appointed a new full-time Clerk Assistant. The new table officer is **Jean Martin**, a lawyer previously in private practice in Edmundston. The office of Clerk was also upgraded to a full-time position. **David Peterson** who served previously as Clerk on a part-time basis now becomes the permanent senior official in the legislature.

On July 6 the Prime Minister announced the appointment to the Senate of **Peter Stollery**, member of Parliament for Spadina. First elected to the House in 1972 and re-elected three times Mr. Stollery was Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State and Minister of Communications. He had also served as chairman of the Government Caucus



Peter Stollery

from 1976-1978. Mr. Stollery became his party's 64th member of the Upper House. The appointment created a vacancy in the Commons which was filled in the by-election described below.



Dan Heap

By-elections

Two federal by-elections were held on August 17. The New Democratic Party picked up one seat from the Liberals and the Conservatives held onto a seat in Quebec.

In Spadina a Toronto alderman, **Dan Heap** of the NDP defeated Liberal **Jim Coutts** and Conservative **Laura Sabia** in a very close election. Mr. Coutts resigned as Principal Secretary to Prime Minister Trudeau in order to run in the election. Aside from the manner in which the by-election was called the main issue in the campaign was the economy. High interest rates and continuing inflation contributed to turning a large Liberal majority into a narrow victory for the NDP.

In Joliette, **Roch La Salle** retained the seat vacated by his own resignation less than six months earlier. In April Mr. La Salle ran unsuccessfully for a seat in the Quebec National Assembly as Leader of the Union Nationale party. He went down to defeat as did every one of his candidates. This time, however, it was a different story. Campaigning on the need for Conservative representation in Ottawa where the Liberals held 74 of the 75 seats, Mr. La Salle received the biggest majority of his career, about 13,000 votes. Mr. La Salle was first elected to the House in 1968. During the nine-month Conservative administration in 1979 he served as Minister of Supply and Services.

Two provincial by-elections have been held in recent months. In Kam-



Roch La Salle

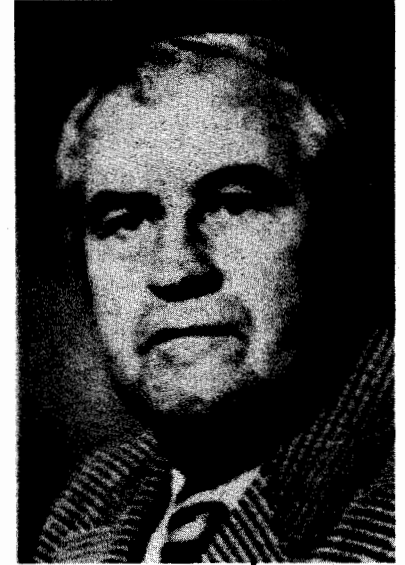
loops British Columbia the seat vacated by former Health Minister **Rafe Mair**, the Social Credit candidate, **Claude Richmond**, handily defeated the New Democratic opposition by nearly a thousand votes with other candidates well behind. This was the first test of popularity for the Social Credit government of Premier **Bill Bennett** since its election in 1980 and a loss would have cut his working majority in the legislature to two. The win contradicted polls



Claude Richmond

which showed the government to have very low support across the province.

The other provincial by-election was in Prince Edward Island where **Joey Fraser** of the Progressive Conservatives, took Third Kings from the Liberals who had held it since 1970. Mr. Fraser received 1,293 votes compared to 980 for his Liberal opponent. The victory leaves the Conservatives with twenty-two of the thirty-two seats in the legislature. The seat became vacant when



A.A. (Joey) Fraser

former Liberal Premier, **Bennett Campbell**, resigned to enter federal politics.

Resignations

In Newfoundland **Fred Rowe**, the Conservative member for Trinity-Bay de Verde, resigned his seat after nine years in the House. Mr. Rowe left politics in order to accept an appointment as principal of Queen Elizabeth High School in Foxtrap.