



# CPA Activities: The Canadian Scene

## Canadian Regional Conference

The Twenty-second Canadian Regional Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association took place in the Northwest Territories from July 31 to August 7, 1982, the first such conference to be held north of the 60th parallel. Representatives attended from the Senate and House of Commons, the ten provinces, both Territorial legislatures as well as Alaska, Australia, the Barbados, the Cayman Islands, Trinidad and the United Kingdom. The Honourable **Clement Maynard** of the Bahamas, President of CPA, **Gerald Ottenheimer**, Chairman of the Executive Committee and Canadian regional representatives, Dr. **Maurice Foster** and **Gerald Ameringer** were also present.

Conference participants spent the first few days at one of four regional arrival points: Rankin Inlet, Inuvik, Hay River and Frobisher Bay. They visited local hamlets, toured schools, medical centres, churches, commercial and resource extraction undertakings, craft outlets, exhibitions of arctic sporting events. Caribou and buffalo were sighted and some of the more daring participants rode the three-wheeled Honda cycles which are a predominant source of transportation in some of these isolated communities.

Participants regrouped in Yellowknife for the working sessions which included a plenary discussion on the constitutional and political development of the Northwest Territories chaired by Speaker **Arthur Donahoe**. **George Braden** and **Dennis Patterson** from the NWT legislature acted as resource persons commenting on the topic and responding to delegates' questions. The discussion centered on resource ownership, division of the Territory, and future provincial status.



Formal business sessions were held in the Yellowknife hotel where the Legislative Assembly holds its sessions. (Bob Wilson Photography)



Members of the NWT delegation. From right to left, **George Braden**, leader of the elected members of the Executive Committee, Deputy Speaker, **Peter Fraser** and **Arnold McCallum**, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. (Bob Wilson Photography)

The Conference then divided into two workshops for further discussion of the plenary topic followed by sessions on the economic, social and local impacts of mega-projects. The former sessions were chaired by Deputy-Speaker **Jean-Pierre Jolivet** of the Quebec National Assembly and Speaker **James Russell** of Newfoundland. A lively discussion ensued concerning the Dene proposals requiring ten years residence to vote and hold office for the assembly and an upper house controlled by the Dene that could veto all legislation affecting aboriginal rights. The absence of political parties in the NWT legislature was also subject of much discussion.

Sessions on mega-projects were chaired by **Harvey Schroeder**, Speaker of the British Columbia legislature and Speaker **Herb Swan** of Saskatchewan. Points raised during the discussion included the problems of the rapid growth of small communities, the decline of traditional industries, the increase in the cost of goods and services, shortages of housing, demands on existing public services and increased social and law enforcement problems.

Social events at Yellowknife included an optional fly-in fishing trip, a ride along the Ingraham Trail to Cameron Falls, and a visit to the Giant Yellowknife mine and the Northern Heritage Centre. A musical show, barbecue, and dinner-dance with a sumptuous buffet were part of traditional north of 60° hospitality accorded the participants.

Congratulations should be extended to Speaker **Donald Stewart** and **Binks Remnant**, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly as well as all of the staff whose superb organizational skills and high spirits made the Conference a memorable event.



**John Parker, Commissioner of the Northwest Territories.**



**The old order changeth...!**  
(H. Finsten)



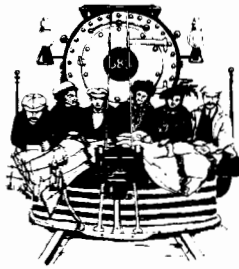
**The conference wound up with a supper dance Friday night.**  
(Bob Wilson Photography)

### **Eighth Canadian Branch Seminar, Ottawa**

**F**rom October 31 to November 4, 1982 the Canadian Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association will host the Eighth Canadian Regional Seminar on Parliamentary Practice and Procedure. The theme of the seminar is "Our Parliamentary and Legislative Institutions—Are They in a State of Crisis"? As usual the seminar brings together approximately forty parliamentarians from across Canada to discuss matters pertaining to their role as legislators and representatives. The following topics are on the agenda this year: "Are the regions and the provinces adequately represented in Ottawa by present institutions?", "Do members have adequate access to information and to the public

service?", "The role of the Opposition: Are there limits to opposition criticism and action?", "How effective is Parliament in exercising financial control over the executive?", "In a parliamentary system what positive role is there for a backbencher in the formulation of policies and programs?". The opening speaker for each session will be allowed twenty minutes after which the floor will be open to general discussion.

For the first time this year the seminar will also include an Oxford Union style debate on a resolution that "Parliaments and Legislatures of Canada have Lost their Relevance". This debate which will feature four distinguished parliamentarians and former parliamentarians should be a most interesting addition to the usual seminar agenda.



# People



**Richard Allen**

Party. A professor of Canadian history at McMaster University, Mr. Allen easily defeated his Conservative opponent with the Liberal candidate falling to third place.

## Appointments

**Ilga Leja** has been appointed Legislative Librarian for the Nova Scotia Legislative Assembly. She succeeds Shirley Elliott who served as Legislative librarian for twenty-eight years. Ms. Leja is a graduate of Dalhousie University with a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Library Service degrees. Her experience was in school and govern-



**Ilga Leja**

ment libraries before joining the Legislative Library as Assistant Librarian in 1977. As Legislative Librarian, Ms. Leja will be responsible for the maintenance and development of the Nova Scotia Legislative Library as an information and research resource for the use of Members of the Legislature, the provincial Civil Service and the general public.

The composition of the Canadian Regional Council of CPA, which includes the presiding officers from all federal, provincial and territorial legislatures has undergone a number of changes due to recent elections and cabinet shuffles.

The new Speaker in Saskatchewan is **Herb Swan**. He was for many years a member of the Outlook Board of Education and from 1978-79 a director of the Canadian School Trustees Association. First elected in 1978, Mr. Swan represents the riding of Rosetown-Elrose. Speaker Swan has farmed near Beechy since 1953. Former Speaker **John Brockelbank** was defeated.



**Herb Swan**

In Newfoundland the new Speaker is really an "old" Speaker. **James Russell**, MHA from Lewisporte was first elected Speaker of the Newfoundland and Labrador House of Assembly in 1972. He was defeated in the 1975 general election but contested and won a seat in 1982. Mr. Rus-



**James Russell**

sell was elected Speaker on May 10. The former Speaker, **Len Simms**, was named Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth.

In the recent election in the Yukon Territories, the Speaker, **Don Taylor**, had to run as an independent having lost the Progressive Conservative nomination in his riding. However, Mr. Taylor held his seat and when the House reconvened he was re-elected Speaker, a position he had held since 1974.

The most recent change was in British Columbia where **Harvey Schroeder** resigned as Speaker following his appointment as minister of Agriculture and Food.

## By-Election

In Ontario a provincial by-election was held on June 18 to fill the vacancy left by former Liberal leader Stuart Smith. The winner was **Richard Allen** of the New Democratic

In Manitoba the new Legislative Librarian is **Joyce Irving**. Mrs. Irving holds a BA (Hons.) degree from the University of Manitoba and a BLS from McGill University. She has worked as a freelance writer and broadcaster; and as a librarian with McGill University, the Winnipeg Public Library and the University of Manitoba. She joined the



Joyce Irving

Legislative Library in September of 1975. After serving as head of Information Services she became Assistant Legislative Librarian in July, 1976. Since June, 1979, she served as Acting Legislative Librarian until the recent retirement of Clementine Combaz.

## Retirements

On July 7 **Donald MacDonald** gave a farewell speech ending his twenty-seven years in the Ontario Legislature. When Mr. MacDonald was chosen leader of the Ontario CCF in 1953 it had only two members in the legislature. By 1967 the New Democratic Party had twenty-one seats and twenty-six per cent of the popular vote. Mr. MacDonald's resignation opened the way for the Party's new leader **Bob Rae** to contest the October 12 by-election in York South.

## Tributes to Senator Harry Hays and John Connolly

The Senate of Canada lost two outstanding Senators with the deaths of **Harry Hays** on May 4 and **John J. Connolly** on July 25. Senator Hays served as Mayor of Calgary from 1959 to 1963. He was elected to the Commons in 1963 and joined the Pearson Cabinet as Minister of Agriculture. Appointed to the Senate in 1966, he served as chairman of the Agriculture Committee and co-chairman of the Special Joint Committee on the Constitution. Both Houses of Parliament paid him warm tributes. Senator **Ray Perrault** said that the Senate "will sadly miss his energy, his vitality, his great good humour and common sense". **Joe Clark** said that Senator Hays "stood tall and cast a shadow that was admired across the country".

Senator Connolly a native of Ottawa was a Ph.D graduate of Notre-Dame University and a lawyer who had been called to

the Bar in both Quebec and Ontario. During World War II, he served as executive assistant to Angus Macdonald, Minister of National Defence for Naval Services. Appointed to the Senate in 1953, he served as government leader in the upper house and minister without portfolio from 1964 to 1968. He retired from the Senate in October, 1981. Senator **Jacques Flynn** said that Senator Connolly "was a gentleman in the classic sense of the word, with an abiding interest in every aspect of human life — his professional concerns, politics, sports, literature and religion".

## Jack Reeves

The Manitoba Legislative Assembly lost one of its most dedicated servants when **Jack Reeves**, Clerk of the House, died recently at age 63. Mr. Reeves served 21 years in the Canadian Army before he became a public servant of Manitoba in 1960 when he took a job with the Department of the Provincial Secretary. He was appointed Deputy Clerk in 1963 and also served as Deputy Chief Electoral Officer from 1968 to 1971. From 1973 to 1980 he served in the dual capacity of Clerk of the House and Chief Electoral Officer. He was still Clerk at the time of his death in May 1982. As former Speaker, **Harry Graham** said in the House on June 1, "Jack was a man who was totally dedicated to the retention of the parliamentary system, the rules, the customs, the traditions and was very concerned with the proper procedures that were used to conduct the business of the House. His ability to withstand the pressures of extended hours was almost unbelievable."



# Yukon Election

June 7, 1982

\*indicates newly-elected members

* <b>Clarke Ashley</b> Klondike	PC	<b>Roger Kimmerley</b> Whitehorse South Centre	NDP	<b>Chris Pearson</b> Whitehorse Riverdale North	PC
* <b>Bill Brewster</b> Kluane	PC	<b>Don Lang</b> Whitehouse Porter Creek East	PC	<b>Tony Penikett</b> Whitehorse West	PC
<b>Maurice Byblow</b> Faro	NDP	* <b>Piers McDonald</b> Mayo	NDP	* <b>David Porter</b> Campbell	NDP
<b>Al Falle</b> Hootalinqua	PC	* <b>Kathie Nukon</b> Old Crow	PC	* <b>Don Taylor</b> Watson Lake	Ind.
* <b>Bea Firth</b> Whitehorse Riverdale South	PC	* <b>Andy Phillipsen</b> Whitehorse Porter Creek West	PC	* <b>Howard Tracey</b> Tatchun	PC
* <b>Margaret Joe</b> Whitehorse North Centre	NDP				