



CPA Activities: The Canadian Scene

Twenty-fourth Canadian Regional Conference

The twenty-fourth Canadian Regional Conference was held in Nova Scotia, site of the very first such meeting in 1958.

More than one hundred parliamentarians and observers from every province and territory attended the conference held in Halifax on July 30 and 31 and at Keltic Lodge in Cape Breton National Park, August 1-3.

Due to the federal general election campaign no members of the House of Commons attended but Parliament was represented by four Senators, **Ann Bell**, **L. Norbert Theriault**, **Lorne Bonnell**, and **Richard Donahoe**, father of **Arthur Donahoe** who is Speaker of the Nova Scotia House of Assembly and host of the Conference. The Legislatures of Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, the British Virgin Islands and the United Kingdom also sent parliamentary observers while staff observers came from Wisconsin, Arizona and the

United Kingdom. A noteworthy aspect of the Conference was the attendance of the Secretary General of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, **Sir Robin Vanderfelt**, the Chairman of the Executive Committee of CPA, **Gerald Ottenheimer**, and the Right Honourable **Mark Carlsisle**, MP, Honourary Treasurer of the CPA.

Delegates were welcomed officially to Nova Scotia by the Lieutenant Governor, **Alan Abraham** who also hosted a reception for them later in the week. Topics on the agenda included: "Party Discipline: A Curse or a Blessing", "The Role of the Provinces in International Affairs", "The Protection of Rights of Visible Minorities", "Deregulation: How Far Should We Go?" and "Censorship versus Free Speech – The Impact of the Charter"? Each topic was introduced by a parliamentarian who spoke for about twenty minutes after which there was a general discussion. The openers in

the order listed above were: **Michel Leduc**, MNA, Quebec, **James Russell**, MHA, Newfoundland, **Steve Porter**, MLA, New Brunswick, **Alan Hyland**, MLA, Alberta, and **Michael Breauth**, MPP, Ontario. The final session was opened by Sir Robin who brought the attention of delegates to proposals contained in a report entitled *The CPA and the Future*.

In addition to the business sessions the organizing committee arranged interesting social activities for delegates, spouses and even a children's programme. Among other things these included a traditional lobster supper, hosted by the Premier of Nova Scotia, **John Buchanan**; a cruise and luncheon on the *Bluenose II*, and a tour of Louisbourg National Historic Park. By dividing the business sessions in two parts delegates were able to enjoy a free day in Cape Breton where they could register for activities such as deep sea fishing, golf,



British delegation: front row (l-r) Frank Haynes, Anthony Beaumont-Dark, Mark Carlsisle. Second row John Sweetman, Michael Ryle. (N.S. Government Services Information Division)



The Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the host province, Arthur Donahoe (r) and Brian Young. (N.S. Government Services Information Division)

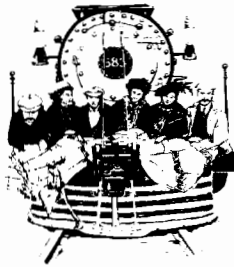


The traditional lobster feast at Hubbards was a highlight of the social program. (N.S. Government Services Information Division)

tennis or hiking. The conference ended with a "Ceildh", an evening of traditional Celtic music, song and dance hosted by Speaker and Mrs. Donahoe.

As Speaker **Marion Reid** of P.E.I. noted in her closing remarks nothing great is achieved without enthusiasm. The infectious enthusiasm of Speaker Donahoe and

every member of the organizing committee, not only assured a great conference but made a lasting impression on those fortunate enough to attend.



People

Some changes relating directly or indirectly to the announcement of the September 4 federal general election are outlined below. Others arising from the Conservative victory will be included in the next issue.

Senate Appointments

For the first time in recent memory vacancies in the Senate were virtually eliminated as a result of seven appointments on June 29 and three more on July 9. Among those appointed were four former cabinet ministers during the Trudeau administration – **Allan MacEachen, Romeo LeBlanc, Pierre DeBané** and **Len Marchand**. Other new Senators with previous service in the House of Commons include two former whips, **Charles Turner** and **Tom Lefebvre** as well as **Eymard Corbin** a former Deputy Speaker and Chairman of Committee of the Whole House.

Also summoned to the Senate were **Joyce Fairbairn, Daniel Hays** and **Colin Kenny**.

Born in Montreal in 1943, Mr. Kenny was educated at Bishop's College School in Lennoxville, Quebec, Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont and Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire. He has been an executive with a Western Canadian oil and gas company since 1980. Prior to that he spent ten years in Prime Minister Trudeau's office becoming Assistant Principal Secretary.

Mr. Hays, 45, was born in Calgary where he is a partner in the law firm of McLeod and Dixon. He has been in the farming and ranching business at Pekisko, Alberta since 1957.

Miss Fairbairn was born in 1939 in Lethbridge, Alberta. She studied at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, and

received a Bachelor of Journalism degree from Carleton University in 1961. She joined the Bureau of United Press International and the Parliamentary Press Gallery in 1962. Two years later, she began working for the Parliamentary Bureau of F.P. Publications, where her reports were carried in several daily newspapers.

Since 1970, she has been Legislative Assistant to the Prime Minister and served as senior legislative advisor.

By-elections

On June 18 the Quebec Liberal Party won three by-elections for seats in the National Assembly including two formerly held by the Parti québécois.

In Marie Victorin the Liberal candidate, **Guy Pratt** took almost 60% of the vote while in Sauvé **Marcel Parent** took about 73%. In Marguerite-Bourgeoys, already a Liberal stronghold, **Gilles Fortin** took 84% of the popular vote.

Mr. Pratt is a businessman whose father Paul was Mayor of Longueuil for more than thirty years. Mr. Fortin, also a businessman, ran his campaign on local issues, particularly the government's proposal to build a minimum security detention centre in the area.

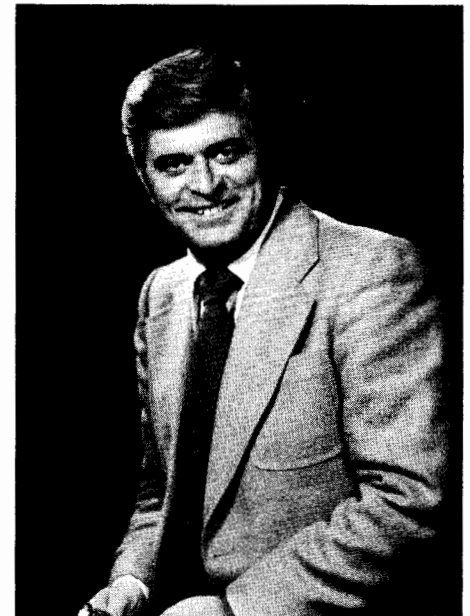
Mr. Parent, Chairman of the Montreal Catholic School Commission, took the seat held since 1973 by **Jacques Yvan Morin**, a member of the cabinet from 1976 until his resignation a few months ago.

On June 5 a by-election in the Nova Scotia House of Assembly saw **Maxine Cochran** of the Progressive Conservative Party retain the seat of Lunenburg Centre held by her late husband. Mrs. Cochran took over 5000 votes compared to 3560 for

the Liberal candidate and 800 for the NDP. Mrs. Cochran became only the fourth woman elected to the House in the history of the province.

New Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod for the Senate

The position of Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod has been vacant since the retire-



Claude G. Lajoie

ment of **Tom Bowie** over a year ago. On July 9, 1984 the Prime Minister announced the appointment of **Claude Lajoie**. Mr. Lajoie had represented Three Rivers in the House of Commons since 1972.



John D. Hagerman of Wilkinson Sword presenting a new sword for the Ontario Sergeant-at-Arms to John Turner Speaker of the Legislative Assembly (l-r) Simon Ward, Wilkinson Sword; Tom Stelling, Sergeant-at-Arms; Mr. Hagerman, Speaker Turner and Roderick Lewis, Clerk of the House. (Paul Smith Photography)

New Sword for Ontario Sergeant-at-Arms

In honour of Ontario's bicentennial, Wilkinson Sword of Canada presented the Legislative Assembly with a new court sword. The former sword of the Sergeant-at-Arms, **Thomas Stelling**, had been in use since 1871. NDP leader **Bob Rae** declared that the presentation confounded "the rumour that in this age of technological changes, the Sergeant-at-Arms was going to be armed with an electric razor."

Resignations

The former Premier of British Columbia, **Dave Barrett**, resigned his seat in the Legislative Assembly on May 31, 1984. Mr. Barrett had been a member for 24 years includ-

ing 14 years as leader of the New Democratic Party. He announced his retirement as leader more than a year ago.

The election of **Bob Skelly** as leader of the provincial NDP at a Spring convention left the way clear for Mr. Barrett to leave the Assembly. He is now working as host of a hot-line radio show in Vancouver.

The federal election contributed to several vacancies in the provincial and territorial legislatures as several members resigned their seats to seek election to the House of Commons. In Ontario **Sheila Copps**, **Michael Cassidy**, **Don Boudria**, **Albert Roy** and **Eric G. Cunningham** resigned to seek seats in Ottawa. **Bud Sherman** (Manitoba), **Patrick Binns** (P.E.I.), **Lynda Sorenson** (Northwest Ter-

ritories) and two members of the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly **Gerald Clavette** and **Gerald Merrithew** also resigned in order to run in the federal election. Five of the ten were successful (Copps, Cassidy, Boudria, Merrithew and Binns).

During the summer one Senator, **Eric Cook**, from Newfoundland, retired having reached his 75th birthday on July 26. Senator Cook had been a member of the Upper House since 1964. He was a former president of the Liberal Party of Newfoundland but he had sat as an independent since 1982 to protest the federal government's decision to refer the question of offshore ownership of oil to the Supreme Court of Canada.