

HERE'S HOW ISLAND SAW ROYAL PAIR IN 1951

Island's Historic Role Is Recalled By Visits

On their last visit here in 1951, Her Majesty, who then was the Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip paid a visit to the Provincial Building and signed the Visitors' Book.

Their return is a reminder of the fame throughout Canada of this fine old Georgian building standing in the centre of Charlottetown's Queen Square. Its fame as "Cradle of Confederation" attracts thousands of visitors each year.

From the time of its erection in 1847 until the province entered Confederation, it was called "the Colonial Building".

The material used in its construction is mainly Wallace freestone from the neighboring Nova Scotia quarries of that name. Excepting only the Province House of Nova Scotia's capital, it is the oldest legislative building in Canada.

EARLY DAYS RECALLED

Visitors entering the portico will note that the flagpoles with which the lower hall is paved are worn in a deeply grooved path to the right. This is a relic of the old days of landlordism, when tenants made their regular visits to the Colonial land office with their rents.

On the first floor at opposite ends of the central corridor are two chambers allocated originally to the two Houses then forming the legislature of the province, now amalgamated into a single chamber.

At the east end is the legislative chamber with the Speaker's chair facing the entrance, and the desks of the thirty members constituting the House arranged in rows facing the chair.

FAMOUS TABLE

At the opposite end of the corridor is the historic Confederation Chamber, originally the meeting place of the Legislative Council of the Island.

This gracefully proportioned room with its air of simple dignity and spaciousness is an attraction to all visitors to the Island capital. Standing at the east end of the doorway—once the "bar" of the Upper House—the visitor has immediately before him the massive mahogany table covered with green baize around which the delegates of 1864 gathered.

Exactly as when used by the Fathers of Confederation are the 24 leather upholstered mahogany

chairs arranged 16 on each long side of the table and three at each end. The table is in three sections. In the centre of one long side of the middle section at the spot usually occupied by the Visitors' Book, is a brass plate with the following inscription:

PLATE, PLAQUE

"In this historic chamber around this table on September 1st, 1864, were gathered those statesmen whose deliberations led

to the formation of the Dominion of Canada. Placed here by the Royal Edward Chapter of the Daughters of the Empire on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of Confederation."

On the west side of the chamber, opposite the centre of the table, a plaque commemorative of the famous meeting, executed in bronze by Hamilton McCarthy, was affixed in 1914.

The symbolism of this remarkable work requires explanation. In each corner appear the shields of the four contracting provinces which in 1867 formed the Dominion. Ontario at the top left, Quebec at the top right, the "cod-fish and thistle" arms of Nova Scotia—now no longer used—at the lower left and New Brunswick at the lower right.

ARMS OF PROVINCES

In the top centre, on a keystone, appears the Royal Arms of Great Britain, draped on either side by Union Jacks. In the centre of the lower border is a composite coat showing the arms of the nine provinces of Canada conjoined. Thus until 1927 was the customary badge of the Dominion, (note—Newfoundland became the 10th Province in 1949).

On a ribbon which encircles the Corinthian pilasters on either side, and along the unoccupied portions of the upper and lower borders of the plaque, appear the names of the twenty-three delegates and three secretaries in the past one and a half years.

Son's Role Recalls Father's 1939 Post

On the Royal visit to Prince Edward Island in 1939, the Guard of Honour was composed of men picked from the Prince Edward Island Highlanders (Black Watch). The Commander of the Guard was Capt. James Coles.

Following the inspection Their Majesties were introduced to the Officer Commanding the P.E.I. Highlanders, Lt.-Col. C.C. Thompson.

Here opens a father and son association with Royal Tours. Flt. Lt. Donald T. Thompson is a member of the crew of the aircraft transporting Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip on their tour this summer.

The 27-year-old Island born airman, a member of the 412 Transport Squadron, has made many such flights with dignitaries in the past one and a half years.



Visit In 1951 Left Memories Of 'Fairy Tale Come True

The date was November 9, 1951. The occasion, the Royal visit of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh.

The eight intervening years may not be considered long when one looks back on the calendar of Royal visits, but the inevitable changes wrought by time are there.

Today, July 26th, it is Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth that the people of the Island welcome.

GREAT DAY FOR CHILDREN
In retrospect, the 11-hour Royal visit in 1951 "lived up to the most fervent expectations, and many unscheduled incidents occurred as charming interludes in the official programme".

"It was a great day for the children," read the accounts. "From all parts of the Island they came, by bus, car and train. And not one of them went home disappointed at not being able to see and greet their own charming Princess and her gallant Prince."
"Like a fairy tale come true, the Royal Couple was there before their eyes, almost within touching distance, smiling back and even waving acknowledgment of their cheers and salutations. And the big shiny cars, in the imposing motorcade didn't hurry at all!"

"GRANDEST STORY"
Commenting further the reports state, "After the great demonstrations at the Provincial Building and City Hall where half the Province seemed to have congregated, the cheering and flag waving continued. Then on the way to Government House the motor-

cade drove along McGill Avenue past the Sanatorium.

"Waiting with their flags was a small group of youngsters who could not join the rest of the boys and girls. They were all victims of polio. The Royal car slowed to a creep. Their Highnesses made doubly sure that every one of the little group got a special personal smile."

"That was the grandest story of the 1951 visit concludes the report.

GAY REMINDERS

The confident expectation of Islanders that they are to greet a radiant Queen on Thursday are based on solid memories of the radiant loveliness she displayed on her earlier visit, as Princess Elizabeth, some eight years ago.

These pictures, taken by Edward Garnham, offer their reminder of the gay and joyous times of that last Royal visit—a foretaste of the pleasures drawing near as the charming, gracious guest of 1951 returns as Queen, beloved as ever.

Shown in the pictures are:
Top—Trouble with a pen at Confederation Chamber. In the group are the Princess, now the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh; now Prince Philip, Commissioner Robert Craig and the late Premier J. Walter Jones.

Centre—Before the State Dinner, with the group including Princess Elizabeth, the Duke of Edinburgh, Mrs. Jones, the late Premier Jones, Hon. T.W.L. Prowse, then Lt.-Governor, and Mrs. Prowse.

Bottom—The big moment of the visit, as Princess Elizabeth arrived at Charlottetown Hotel for the State Dinner. In background is Gordon Foster, then the hotel manager, while Lt.-Col. A. W. Rogers is in foreground.

Welcome to Her Majesty



DELUXE DRYCLEANERS

Montague



and a Sincere welcome to Our Island!

A. G. Middleton
Service Station
Malpeque Rd.

DOUG'S SERVICE STATION

Montague

P.E.I.



WELCOME ...

Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip!

Management and Staff of:

JAMIESON'S
DRUG STORE

Montague

P.E.I.

WELCOME to the QUEEN

AND PRINCE PHILIP

MUNROE'S FARM EQUIPMENT

MONTAGUE, P. E. I.



JULY, 1959

And To Our Lovely Island Province!

JO ANNA
DRESS SHOP

Montague

P. E. I.



HILLSIDE INN

Montague

P. E. I.



WELCOME To Our Island Province
T. M. Llewellyn & Co.

Montague

P. E. I.

WELCOME To Our Island Province



Management & Staff
MONTAGUE
ELECTRIC CO.

Montague

P. E. I.

Welcome To Prince Edward Island



and may you enjoy our hospitality!

NICHOLSON MOTORS

Montague

P.E.I.



July, 1959

may you enjoy our Island Hospitality!

STEWART & BECK

Montague

P.E.I.

WELCOME



May Your Trip Through Our Island Province Be Among The Most Pleasant Memories of Your Tour!

THE BISON RESTAURANT

Montague

P.E.I.

WELCOME To Our Island Province

may you enjoy the traditional hospitality of our people!

MANAGEMENT & STAFF OF:

Wightman's Super Market

Montague

P. E. I.