

# Province Welcomes Distinguished Orange Delegates

## Civil And Religious Freedom The Objective Of Orange Organization

### Brockville, Ont., Scene of Organization of Grand Lodge of British America 106 Years Ago.

(By W. W. MacPhee)

The Grand Orange Lodge of British America, which will hold its annual session in Charlottetown, on June 24th and 25th was organized at Brockville, Ontario, 106 years ago.

But there were Orange Lodges in Canada long before 1830. The first lodges were formed by soldiers of the King who took part in the war between Britain and United States in 1812-14. One of the oldest lodges in Canada is in St. John, New Brunswick, which still retains warrant number one and it is older than lodge number one at Brockville, Ontario. Even in Charlottetown, where the Grand Lodge is holding its 106th annual session, there was an Orange Lodge holding regular meetings as early as about 1840, in the old Drill Shed.

The first Grand Master of British America was Lieut.-Col. Ogle B. Gowan, M.P., of Brockville, Ontario, and he held that office for many years. At first he was called the Deputy Grand Master of British America, for the Duke of Cumberland, a brother of King George IV, who was the Grand Master of the Orange Order in the British Isles, claimed to be Grand Master and sovereign of each Orange Grand Lodge in the various Dominions or colonies of the Empire. The Grand Lodge of British America, however, claimed autonomy and so the head of the Order in Canada and Newfoundland is officially designated "Grand Master and Sovereign of British America."

secution was stopped, or commended to stop, in Great Britain. It was the ideal of William of Orange that all people, all classes and all creeds, should enjoy civil and religious freedom. "The Protestant religion and liberties of the people of England, I will maintain" was his motto, and that has been the slogan of the Loyal Orange Association throughout the world from that day to this. Orange clubs and societies were formed in England, Scotland and Ireland even before the "Glorious Revolution" of 1688-90. But the Association has had a continuous existence since that day, November 5, 1688, when William of Orange landed at Torbay, England, and an Orange declaration was drawn up and signed by many of his followers in the church at Exeter, following a thanksgiving service, a week later. Orange societies soon spread into every branch of the British Army and the British Navy and at one time every member of the British House of Commons and the House of Lords was an Orangeman.

It was not until over a hundred years later that the Orange Association was established on a firm basis in the form of lodges as at present constituted. The Orange Lodge as at present organized is one of the good things that came out of Ireland, for it was in Ireland, in 1795, that lodges were formed on a system which has been followed since throughout the world. Soon the Irish idea commenced to be adopted throughout the British Isles and the Order spread rapidly to every British colony and possession. It was only 30 years after the first lodge was formed in Ireland that the Order was so firmly established in what is now Canada that the Grand Orange Lodge of British America was organized at Brockville, Ontario.

#### Rebellion of 1837

One of the first public questions that stirred the Orangemen of Canada and the Grand Lodge of British America was the rebellion in Upper Canada, or Ontario, in 1837. The Orangemen agreed with many of the principles for which the rebels contended, such as Responsible and Representative government and separation of Church and State, but the Grand Lodge strongly opposed the methods to which the rebels resorted and insisted that the aspirations of free citizens could be achieved by lawful means without resorting to armed rebellion. So the entire strength of the Orange Association was placed at the disposal of the King's representative to suppress the rebellion and at the same time to assist in bringing about the desired reforms.

#### Origin of Order

The Fenian raids of 1866 aroused a high pitch of patriotic enthusiasm and the Grand Master placed the Order at the disposal of the government, while nearly every Orangeman who was free and physically fit enlisted to assist in driving the Fenian raiders from Canadian soil.



J. STARR TAIT, K.C., O.B.E. Grand Master and Sovereign St. John, N.B.

At the time of the North-West rebellion the wrath of the Orange Association was aroused, and the records of the Grand Lodge show that the Orangemen followed the same course in defence of Canada and the Empire as they had fought in earlier critical periods in Canadian history.

#### Favored Confederation

It is on record that the Orange Order was one of the first organizations to request the federation of the British colonies on this continent, and strongly supported the framers of Confederation in bringing into existence the Dominion of Canada.

One of the things the Orange Order has always stood for is a national, public, non-sectarian system of elementary education, such as that prevailing in Prince Edward Island. Believing, as it does, in the unity of Canada and the Empire, and cherishing the ideals of William of Orange, that all people should have civil and religious freedom and that they should co-operate for the good of the country, the Orange Order takes the position that the most effective way to promote national harmony and good will is to have all children of all classes and creeds study together and play together in a common school, as they do in Prince Edward Island.

This school question has caused many a political flare in all the provinces, and as Orangemen have always taken a very definite stand for one school and one language, they have been involved in many a political conflict, for it seems to be quite difficult to remove education from politics.

In five of the nine provinces of Canada there are public schools, and in these Province separate schools are not recognised by law. They are: Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba and British Columbia. All of which indicates that the educational policy of the Orange Association is acceptable to a great multitude of Canadian people.

In Quebec there are Roman Catholic schools and Protestant schools, and in Ontario there are public schools and separate schools, as a result of a compromise arrangement made between these two provinces at the time of Confederation. It is because of this condition that the Orange Order is frequently involved in political and educational controversy in Ontario.

The Orange order has always contended that the people of Canada generally want public schools and that they would vote for public schools if they had a chance to vote on the question, in any of the English-speaking provinces at least.

One of the greatest tests of public opinion on the school question in the history of Canada was that of 1896, when the people of Canada, in a Dominion general election gave an overwhelming majority for public schools for Manitoba.

In every patriotic, political, and educational crisis in the history of Canada for over a hundred years, the Orange Order has taken a very prominent part. It is only natural that an organization so interested in public questions frequently involving both religion and politics should be subjected to some criticism. The Order has received its share of criticism, but the members feel that they are performing a patriotic and political service, and so they go forward in the performance of their mission for Canada and the Empire.

Another question in which the Orange Order has taken a prominent part is the question of mixed marriage. The Order has taken the position that Canadian civil law should prevail and that all marriages performed according to law should be recognized as valid, regardless of the religion of the contracting parties or of the officiating clergyman. One marriage law for Canada is a plank in the Orange platform.

#### Benevolent Work

In its benevolent activities the Orange Order's service is second to none. In every province, the Order

supports or helps to maintain an orphanage for the care of destitute Protestant children. The Prince Edward Island Protestant orphanage is one of the many institutions of its kind founded by the Orange Order. In these homes, which stretch like a chain of benevolence across the Dominion, hundreds of children are cared for and educated, although very few of them are the children of Orangemen, or have any claim upon the Orange Order for support.

In its benevolent work, the Orange Order has the co-operation of the Ladies Orange Benevolent Association, whose Grand Lodge of British America also meets in Charlottetown at the same time as the men. The L.O.B.A. is the strongest Protestant Women's Or-

### Convention Program

MONDAY, JUNE 22nd.

10.00 A.M.—Grand Crystal Chapter Convenes.

2.00 P.M.—Grand Black Chapter opening Session. Grand Crystal Chapter, session continued.

8.00 P.M.—Exemplification of Red Cross Degree.

TUESDAY, JUNE 23rd.

10.00 A.M.—Grand Black Chapter Session. Special Session of Grand Lodge.

1.30 P.M.—L. O. B. A. session for the seating of Grand Lodge Officers by members of Memorial Lodge.

2.00 P.M.—Opening session of Grand Lodge of Ladies Orange Benevolent Association of B. A. in I. O. O. F. Hall.

7.00 P.M.—The members of Memorial Lodge and the Juveniles will present a Pageant in I. O. O. F. Hall.

8.00 P.M.—Grand Black Chapter resumes. Grand Lodge L. O. B. A. resumes.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24th

10.00 A.M.—Grand Orange Lodge of B. A. Opening Session will adjourn at 11.30 to attend Divine Service in Trinity Church. Grand Lodge of L. O. B. A. will resume and adjourn at 11.30 for Divine Service.

2.30 P.M.—L. O. A. and L. O. B. A. will assemble in P. W. C. Hall for Provincial, Civic and other receptions.

4.00 to 5.30 P.M.—Garden Party at Government House.

8.00 P.M.—Banquet and Dance at Canadian National Hotel.

THURSDAY, JUNE 25th.

10.00 A.M.—Grand Lodge Session of L. O. A. Grand Lodge of L. O. B. A.

2.00 P.M.—L. O. A. and L. O. B. A. Adjourned sessions if necessary.

FRIDAY, JUNE 26th.

1.00 A.M.—Delegates via S.S. New Northland will sail. For all other delegates—free and easy.

## Premier Campbell Extends Government's Welcome To Visiting Orange Delegates

### Voices Good Wishes For Successful Convention In Charlottetown This Week.



After an interval of eighteen years, Prince Edward Island again receives the delegates of the Grand Orange Lodge of British America, who are this year holding their annual session in Charlottetown.

On behalf of the Government of the Province, I wish to extend to the delegates a cordial welcome to the "Garden of the Gulf." To those members who are visiting the Island for the first time, I express my particular wish that they may find something that is pleasing in the beauty of our summer scenery and climate, and in the simple hospitality of our people.

I trust that the Grand Lodge will have a successful session and that the whole Order may continue to accomplish much in the development of fraternity and citizenship.

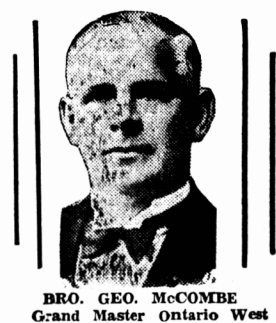
THANE A. CAMPBELL, Premier.



M. W. Bro. LOFTUS H. REID Toronto, Ont. Grand Secretary, Grand Orange Lodge of British America.



MRS. N. R. ADAMS Deputy Grand Mistress Regina, Sask.



BRO. GEO. MCCOMBE Grand Master Ontario West

Welcome To  
L. O. B. A. and L. O. L.  
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#### Pattern For Dominion

The Orange Order has a federal and provincial system of government, and it is said that Sir John A. Macdonald, the first Premier of the Dominion of Canada, who was an Orangeman, used the Orange constitution as a pattern in designing Canada's system of Dominion and Provincial government. It is a known fact, at any rate, that no country was governed in exactly the same way prior to Canadian Confederation.

In the realm of Orangemism, Newfoundland is a Provincial jurisdiction. In Ontario, which has always been an Orange strong-hold, there are two provincial Grand Lodges, Ontario East and Ontario West. In each of the other eight provinces of Canada there is a provincial Grand Lodge, so that within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of British America, there are at the present time, eleven provincial Grand Lodges, hundreds of county and district lodges, and over 3,000 Primary Orange lodges. The Orange Order is one of the strongest fraternal associations in Canada and in the world.

Delegates of the  
**L. O. B. A. and L. O. L.**  
Will receive a hearty welcome to  
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND  
We join in wishing you a pleasant visit.  
**PALMER ELECTRIC**  
MOTOR SERVICE AND REPAIRS

The Visiting Delegates of the  
Ladies' Orange Benevolent Association  
and the  
Loyal Orange Lodge  
will be receiving  
**A CORDIAL WELCOME**  
from the citizens of  
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND  
We join in wishing you a most enjoyable and memorable visit  
**S. A. MacDONALD**  
QUEEN STREET

Greetings to the  
**L. O. B. A.**  
Delegates  
Kent  
**Beauty Shoppe**  
135 Kent St. Phone 377

Welcome  
**L. O. B. A.**  
and  
**L. O. L.**  
**Hyndman & Co.**  
The Oldest Insurance Agency in P. E. I.  
LOWER QUEEN STREET

Welcome L. O. B. A. and L. O. L.  
**Stern's**  
LAUNDERERS DYERS DRY CLEANERS  
We Join With The Citizens of  
Prince Edward Island  
in extending a  
CORDIAL WELCOME  
to the visiting delegates of the  
L. O. B. A. & L. O. L.  
**A. HORNE & CO.**  
Distributors General Motors Products

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A VISIT TO OUR PAINT DEPARTMENT WILL PAY YOU  
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