

# Memories Of Royalty Cherished By Island



IN GAY MOOD ABOARD BRITANNIA

Probably nowhere in the Commonwealth is there a greater attachment for the Crown than in Canada's smallest province—Prince Edward Island. Divided into three counties, these are known as Prince, Queens and Kings, providing a distinct Royal flavor.

Its record of Royal visits dates to the middle of the nineteenth century and accounts bear out the warmth of reception accorded the distinguished visitors. The current visit of Queen Elizabeth and His Royal Highness Prince Philip adds yet another bright chapter to the history of the Province.

### CENTURY AGO

Almost one hundred years ago in August 1860, a similar event took place. It was the visit of H.R.H. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, eldest son of Queen Victoria, who later became Edward VII and the great grandfather of the present Sovereign.

The then Prince of Wales visited Canada to open the great bridge over the St. Lawrence at Montreal. The legislature of this colony then in session, embraced the opportunity of inviting him here, through Governor Dundas. His Royal Highness graciously acquiesced, and the legislature thereupon voted a sum of money "to defray all expense of the reception."

The Prince left England on the 10th of July on board the warship "Hero" (91) guns accompanied by the frigate "Ariadne" (28 guns). He arrived at St. John's, Newfoundland on July 23, and arrangements were made for his visit to the Prince Edward Island capital on the 9th of August.

### INTENSE INTEREST

The visit of the Prince of Wales to the Province excited great interest, not only to Prince Edward Islanders but in the neighbouring provinces as well, for on the 8th instant several steamers and other vessels arrived in port from Pictou, Cape Breton, Shediac and Richibucto, having hundreds of excursionists on board. The Volunteers from the rural districts turned out in goodly numbers to assist in bidding the Royal guest a hearty welcome, and the city was thronged by all classes to do him honour.

Entertainment included a ride (horseback) round Royalty, fireworks in the evening and a ball and banquet at Government House.

Another memorable visit by Royalty to Charlottetown occurred some nine years later in 1869. It was made by Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught, third son of Queen Victoria, who many years later became Governor General of Canada and visited Prince Edward Island again in that capacity. His first visit, as a youth of 19 was a colorful affair.

### GENERAL HOLIDAY

The Prince arrived on a Saturday evening about 8 o'clock. He was aboard H.M.S. "Dart" which anchored off Queen's Wharf.

Monday was observed as a general holiday, the city being gaily decorated, and the weather fine and agreeable. Following a levee at Government House at which presentations were made, the Prince proceeded to an arch near

the City Hall, under which his carriage halted, and the party was successfully photographed.

Accounts written in that day continue:—

"The Prince drove through the principal streets of the city and suburbs and his band discoursed sweet music for the entertainment of our citizens on Queen Square, during the afternoon. In the evening, the Market House, Post Office, City Hall, St. Patrick's Hall, and nearly all the buildings surrounding Queen Square, as well as many others in different parts of the City, were handsomely illuminated, the fireworks on Queen Square, attracting a large number in that direction. Between nine and ten, a large bonfire, kindled on Rochford Square, in the direct route from Government House to the

Colonial Building, drew an immense number of persons to that quarter.

"At a quarter to ten, the Prince accompanied by Sir Robert Hodgson (Government Administrator), and suite, left Government House for the Colonial Building: and

thereupon the men of the several Fire Companies, dressed in their uniforms (scarlet and blue), ignited their torches, opened their ranks and allowed the carriages of the Prince and suite to pass into their midst. In this manner, preceded by Galbraith's band

with two lines of firemen bearing torches, on either side, and multitudes of eager spectators everywhere, His Royal Highness was escorted to the Colonial Building.

"This was without doubt the most brilliant procession ever

witnessed on this Island, and for its remarkable pyrotechnic display the city is mainly indebted, we understand, to Dr. Strickland, Messrs. B. Rogers, D. MacKinnon and one or two others."

A hall in Colonial House commemorated the visit of 1869.

## Royal Visits Set Average Of One For Each 12 Years

British Royalty has visited Canada on several previous occasions during the past 167 years, averaging one visit every 12 years. History records the following earlier Royal visits to this country: 1792 — Prince Edward, fourth son of King George III, later Duke of Kent and father of Queen Victoria. 1860 — Prince Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, later King Edward VII. 1861 — Prince Alfred Ernest, 17-year-old younger brother of the late King Edward VII, visited Canada informally while a midshipman in the Royal Navy. 1870 — Prince Arthur, third son of Queen Victoria, later Duke of Connaught who was appointed Governor-General of Canada in 1911. 1884 — Prince George, later George V, a midshipman on H.M.C.S. Canada.

1901 — Duke and Duchess of Cornwall, later King George V and Queen Mary. 1919 — Prince Edward, Prince of Wales, later King Edward VIII, now Duke of Windsor. 1927 — Prince Edward, Prince of Wales and his brother, the Duke of Kent. 1939 — Their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. 1951 — Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh. 1957 — Queen Elizabeth and H. R. H. Prince Philip. 1958 — Princess Margaret. 1958 — H. R. H. Prince Philip. In addition to these Royal visits was the stay in Canada of Princess Louise, daughter of Queen Victoria and popular chaperone at Rideau Hall during the regime of her husband, the Marquis of Lorne, as Governor-General of Canada from 1878 to 1883.

WELCOME TO P.E.I.



"May you enjoy our Island Province"

Management and Staff of:

**MENT'S RESTAURANT**

Charlottetown,

P. E. I.

WELCOME



may you enjoy your stay in our Island Province . . . and soon return again to our shores.

**MARITIME STEEL & FOUNDRIES LTD.**

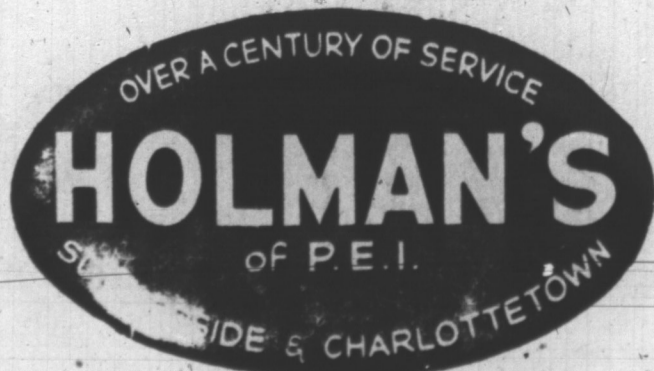
Charlottetown

P. E. I.

# Welcome...



We bid Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip welcome to our fair Island. We hope their stay will be both pleasant and memorable.



# HOLMAN'S

of Prince Edward Island