



People

New Speaker in New Brunswick

The new Speaker of the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly is **Frank Branch**. Mr. Branch, 44, was born in Bathurst, New Brunswick, and attended public and high school there. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Saint Thomas University and a Bachelor of Education from the *Université de Moncton*.

A former teacher at *le Collège de Bathurst* and the New Brunswick Community College, Mr. Branch is now a full-time legislator. First elected to the Legislative Assembly October 26, 1970, he was one of five representatives from the constituency of Gloucester County. He was first elected representative for the new single-member riding of Nepisiguit-Chaleur on



Frank Branch

November 18, 1974. He was re-elected in 1978, 1982 and 1987.

While in the Opposition, Mr. Branch served on several select and standing committees including Mining and Renewable Resources; Fisheries; Science, Technology and the Future; Agriculture, Corporations, Economic Development, Procedure, Public Accounts, Social Development, and Veterans Affairs.

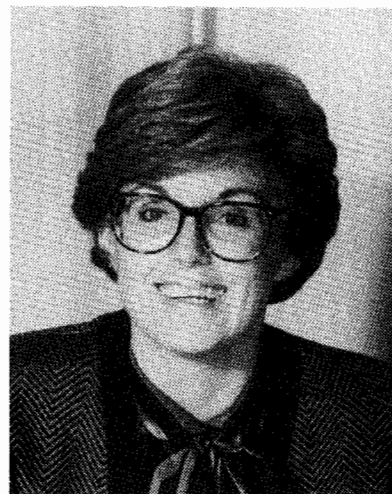
On October 27, 1987, Premier **Frank McKenna** designated Mr. Branch Speaker of the House of Assembly. He was formally elected at the start of the First Session of the Fifty-First Parliament.

Provincial By-elections

After winning the March 31 by-election in London North for the Progressive Conservatives, **Dianne E. Cunningham** took her seat in the Ontario Legislative Assembly on Tuesday, April 12.

A former teacher she has taught at the elementary level in Toronto, Edmonton and Ann Arbor, Michigan. She also has experience as director of her own management consulting firm; as a planning officer with the Ministry of Community and Social Services, and director of the Day Care Program for Merrymount Children's Center in London.

Her career in politics began in 1973 when she was elected as a trustee on the London Board of



Dianne E. Cunningham (*Peter Caton, Gerald Campbell Studios*)

Education. Mrs. Cunningham was elected Chairman of that Board in 1978 and again in 1984.

In Newfoundland the Official Opposition picked up a seat when **Eric Gullage** of the Liberals took Waterford-Kenmount with a close 249-vote victory over his Conservative opponent. Mr. Gullage, 46, is president of Eric A. Gullage and Associates, an insurance and pension consulting company. He is also a member of the City Council of St. John's. The district, which had been a Tory stronghold since its creation in 1975, was formerly held by **Gerald Ottenheimer** who was named to the Senate in December.

In Saskatchewan the Opposition New Democratic Party won two provincial by-elections. In Regina Elphinstone, seat of former Premier



Dwain Lingenfelter

Blakeney, **Dwain Lingenfelter**, 39, took the seat with over 77 per cent of the vote. Mr. Lingenfelter is a former cabinet minister in the Blakeney government.

In Saskatoon Eastview, **Bob Pringle**, 41, Director of the Saskatoon Housing Coalition took the seat from the Conservatives who had held it since 1982. When the votes were counted Mr. Pringle had more than 6,500 votes compared to 3,367 for the Conservative candidate and 2,474 for the Liberal. Following the by-elections the standings in the Assembly were 37 Conservatives and 26 NDP.

Resignations

In February **Greg MacIsaac** resigned his seat in the Nova Scotia House of Assembly following his conviction for fraud and forgery in connection with expense accounts incurred while a member of the legislature.

In Ontario **Mel Swart**, the member for Welland-Thorold, announced his retirement effective

June 30, 1988 for health reasons. Mr. Swart had held his seat since September 1975 and the critic for the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations. His announcement was greeted with tributes from members of all parties. NDP Leader **Bob Rae** called Mr. Swart's career a model for anyone considering entering politics.

Two members of the House of Commons, **David Crombie** and **Clément Côté** resigned recently. Mr. Crombie was named head of the new world commission on Toronto's waterfront lands.

Mr. Côté gave up the Lac St. Jean riding to create an opportunity for newly appointed Secretary of State **Lucien Bouchard** to find a seat in the House.

Senator Yvette Rousseau Senator Paul Lafond

The Senate marked the passing of two of its most distinguished members recently. **Yvette Rousseau** was appointed by Prime Minister Trudeau in 1979. She had been a teacher and later worked in the private sector where she became active in the Quebec trade union movement. She served as Vice President of the Confederation of National Trade Unions in 1963; was a member of the Quebec Council on the Status of Women and later Vice President, then President of the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

As Senator she served on the Committee on the Constitution, The Committee on Social Affairs, the Official Languages Committee and many other committees.



Bob Pringle

Senator **Paul Lafond** was another active member of the upper house best known for his role as chairman of the Standing Committee on Defence for many years. A former member of the Royal Canadian Air Force, he worked for the Liberal Party in Quebec for many years before his appointment to the Senate by Mr. Trudeau in 1970.

Following the passing of Senator Lafond there were eight vacancies in the Senate.

Speaker's Reunion in British Columbia

On Thursday, December 1, 1987, **John Reynolds**, Speaker of the British Columbia Legislative Assembly, hosted the Second Triennial Speaker's Dinner. The Former Speakers were presented with a Commonwealth Parliamentary Association plaque by Speaker Reynolds commemorating their years of service to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.



Seated are former Speakers Lorne Shantz 1958-1963, and William Murray 1964-1972. Also present (l) to (r) Craig James, Clerk of Committees and Second Clerk Assistant, Ian Izard, Law Clerk and Clerk Assistant, Austin Pelton, Deputy Speaker Harvey Schroeder, 1978-1982; Dean Smith, 1976-1978; John Reynolds, Present Speaker, Walter Davidson, 1982-1986; Gordon Dowding 1972-1975, Ian Horne, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and E. George MacMinn, Clerk Assistant (*John Yanyshyn/Visions West*).

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