



CPA Activities: The Canadian Scene

Ottawa-Quebec Parliamentary Exchange

From February 27 to March 2, 1984 three Senators and three members of the House of Commons visited Quebec as guests of Speaker **Richard Guay**. The purpose of the exchange was to offer some insights into Quebec's cultural, industrial and parliamentary life. Among other things the federal members had meetings and briefings with the Deputy Ministers of Culture and the Treasury Board. They visited Place des Arts, Place Royale, the old port of Quebec and Andr s wine makers. The mayors of both Montreal and Quebec City gave the parliamentarians a reception in their honour.

Federal members who took part in the visit were Senators **Yvette Rousseau**, **L. Norbert Th riault** and **Heath Macquarie** along with the Speaker of the House of Commons, **Lloyd Francis**, **Bud Cullen** MP for Sarnia and **Maurice Harquail** MP for Restigouche.

Canadian Regional Council Meeting

The Council of the Canadian Region of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association held its annual meeting in Ottawa on May 5, 1984. Visiting Speakers and observers were welcomed by the Speaker of the House of Commons, **Lloyd Francis**, and the Deputy Speaker of the Senate, **Gildas Molgat**. The opening part of the meeting was chaired by the outgoing President of the Association, **James Walding**, Speaker of the Manitoba Legislative Assembly. Following a formula adopted in 1983 the President is drawn from the province that will host the next Canadian Regional Conference. Accordingly Speaker

Arthur Donahoe of Nova Scotia took the chair for the remainder of the meeting. Other changes to the executive saw Quebec Speaker **Richard Guay** move from Second to First Vice-President and the addition of Speaker **John Turner** of Ontario as Second Vice-President. Other positions on the executive remain the same although an additional Regional Representative was added as result of changes to the CPA international constitution. Speaker Donahoe was named to fill this position. The Regional Representative whose term expires in a few months, Speaker **Gerard Amerongen** of Alberta, will be replaced by Speaker Guay after the international meeting in the Isle of Man.

The agenda for the Regional Council meeting consisted of some 19 items, a few of which were the subject of considerable discussion. In his report of the Executive Committee Speaker Walding noted the establishment of a \$70,000 programme enrichment fund to be used to organize small CPA seminars in addition to the regular annual conference and seminar. Later in the meeting two specific proposals were considered, one from the Niagara Institute, the other from the Centre for Legislative Exchange.

The Council adopted a motion that only the interest and not the capital from the Programme Enrichment Fund should be used to organize activities. Neither of the specific proposals was adopted by the Council. Instead it was felt that at the next Council meeting branches wishing to draw from the fund should circulate proposals, well before the meeting, and the Council would decide which, if any, merited acceptance. In the meantime, to get the ball rolling, **Keith Penner** offered to raise the matter with the Chairman of the federal branch to see if some activity could be arranged in the coming year.

Other items on the agenda included a report by Mr. Penner on the report of a working party on CPA and its future; Deputy Speaker **Doug Moore** of New Brunswick reported on plans for the Atlantic Parliamentary Conference to be held in June 1984 in New Brunswick. Speaker **Walter Davidson** of British Columbia invited fellow Speakers to hold their Second Conference of Presiding Officers in British Columbia later this year. Speaker Turner said he thought Ontario would be willing to take Ottawa's place as host of the 1984 seminar in view of the increasing possibility of a federal election this fall. Finally, Speaker Amerongen reported on the preliminary results of a questionnaire he had circulated to all members of the Canadian region of CPA asking for their opinions on the operation of the Association. A final report will be circulated during the coming year.

Twenty-Fourth Regional Conference

The twenty-fourth Regional Conference of CPA will be held in Nova Scotia from July 29-August 4, 1984. The conference will begin in Halifax but some of the sessions will take place at the Keltic Lodge in Cape Breton.

The topics on the agenda include: Censorship versus Free Speech; the Impact of the Charter; the Case For and Against Balanced Budgets; Party Discipline and the Possibilities for more Free Voting in a Parliamentary System; the Role of Provinces in International Affairs; and the Protection of the Rights of Visible Minorities. One session will also be devoted to CPA matters including the report of the working party on the future of CPA.



People

On May 14, 1984 **Jeanne Sauvé** was sworn in as Canada's 23rd Governor General replacing **Edward Schreyer** whose term had expired. The appointment marked the culmination of a distinguished public career which began in 1972 when she was elected to represent Laval-Des-Rapides in the House of Commons. Shortly thereafter she became the first female cabinet minister from Quebec and in 1980 the first woman to be elected Speaker of the House of Commons.

Born in Prud'homme, Saskatchewan where her father had a contract to build a Roman Catholic Church, her early

education was at a private girls school in Ottawa. Mme. Sauvé studied economics at the University of Montreal and arts at the University of Paris. Following her return to Canada she worked as a freelance broadcaster for the French and English networks of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation as well as other networks becoming one of the best known television commentators in Quebec.

Prior to serving as Speaker she had held three different ministerial portfolios: Minister of State for Science and Technology, Minister of the Environment and Minister of Communications.



The Governor General and Mr. Sauvé leaving Parliament following the investiture ceremony. (UPC)

New Lieutenant-Governor

In Quebec City **Gilles Lamontagne** was sworn in as the province's 24th Lieutenant-Governor since 1867 on March 28. A graduate of Jean-de-Brébeuf College and the *École des hautes études commerciales*, Mr. Lamontagne was a pilot with the 425 Bomber Squadron (*Les Alouettes*) during the Second World War. His aircraft was shot down in 1943 and he spent two years as a prisoner of war.



Gilles Lamontagne

In 1946 Mr. Lamontagne settled in Quebec City where he went into business. He was elected to city council in 1962 and became mayor in 1965, a position he held for the next twelve years.

First elected to the House of Commons in a 1977 by-election, Mr. Lamontagne was re-elected in 1979 and 1980. During his years in Parliament he served as Postmaster General and later Minister of National Defence.

Nova Scotia By-election

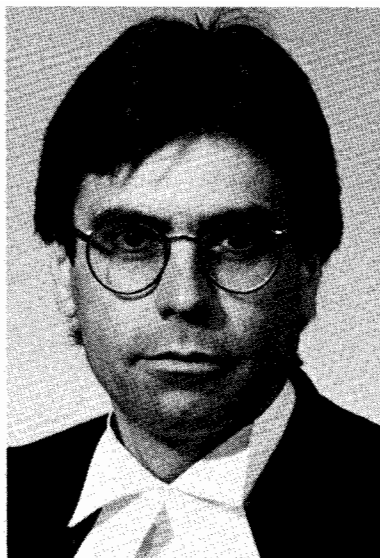
On February 21, 1984 the voters of Kings South chose a new member of the provincial assembly to replace **Harry How** who was appointed Chief Judge of the Provincial Court last November. The successful candidate was **Paul Kinsman**, who held onto the riding for the Progressive Conservative Party winning 48% of the popular vote compared to 34% for the NDP and 18% for the Liberals. A family physician from Wolfville, Dr. Kinsman is a former town councillor and mayor. He has had previous experience as a member of the House of Assembly in the 1970s when he was elected in Kings West.

Appointments

Craig H. James was appointed Clerk Assistant of the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly in March. A native of Saskatchewan, he studied at the University of Regina and received a Master of Library Science from the University of Wales. Mr. James had served in the Saskatchewan Legislative Library for six years as government documents librarian and reference librarian prior to joining the Table. He was greeted by the Members as a "librarian extraordinaire." In addition to Table duties, he will be Clerk to various committees including the Public Accounts Committee. Mr. James replaces **David Mitchell** who accepted a position with the private sector in British Columbia. On behalf of the Members of the Assembly Speaker **Herb Swan** presented Mr. Mitchell with a painting by a Saskatchewan artist as a token of appreciation for his contribution to the Assembly for the past three years. (Editor's note: Members of the Editorial Board of the *Canadian Parliamentary Review* are particularly grateful for David's enthusiastic and conscientious collaboration to the CPA Review over the years.)

Resignations and Retirements

The strength of both the Liberal and Parti québécois caucuses of the Quebec National Assembly were reduced by one as a result of recent resignations. The Minister



Craig H. James

of Intergovernmental Affairs **Jacques-Yvan Morin** resigned from both the Cabinet and the Assembly on March 5. A former law professor at the University of Montreal Mr. Morin, 52, had been a member of the legislature since 1973. The Liberal member to resign was **Fernand Lalonde**, 51, a former Minister in the Bourassa government and Opposition House Leader since 1983. Mr. Lalonde said he was leaving politics for personal reasons and intended to return to his law practice in Montreal.

In the House of Commons the Progressive Conservative Member for Scarborough East, **Gordon Gilchrist**, resigned his seat on March 15. He said his recent conviction for income tax evasion had raised questions as to his ability to vigorously represent his constituents. "If I cannot serve them honourably, I will not serve at all. However, let there be no doubt in anyone's mind. I believe that this judgement is wrong. My company, my family and I are innocent...and accordingly I have instructed my counsel to commence appeal proceedings."

John Kushner

The Member of Parliament for Calgary East, **John Kushner**, died on March 2 after a brief illness. His political career began in 1967 when he was elected as an alderman in Calgary. He held that position until 1974 when he was elected to the provincial legislative assembly. Mr. Kushner was elected to the House of Commons in 1979 and re-elected in 1980.

Serge Champagne

A Member of the Quebec National Assembly from St. Jacques, **Serge Champagne**, was killed in a traffic accident on April 13. A Liberal, Mr. Champagne, 40, had been in the Assembly less than a year after winning a by-election in 1983. His wife and five children, age one to ten, escaped serious injury in the accident.