

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER, Honourable Peter Fox (Kildonan): The Honourable House Leader.

HONOURABLE SIDNEY GREEN (Inkster): Mr. Speaker, I wish to proceed with the Resolution standing at the top of Page 3 of the Order Paper in the name of the First Minister.

RESOLUTION — SILVER JUBILEE OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

HONOURABLE EDWARD SCHREYER (Rossmere): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition, that an Humble Address in the following words be presented to Her Majesty on the occasion of the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of Her Majesty's Reign.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty:

Most Gracious Sovereign:

We, the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba in Session assembled, beg to offer our heartfelt congratulations on the happy completion of the twenty-fifth of the transforming years of Your Majesty's illustrious reign.

Having had the great pleasure and honour of several visits from Your Majesty, from the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, as well as from other members of the Royal Family during the period of your reign, we call to mind that Your Majesty has visited many parts of this great province, and has had opportunity to meet a broad and representative number of our people. We have happy memories of You and Your family being among us, and especially of the ease and grace in which you have made the Monarchy, Your Royal Person and Your Family well and affectionately known to us all.

Because of this living knowledge and also because we are deeply aware of the Crown as the centre of loyalty and of unity for our province and for our country we wish to assure you of our abiding loyalty and affection. You may be confident of the prayers of us all for the welfare of Your Majesty and of the Members of the Royal Family now and for the coming years, in which we pray you may very long reign over us in peace, serenity and gracious service to all Your peoples.

MOTION presented.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.

MR. SCHREYER: Mr. Speaker, the Resolution embodies the essence of the thought which I am sure we would all want to express on this occasion, nevertheless, it behooves me to take some few extra moments of the time of this Assembly to elaborate on the said subject matter.

It would be indeed true, Sir, to say that the reign of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, could be described as long, peaceful, serene, gracious and excellent. During her incumbency as Reigning Monarch, the world has changed a great deal, the Commonwealth has changed a great deal and it may be that in our own minds we may think that the particular contemporary circumstances are rather difficult and problematic inasmuch as we have been buffeted by inflation and by rising expectations, and if one were to glean all one's impressions only from the media, one would think that we lived in perilous times indeed, and in a way we do.

But, in retrospect, Sir, the last twenty-five years of recent history have been among the more peaceful in this century and for a long time, the scientific and technological advances working for the benefit of mankind have been as impressive — indeed, more so — than in periods prior to this. Material living standards have improved greatly and we have had peace. Not a perfect peace, but a peace which has been of greater stability than in almost any other time in modern history. Therefore, it is certainly appropriate that we take time from an otherwise hectic and busy schedule in this House dealing with all manner of current specific matters to look back for a quarter century in retrospect and attempt to gain some perspective in our minds of where we are at.

Insofar as Her Majesty herself is concerned, she indeed has been a force for stability in the modern democratic state in the Commonwealth. That is not to say that some parts of the Commonwealth have not broken off and are in turmoil but, insofar as the older daughters of the Commonwealth are concerned, of which Canada is one, the period of the last twenty-five years has been one in which I think increasing — not decreasing — but increasing numbers of people acknowledge that there is more than mere symbolism, that there is more than mere appearance attached to the Crown and to the Monarchy, that indeed any substitute human institution to replace the Monarchy would, Sir, be equally expensive — at least as expensive — and it would not have any

more, indeed Sir, I would suggest less of a basis for attracting the loyalty and devotion of the citizens of that State than does our present constitutional Monarchy arrangement. It has served us well. I know that with those who like to think that they are more *avant-garde* in terms of political institutions and political economy, political science, that there is some more modern and more democratic form of Head of State, but I would suggest that the experience of history demonstrates that indeed our arrangement is as good as any that has yet been devised and is so meritorious that it deserves to be enduring and worthy of our continued devotion and support.

In order then that we attempt to give more pervasive specific concrete attention to the fact that this is, indeed, the Silver Jubilee, the Reign of Her Majesty Elizabeth II, the Province of Manitoba, through the Government of Manitoba, on behalf, I hope I can say, of all of us, is pleased to announce the establishment of a series of senior secondary student scholarships or awards. The Government of Manitoba is deeply aware of the Crown as the centre of loyalty and unity for our province and we feel it is entirely appropriate to announce today, The Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Students Award.

It is again, we hope, Sir, a little more than symbolism because we are announcing 60 such awards of \$1,000 each to relate to each of the school divisions that exist in our province. The award will be given to students who have maintained above average records in their studies and who have shown exceptional merit in academic or vocational studies or in physical education. They are being announced, therefore, in conjunction with the passage by the Chamber of a message of loyalty and affection to Her Majesty The Queen. The bases for selection are a matter of detail which I would be pleased to go into but I do not think it is necessary or appropriate just now.

By and large, they relate to students in senior high schools enrolled in academic and also in vocational studies and we hope that it will work out approximately on the basis of one award per 1,000 senior secondary students. The selection process will involve those in the school divisions, superintendents, principals, and notices of this are being sent to these people and to the private schools of the province.

I hope there will be — I am sure there will be — concrete recognition and recollection then of the Silver Jubilee on the part of all of us, certainly on the part of those 60 or so young people who will benefit and we hope continue to carry forward, in the years ahead, attachment to democratic institutions, to constitutional Monarchy and devotion to the The Queen and her successors.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

MR. STERLING R. LYON (Souris-Killarney): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to associate myself and the members of my party with the solicitous words that have been used to draw this message to Her Majesty The Queen and to second the Motion proposed just now by the First Minister.

May I say at the outset that we join with him in acknowledging the propriety and the desirability of the scholarship program which the First Minister has just announced to mark this signal occasion in the life of The Queen and indeed in the life of our country. We share, with him, the hope that the recipients of the scholarships will carry in their hearts and in their minds loyal affection to Her Majesty and we know as well, of course, that it is precisely this kind of indicator that Her Majesty The Queen much prefers to carry hope and to carry assistance to young people throughout the Commonwealth. It is the continuation of a kind of program that has been utilized before on occasion of Royal visits to signify the loyalty and the affection of Her Majesty's Subjects in Manitoba, and I think it is altogether appropriate and proper that the Premier has made the announcement now and we share with him in support for that program.

This too, Sir, is one of those happy although rare occasions when the whole House may unite, with partisan differences put to one side, to acknowledge and to rejoice in the common fealty to the Head of State in the person of our beloved Queen Elizabeth II. I think it is worthy of note that Her Majesty The Queen is only the third Reigning Monarch since 1837 who has achieved the Silver Jubilee whilst upon the Throne. There are even some of us in this Chamber, Mr. Speaker, who, as youngsters, can remember the Silver Jubilee of her distinguished Grandfather, King George V, back in 1936. What a festive occasion it was at that time when small medallions were passed around and a day of holiday was given to all the students throughout Manitoba — a recommendation and a suggestion which I hope will fall upon favourable ears with the Minister of Education — and it was a matter of provincial and national celebration that we should have enjoyed the benefit of the reign of her Grandfather for twenty-five years; and that even more so now, Sir, that we have had the benefit of the serenity and the kind and the wise advice and guidance that The Queen of Canada, Elizabeth II, has so freely given to her people over the past twenty-five years.

I suppose all of us would wish for her that she would have a reign of the length of that of Queen Victoria who was Queen when Canada came into being and who remained the Queen of this country for some thirty or more years afterwards until her death.

So, our Monarchs present to us on these Silver Jubilees, the kinds of occasions when we can all join together and pay the kind of tribute which, while always I know in our hearts and in our minds, is

probably not as often articulated as it should be. So my first words would be to join with the First Minister in words of tribute to Her Majesty and the Royal Family for the example which they set for all of us; for the dedication; for the extremely hard work; and for the commitment to the very arduous task of Monarchy which she has given without attempting in any way to save herself from arduous tours throughout the Commonwealth, and many, many weeks away from her home and from her family, all in her capacity as Head of State of the various countries throughout our Commonwealth. She, without making invidious comparisons, Sir, can be said I think, to be one of the most distinguished monarchs that this Commonwealth and this country has had in a very distinguished line of royal predecessors. And they are not only, Sir, a royal family, they are a real family, a human family to whom we can relate in very personal terms. While taking pride in the singular position which Her Majesty holds as the Head of our Government, we also take very personal pride in her role as a mother, as a wife, and as the mother of the successor in due course, His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales. They are our royal family. I think it is appropriate that we do have that proprietary sense in which we regard the Queen and His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh, and all the members of the family. It's a true manifestation, I would say, Sir, of the love and affection that we feel for them in a personal sense.

This is also an occasion, Sir, when we can reflect with, I think, some joy, and we can reflect with some pride upon the unique role of the Monarchy, to which the First Minister has referred, as the Head of our State. She is above and beyond the partisan, the day-to-day turmoil of government; she stands above it very serenely, and she is the continuum of order within our society. Governments come and governments go, First Ministers and Cabinets and leaders of the opposition and members of Parliament and members of Legislative Assemblies come and go, but the Monarchy and the Head of State remains intact, firm, and always there to provide that continuum that is so necessary in a stable democracy. But I know, as the First Minister has said, that this institution, particularly to an outsider or to a person who lives in a republic, in this day and age is considered I suppose, to be somewhat of an anachronism. Here we are in very turbulent times in the last quarter of the Twentieth Century, and yet the Queen provides that kind of stability as a living representative of an institution, the origins of which go back beyond the mists of history to the pre-Norman days, and that the constitutional monarchy has evolved down through the centuries to its present completely compatible role with parliamentary democracy is indeed no accident of history. It is precisely because of this evolutionary process through trial and error that we have been blessed with the kind of representative democracy that we have in this country, which is the envy of most nations around the world. And let it be said and let it be repeated, and repeated again and again, that the Monarchy is an integral part of that parliamentary democracy which we enjoy in this country.

Fathers of Confederation back in Queen Victoria's time thought about the Monarchy, as whether or not this institution could be translated and carried on in our country. And if one reads the excellent dissertation that has been prepared by Dr. Frank McKinnon, *The Crown in Canada*, the story that is told in there about the evolution of the Monarchy in relation to our country is a fascinating one indeed. I take the time of the House, Mr. Speaker, to read only one brief paragraph wherein he describes what was motivating Sir John A. Macdonald at the time of Confederation. I quote from Page 30 where he says: "The Fathers of Confederation examined carefully the Crown, and decided that it would continue to work in Canada." (And in parenthesis, I say, "What a wise decision that was!") "I believe," declared Sir John A. Macdonald on the monarchical principle, "that it is of the utmost importance to have that principle recognized so that we shall have a sovereign who is placed above the region of party, to whom all parties look up, who is not elevated by the action of one party nor depressed by the action of another, and who is the common head and sovereign of all." And his co-Confederator, the great French-Canadian statesman, Sir Georges Etienne Cartier, said that, "In this country, we should have a distinct form of government, the characteristic of which would be to possess the monarchical element." And I think his following words are particularly appropriate for this day when we're concerned about matters in Canada relating to national unity. Here's what Georges Cartier said at the time of Confederation. "Respecting French-speaking Canadians," he asserted, "if they have their institutions, their language and their religion intact today, it was precisely because of their adherence to the British Crown." Words that carry wisdom, I suggest today, as we consider a situation in Canada arising from decisions and from the documents and from bills that were passed at the Confederation time.

Well, the Monarchy, as the First Minister has said, from that decision in 1867, it has worked and it has worked well and it will continue to work. And governments, as I have said, will continue to come and go; and crises will be faced and overcome; and the faces and the manners and the parties will disappear and will have their points of glory and their points of depression and so on; but the Head of State, the Monarchy, remains undisturbed, rising serenely over all.

Under the constitutional umbrella of the Crown, we have here something that is unique for the rest of Canada, an emotional and a psychological symbol which sustains and gives vitality to the peace, the order and the democratic institutions of this country. It is, as Frank McKinnon has said, "a

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practical, working institution." It would satisfy all of the tests that any pragmatist would wish to attach to it. It is effective and, Mr. Speaker, it does meet the ultimate test: the Monarchy works. And that is why we have it. In addition to the love and the affection that we have for the person who is our Head of State, the Crown is the symbol of government. It remains throughout any difficulties that we have as a country, and it is in tune with human nature. It is a constant reminder to us — and particularly to us who are involved in active politics — that politics is really only a part of life, and that some times not a very important part of life; that the whole spectrum of life is much more important than just the political activities that go on in the country. And the Queen and her person, and by the example that she sets to the members of her family make us constantly aware of that fact, that politics is not all-important. And it prevents us, may I say, Sir, from time to time, from taking ourselves too seriously. I know it always encourages the voters of a democracy such as Canada to make sure that the politicians don't take themselves too seriously because there is much more to life than just what goes on in the political sphere. The pageantry of the Monarchy, the mystic that is attached to it — all of these are necessary palliatives, necessary things that are totally in tune with human nature. And they're good. We need them. And we hope that they will be continued, as the first Minister said, for as long as any of us care to look into the future.

The Monarchy, as well, gives us a sense of community. It's not any more a colonial institution, if ever it was that. The Monarchy really gives us a sense of community within the Commonwealth, a sense of community within a province such as our own, which has diverse peoples from all parts of the world. It gives us a common centre around which we can unite and feel that national sense of community that we must feel if we are to be a nation. Our people have many backgrounds in this Province of Manitoba where no one group is a majority. Our people of many backgrounds have come here under the monarchical institution and have adopted that institution, have adopted the loyalty to the Queen as part of their being and part of their way of life in Manitoba.

To the Crown, to the Queen, as our Head of State, we owe much. So today we do have many feelings of heart and mind as we join in paying tribute to a noble, and to an endearing Monarch, a Queen in the highest sense of that word. We wish her many more years of a long and serene reign with satisfaction in her role as Queen of Canada, and all of us, I know, join fully in the prayer, "May God bless Queen Elizabeth."

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie.

MR. GORDON E. JOHNSTON: Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to join with the Premier and the Leader of the Official Opposition in associating the Liberal Party of Manitoba with the resolution presented.

It may be said, I suppose, that in some periods in the past there was not that great an affection for the Monarchy, and I think now that the situation that came about through the Boston Tea Party in the United States, where that great country decided to break away. But I think that in recent years, and this is where our present Queen has played a great part, that there has been a modernizing and an opening up of the Monarchy as we know it today as compared to what it was some years ago.

I think that we can take great pride in the fact that people such as the Canadians who are fortunate to have played a role in, first of all the British Empire and then the Commonwealth, that the transition to a completely free country, from a colonial status, was able to take place in the peaceful and mostly harmonious manner in which it was accomplished, so that free men and women in all parts of the world, if they so wish, can remain a part of the Commonwealth as free men and women and as equal partners without any discrimination of race, colour or creed. And I think we owe something to the modern Monarchy which is represented by our gracious Queen and we should remind our younger people, as they come up and take part in this great process of parliamentary democracy, that it was able to happen in the manner that it did, in the way that other countries, mostly who have become completely free from the colonial system, have mostly patterned their democratic process on the British parliamentary system. And I say again, Mr. Speaker, we in the Liberal Party of Manitoba take pride and are very happy to join in putting this motion forward.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Radisson.

MR. HARRY SHAFRANKSY: Mr. Speaker, I wish to participate in this debate in offering congratulations to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and I, too, agree with all the sentiments that have been expressed by the Leader of the Opposition and my leader, the First Minister, but I wish to register my one point of disapproval on a matter of principle, as a Social Democrat, the congratulations which are being extended to her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh, who took it upon himself to become political. I wish to register my position on this, that I disapprove of any congratulatory remarks being expressed to the Duke of Edinburgh, namely because of his stand in recent months in which he decided to get into the political arena. I have had admiration for Her

Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her family, and for the Duke until recent months when he chose to become political. I wish to, at this time, register my disapproval of him. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Swan River.

MR. JAMES H. BILTON: Mr. Speaker, it is somewhat hard to follow the powerful words that have been said this afternoon in respect to Her Majesty. I feel, however, that the message that the First Minister put forward is a fitting message, Mr. Speaker, going forward, as it will go forward, on her 51st birthday, and on the occasion of her 25th anniversary of her ascension to the Throne.

I join wholeheartedly, Mr. Speaker, with the First Minister and with my Leader, and I believe that the 50 or 60 student awards, named for Her Majesty, is a very, very gracious act and will be received with pleasure and certainly commemorate this occasion.

But, Mr. Speaker, if I may continue for a moment or two, the Humble Address, Mr. Speaker, makes mention of the interest of Her Majesty and members of the Royal Family, and the people of our beloved province, and certainly of our nation. Well do I remember, Mr. Speaker, the visit of Her Majesty, Prince Philip, Prince Charles and Princess Anne to Swan River during the celebration of our province's 100th anniversary of the entry into Confederation. The Royal Family, Mr. Speaker, paused on that occasion to visit the senior citizens' residence where many pioneers of the valley now call home. Many of those people, Mr. Speaker, including war veterans, left Britain during the latter part of the last century. The affection and the loyalty that was shown on both sides was an experience and a memory treasured by us all. This example, Mr. Speaker, was repeated in all corners of the province, including amongst our Indian and Eskimo brethren and communities.

Mr. Speaker, I have lived through the reigns of five Monarchs, Edward VII, George V, Edward VIII, George VI and of course our present Queen. Mr. Speaker, much has happened in those years, the two World Wars, the world depression and now inflation. Science has brought forward that horrible weapon, Mr. Speaker, the atomic bomb that threatens the whole world. Mr. Speaker, famines, wars and rumour of wars are daily news. Through it all Her Majesty and members of her immediate family are a beacon of hope and an example to us all in family togetherness.

It should be mentioned, too, as it already has, Mr. Speaker, that during that period of conversion the British Empire has become the Commonwealth of 34 nations, which in themselves are supreme to this day, with the Crown Her Majesty wears symbolic of our universal unity.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Britain are renowned throughout the world for their devotion to the Monarchy and the historic pageantry, that must, of necessity be displayed on occasion, is something to behold. This, Mr. Speaker, I believe maintains their respect for the past and incorporates the efforts of the British people, in all walks of life, who over the centuries have left their shores to make their respective contributions toward the stability and well-being of mankind in all lands throughout the world.

Who will argue, Mr. Speaker, that the absence of the strong voice of Britain's statesmen are sorely missed at the diplomatic conference tables throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, it is good that once a year Her Majesty at Christmastime, through the miracle of television and radio speaks to 800 million people throughout the world, continuing the effort commenced by her grandfather, George V, over 40 years ago. May Her Majesty continue, Mr. Speaker, to defend the faith, and by her example spearhead world harmony so necessary for the well-being of mankind regardless of language, colour, creed or national background.

Mr. Speaker, I conclude with adding to the words of my Leader when he said, "God save the Queen." I say, may Her Majesty long reign over us. Thank you very much.

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Minister of Labour.

HONOURABLE RUSSELL PAULLEY (Transcona): Mr. Speaker, I listened with a great deal of interest to the remarks of my Leader, the Prime Minister of the Province of Manitoba, when he paid tribute to Her Majesty the Queen, and to her family. And I want to compliment him for what he said because it was touching to me, who happens to be of British ancestry. I also listened with a great deal of interest to the remarks of the Leader of the Opposition and I want to congratulate him too, as he went through the historical background of a tradition that most of us hold dear. I compliment the Member for Portage la Prairie for the remarks that he made on behalf of the Liberal Party of Manitoba. But I felt, Mr. Speaker, that as the Dean of this Assembly and one who has announced that he will soon be leaving this august Assembly, that it only would be fitting and proper for me, on this auspicious occasion, to say a word or two.

I really don't know, Mr. Speaker, whether I am the only member of this Assembly who is the proud possessor of the Queen's Coronation Medal. It could well be. I want to say, Sir, to you and to the members of this Assembly there is no piece of metal coloured with, I believe, a red and black ribbon, that I honour more than the medal that was presented to me as the Mayor of my community back in

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1952 when Her Royal Highness was crowned Queen of this great nation of ours.

During my life, Mr. Speaker, as a public representative, as Mayor, and as a representative of this Assembly, I have had many an occasion to pay tribute to Her Majesty and to her Consort for the job that they are doing on behalf of the democratic process which seems, on occasion, in fact being eradicated in this universe of ours. I've been proud of those moments.

I'm proud as a member of the Anglican faith, to know that here we have the Defender of the Faith, a person who is truly cognizant of her responsibilities. How proud I was, Mr. Speaker, as I am sure every other member who had the opportunity during the centennial celebrations we held in 1970, that we, as Manitobans, of all political faiths, of all creeds and all religions were able to embrace these people from across the pond, the Queen of Canada, and Prince Philip.

I want to say, Mr. Speaker, that I was proud of the fact that my Premier and friend asked me if I would accompany Her Majesty to the horse races at Assiniboia Downs. If I have any fault to find with the Queen of Canada, she gave me a bum steer as to what horse race I should put my two dollars on and the next time I go to Westminster I am going to try and collect that two dollars. I wouldn't have really minded, Mr. Speaker, if it had come second or third — I bet on the nose — but it came about the second from the last, out of a twelve-horse race.

However, just prior to that, Mr. Speaker, prior to going to Assiniboia Downs, how proud I was to accompany her son and heir, Prince Charles, in Deer Lodge Hospital to see the affection that the old-timers, the veterans of our World Wars, how proud they were of their connection with our Royal Family.

So I say, Mr. Speaker, I think it is fitting for me, as the Dean of this House, to just say these few words in passing. I note with a great deal of interest, as an old grandpa — I'm called many other old things as well from time to time — but I note, Mr. Speaker, with great interest that our beloved Queen will become, soon, a grandma and I would not attribute to her the same phraseology of an old grandma as attributed to me as an old grandpa. But I am sure, Sir, that all would join with me in wishing to her and to Princess Anne, as well, Godspeed as they develop their family as this great nation of Canada has developed.

Mr. Speaker, we can be truly proud of the heritage that is ours and we can be truly proud of the contribution that Her Majesty and Her Family have made to the well-being of this great nation of Canada.

SINGING OF GOD SAVE THE QUEEN

MOTION presented and carried.