



THE BLAZON

Spring 1999

Volume 2, Number 2



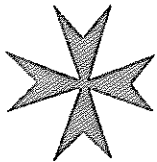
Newsletter of the Heraldry Society of Canada - BC/Yukon Branch

ON THE COVER:

**The Arms of His Honour Garde Basil Gardom, Q.C.
Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia - Patron of the B.C./Yukon Branch**

These were granted by letters Patent 11 February 1997 by H.M. Canadian Heraldic Authority, Ottawa and presented to His Honour in person by H.E. Rt. Hon. Romeo Leblanc the Governor-General and Patron of the Heraldry Society of Canada/*la Société héraldique du Canada*. The war cry *Gardez* is a perfect example of a rebus or punning of the Lieutenant-Governor's Christian name "Garde". This is pronounced in the same manner as it appears in the blazon, deferring to the Gardom Huguenot ancestry from Normandy. An unusual, but novel reference to Mrs Gardom in His Honour's achievement is that of the stag's head borne on the medallion of the sinister supporter and his motto LUCEMUS NON URIMUS [We shine but do not burn]. These represent Her Honour's Mackenzie ancestry. The Patron is Vice-Prior and a Knight of Justice of the Most Venerable Order of St. John of Jerusalem. Thus, his shield is imposed upon the Maltese cross of the Order with the pendant insignia at the base. Our Patron is a Queen's Counsel and Honorary Colonel of the British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own).

HAPPENINGS....



Congratulations to Branch members belonging to the **B.C. Commandery of **The Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem**: Secretary Treasurer Cdr (N) *Peter Gardner, and his wife *Anne Taylor-Gardner, of Sidney, on their awards of Commanders of Merit (CMLJ); *Gerry Churley of Burnaby who was made an Officer of Merit (OMLJ) and his nephew Maj Bill Macdonald of Vancouver invested as an Officer (OLJ). Our Branch Heraldic Consultant *Graham Anderson of Cowichan Bay was promoted to Knight Commander (KCLJ) and Lois Hobbs, wife of Branch member *Michael Hobbs of Salt Spring, to Commander (CLJ). The Branch vice-president *Ken Lane of Victoria acted as ADC to the Grand Prior of the Order, *HE Lt. Col. George Trusler of Toronto. Recently arrived in Victoria the Baron and Baroness von Bothmer were admitted into the Order as was Capt. Paul Loofs of Saanich. BGen. John Neroutsos of Sidney and Branch director *Cyril Lane of Mill Bay also took part in the recent investiture ceremony held at the old garrison church of St. Paul's in Esquimalt as did Ian Macpherson and *Rean Meyer.

**Member of the Heraldry Society of Canada/SHC*

*** Readers interested in the good works of the Order should contact Peter Gardner, B.C. Commandery*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LETTERS & FAXES:

The Blazon wishes to thank the following: Jean Matheson, John Wilkes, Hon. Garde Gardom, Bruce Patterson, David Scholes, Gordon Macpherson, Darrell Kennedy, David Watson, Lyn Anderson, Sandra Monacham, John Ruch, Terry McCullough, The Maritime Museum of B.C., Isobelle Harris, Hon. Robert Rogers, John Williams, Royal London Wax Museum, Alexander Greenwood, J.H. MacKendrick, Jack Frazer, Graham Anderson, Okill Stuart, The Flag Shop, The Monarchist League of Canada.

BRANCH PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - FROM REAN MEYER, *UE*

The new year got off to a promising beginning with the Winter 1998-99 newsletter to 72 addressees. Following a successful January AGM, a second printing of *The Blazon* was run off bringing our mailing list to 100 contacts. Thanks to Peter Gardner, the contents were formatted by him on his computer, and he was able to add those little touches which enhance the newsletter, a task too sophisticated for the editor (who types with his thumbs and avoids the mouse like the plague).

Comments from those attending the AGM and since, have been encouraging and at this writing, our membership is 58 plus certain courtesy and reciprocal addressees. Those who failed to respond to earlier newsletters and complimentary copies of *The Blazon*, will be dropped from our mailing list.

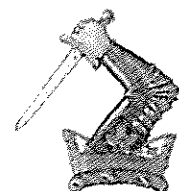
Some of you will be confused at the see-saw Branch title changes since the announcement we were to be known as **The Western Canada Branch**. The second run of *The Blazon* featured a different back cover from the original. This was because the editor was able to implement the unanimous decision passed at the AGM to revert to the **BC/Yukon Branch** designation and to publish the names of the newly elected executive. Also, on the second run-off the shading of the hatchment bearing the late Dr. Don Rae's arms on the cover was closer to the correct *sable* (black) tincture that we had failed to achieve in the first printing. More information on hatchments appears elsewhere in the newsletter. I hope it will add to members' knowledge of a most interesting facet of ancient heraldry which has been revived to a small degree in recent times.

Dining-in our Patron was event of the month for February and enjoyed by all those who attended, including Their Honours and special guests. I am pleased to report the co-operation from Mrs. Harris at Government House and the management of the Olde England Inn, where both functions were held, was excellent.

One of our newly-joined members, Jim Webb, owner of **The Flag Shop** in Victoria and a keen vexillologist, wishes all flag lovers to know he is organising the 18th International Congress of Vexillology being held in Victoria from July 28th to August 2nd. This promises to be a colourful event indeed and should any of our members desire further information, please call Jim or Don at (250) 382-3524 or toll-free 1-800-663-8681; E-mail: general@flagshop.ca.

Just as we were going to press with the last newsletter, we learned of the death of Branch member **Anne Lane** and it was only possible to express briefly our deepest sympathy to Cyril and family. This edition of *The Blazon* is dedicated to Anne's memory, a very nice lady who would have inherited her paternal arms. A message of sympathy was also sent from this Branch to the widow of long-time HSC member **Hon. Lt-Col Gordon Way, UE, CD, FHSC** who also departed this earth early in the New Year. May they rest in peace.

I would like to remind Branch members that by joining both this branch and any of the others results in an income tax receipt for the fees plus, of course, the Society's own journal and newsletters of the branches opted for. ~~2020-20~~

LUNCHEON IN HONOUR OF OUR PATRON & MRS GARDOM

Letters Patent granting a full achievement of arms to our Branch Patron, the **Honourable Garde Basil Gardom, Q.C.**, were issued in Her Majesty's name by the Governor-General February 11, 1997. On February 18th, two years and one week from the date of the grant, the Branch held a luncheon for the Lieutenant-Governor and Her Honour at the Olde England Inn in Esquimalt.

Thirty-nine persons attended in what was a most appropriate heraldic setting. The main dining room was set up six members to a table amidst a background of ancient oak, suits of armour, personal banners and a chimney piece displaying the various heraldic devices of Cyril Lane, owner of the establishment. All-in-all, a most colourful setting. The Patron's coat of arms was displayed in a silver frame directly in front of His Honour at the head table. A copy in full colour of the Vice-Regal flag for British Columbia in a larger silver frame, was centred on the mantle of the large dining room fireplace.

The event commenced with the greeting of Their Honours under the *port-cochère* of the Inn by the Branch president and two members of the Executive. Inside, introductions were made to the other members of the executive and their spouses and three especially invited guests, Mr & Mrs Melvin Smith and Mrs Donald (Lorraine) Rae. Sherry was served and shortly thereafter, those of the head table were piped to their places by the Lieutenant-Governor's personal piper, Pipe-Major John Majer. The Vice-Regal salute of God Save the Queen and the National Anthem were played, grace was said and those assembled sat down to a three course meal of salad, poached haddock and trifle, white wine and coffee.

Following the Loyal Toast proposed by Peter Gardner, the Branch's heraldic consultant

Graham Anderson, delivered a short, but informative address on the progress of recent grants of arms to various municipalities and corporate bodies in this province. Cyril Lane, a Branch director, then presented His Honour with a sterling silver medallion bearing Cyril's own armorials as lord of the manor of Shrewsbury Fee, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Inn's operation.

The president followed with a short introduction by way of outlining Garde Gardom's successful career as a barrister and former long-time cabinet minister in the B.C. Legislature. In doing so, Rean harked back to the presentation by HM the Queen of an augmented coat of arms for British Columbia on October 15th, 1987.

He alluded to the contribution by members of the Heraldry Society of Canada and of the B.C./Yukon Branch in bringing this about. A native of Duncan and Fellow of the Heraldry Society, Sir Conrad Swann, had shepherded the project through the various stages of creation (Sir Conrad is only the second person from outside the British Isles to become Garter King of Arms). Karen Bailey of the HSC had been the artist for the proclamation, and Branch member Irene Alexander had done the complicated and beautifully-executed calligraphy. Former Branch president Robert Watt had written the heraldic history of B.C. and description of the newly augmented armorials accompanying the proclamation, a framed copy of which, hung on the wall behind the head table.

This handsome document had been signed by Branch member and Lieutenant-Governor of the province, Robert Rogers, whereas the Great Seal had been affixed by one Melvin Smith, Q.C. then Provincial Deputy Secretary. The Patron was presented with a set of book-ends made by Branch director "Laurie" Patten, bearing the hand-

painted shield, mottoes and crest of Mr. Gardom's arms. Mrs. Gardom was given a coffee table book *The Art of Heraldry* by Peter Gwynn-Jones, present day Garter at the College of Arms, suitably inscribed with the Society's own armorials. In thanking the members, the Lieutenant-Governor stated he had been the province's Agent-General in London when the petition was being processed and had not realised the extent of involvement by our B.C./Yukon Branch and the Society. On departure, the Vice-Regal couple were escorted to their limousine by the president, members of the Branch executive and special guest Lorraine Rae. Thus, ended a pleasant lunch and get together of old-guard and newly-joined members with our Patron and his lady.

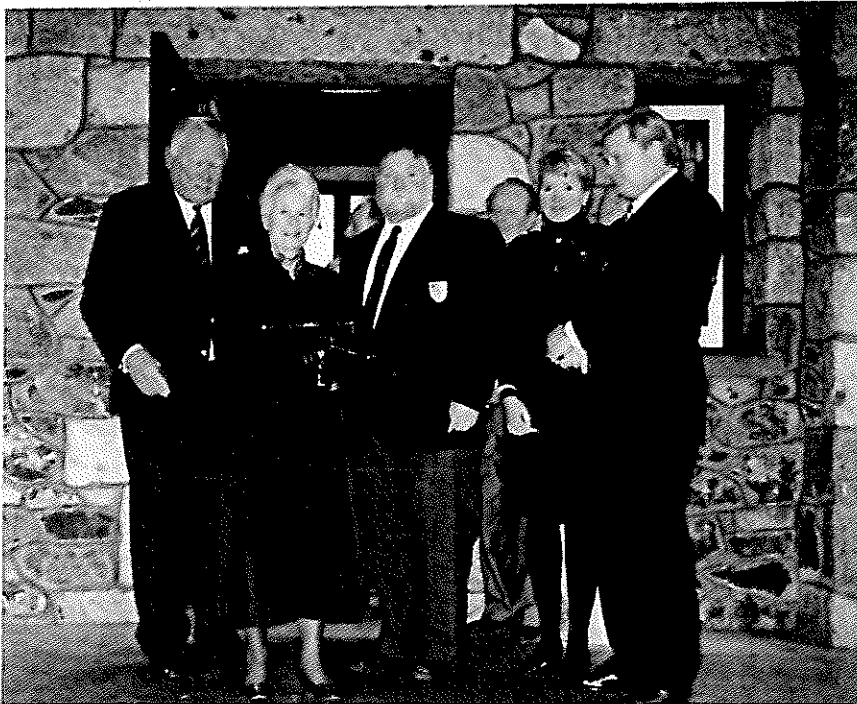
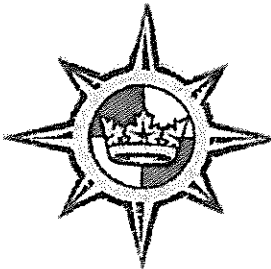
Regrettably, illness and high seas prevented some of our members from attending. These included Michael and Lois Hobbs, Lord and Lady Chatfield, the Lynch-Stauntons and Sir Robert and Lady Cave-Browne-Cave. However, there was good representation from as far north as Courtenay (Brian Scott) and points in between and places as distant as Calgary (David Watson), while Terry and Francis McCullough braved the crossing from the Mainland.

A gracious letter of thanks was received by the Branch president from His Honour the following day. Expressions of appreciation on behalf of the Executive and members were conveyed to John Williams and his staff at the Olde England Inn, and to the Flag Shop by Peter and Rean. **REM**

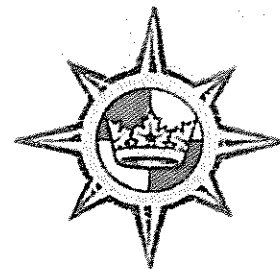


The Patron shares a joke with the President.
From left to right - David Watson, Lorraine Rae, His Honour, Rean Meyer, and Mrs Gardom.

At the Patron's luncheon - around the table L to R - Commander and Mrs Petley-Jones, Ian McPherson, and Major Brian Scott.



Bidding Au Revoir to their Honours after the luncheon are Cyril Lane, the owner of the Olde England Inn (Lord of the Manor of Shrewsbury's Fee), Graham Anderson, and George & Julie, the Baron & Baroness von Bothmer



HATCHMENTS: AN HERALDIC MEMORIAL

The appearance of the late Dr. Don Rae's achievement of arms on the cover of the last newsletter, raised questions from a couple of branch members who did not recognize the use of the hatchment. The shading of the hatchment of the first printing of that issue did not come out as black as it was meant to, for the background of hatchments is usually Sable (black) in tincture for obvious reasons. Since I had written on the use of this device for the Society's journal in the past, I have referred to it and subsequent articles dealing with hatchments published on the subject.

Origins of the hatchment and early use

The word hatchment may be an ancient corruption of the word achievement being pronounced 'atchement' or 'achment' taken from the heraldic term "an achievement of arms". The custom of displaying an achievement of arms of the deceased in a public place is thought to have developed around the 17th century. It began with displaying the coat of arms painted on a diamond shaped piece of canvas or board and sometimes on leather, fastened to a wooden frame. In every instance, the dominating colour of the lozenge-shaped hatchment was black (except with impaled arms, where the surviving spouse's portion of the hatchment was in white).

This device would then be hung over the main entrance or the gate of the residence, and may account for the introduction of funeral wreaths by those of more humble station, being hung on the front door of the deceased person's house. For younger readers, before commercial funeral homes became common place, the deceased "rested" at his or her dwelling until the funeral after which the wreath was removed from the door and placed on the casket.

Not so with the squire's hatchment or, those of the local gentry. This remained in situ for the full period of mourning long after the body had been removed to the family crypt. Thus, passers-by, tradesmen and the like would know those who dwelled within had suffered the loss of a loved one. When the mourning period was over, the hatchment might be hung in the family chapel or the parish

church during the time a suitable memorial, which in the case of the landed classes (to use an archaic term), took the form of a sarcophagus carved out of stone by the village mason.

When this was completed, the hatchment early on was returned to the manor house, quite possibly for future use by those heraldic heirs of the family. But, judging by the numbers of hatchments which have been discovered in mouldering churches in England, more often they ended up piled away in the darkest recesses where they remained until very recently. Luckily, in some parts of England, the custom of hanging the hatchments on the church walls in perpetuity developed, and these have survived the passage of time.

True to the original intention and reasons for the use of coat armour, ie. to identify the individual, hatchments until recently did not have any written indication as to the identity of the deceased armiger. In some early examples, a skull and cross bones was used in lieu of the crest. These may have indicated that the arms were those of the last to bear the arms of that name.

In other examples from the Victorian period, cherubs and lovers' knots were used, possibly as fanciful decoration rather than with significant meaning. Sir Bernard Burke in the preamble of his 1884 *Armorial Families* refers to such symbols as being in keeping with the customs of the era.

Recent times

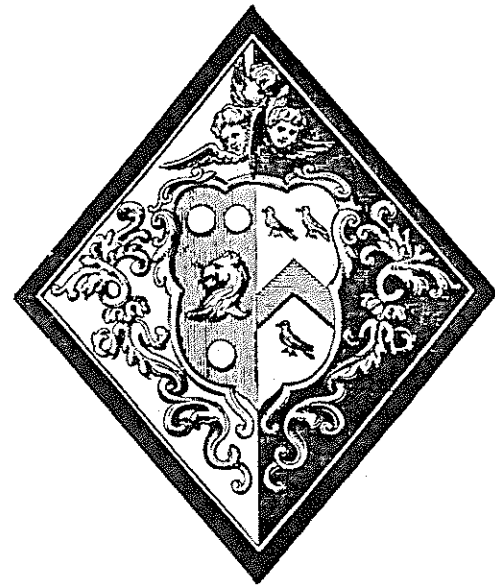
Modern day hatchments include the rank, name and post nominals and dates of birth and death in gilt letters around the four sides of the hatchment. The hatchment of the Heraldry Society's founder, Alan Beddoe, hangs in St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church, situated outside the gates of Rideau Hall. There are other examples elsewhere in Canada, notably St. Paul's Church in Halifax, all of which have been identified, and in St. George's, which was destroyed by fire and has since been rebuilt in its traditional round form. Possibly some exist in early Episcopalian churches in New York and New England, a reminder of the British heritage found in those parts.

Horatio Viscount Nelson's hatchment can still be seen in the village church of Merton, a name which is associated with the house the famous admiral and Lady Hamilton shared. In 1984, the existence of some

2000 hatchments were known to exist in England, mostly in the southern counties, of which 250 were said to have dated from the last century and only 25, or slightly more, from recent times.

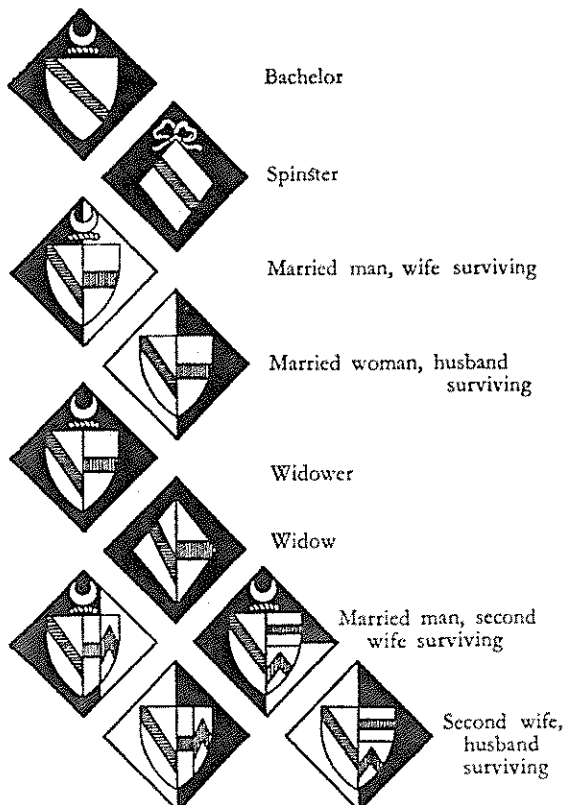
The slight but significant revival of the use of funeral hatchments as a lasting memorial in recent times is something armigerous persons may wish to consider. Unfortunately, the decline in church attendance has resulted in some of the more venerable established congregations reconsidering the costs involved in maintaining their parish churches. Consequently, hatchments, old and new, may eventually end up as a curiosity in the auction rooms.

REM



Victorian Funeral Hatchment

Various examples of Hatchments



Hatchment of Lieutenant-Commander Allan Beddoe, OC, OBE

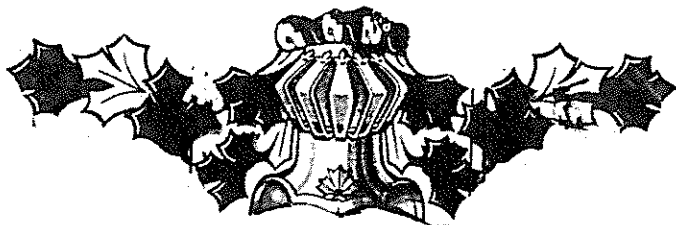
HERE AND THERE, HERALDICALLY..

In browsing through those bits and pieces that have accumulated down through the years, we found much of passing interest, of which a small sampling is included in this issue.

Following the "Canadian coat of arms" controversy in the Commons back in 1995-96, the newly augmented armorials featuring the motto of the Order of Canada gradually began to appear with regularity. One enthusiastic MP obviously couldn't wait for the new stocks of letterhead and came up with his own version which was correct in detail, except for the dexter supporter (to the reader's left) which is the lion from the Royal arms of the United Kingdom, and *not* that used in this country.

On the same subject, the web page feature titled *The Arms of Canada* at: http://ffcanada.gc.ca/canadiana/armm_e.html, contains the history and description, together with illustrations, by Mme. Bursley-Sabourin, Fraser Herald. The information is well written in language easy to understand, and the various components of the armorials individually described.

An anomaly is the treatment of the mantling which is a departure from heraldic practice, not only with the so-called Canadian Arms, but heraldry in general. Depiction of mantles on individual coat armour, if and when portrayed, may be subject to the whim of the artist, but custom has it that the livery colours of a metal and a tincture are carried over into the mantle and tinctured (coloured) in reverse, either side of the helm. Furthermore, the whole idea of a mantle was to protect the individual from the elements and, of course, since these are reputed to have become torn and tattered, the artist is entitled to let loose his or her imagination in the detail of this device which is not officially part of the blazoning, but taken for granted and included in the vast majority of arms as we know them in Canadian, English and Celtic, but not necessarily Continental usage.



Unfortunately, Mme. Bursley-Sabourin's version of the mantle is that of ten maple leaves, four Gules (red) and one Argent (silver) each side of the helm! I say unfortunately, because it does nothing to enhance the design of what is already one of the most attractive coats of arms in the Commonwealth. The web browser is informed that this version "faithfully depicts the arms described in the words of the Royal proclamation dated November 21, 1921.....and replaces a former design drawn by Mr.(sic) Alan Beddoe." There is nary a word about the maple leaves in the web description of the mantling e.g. "The mantle, originally, was to protect the head and shoulders of the wearer from the sun's heat. It has become a decorative accessory to the crest and shield." How true. I doubt very much Fraser Herald's version of this application of ten maple leaves in lieu of a proper mantle (or lambrequin) would be very popular with those who took part in the Crusades or, for that matter, with the late Commander Beddoe.

In the commentary on the three maple leaves at the base of the shield, two errors of fact occur. In describing the evolving of the arms in question, "**Three red maple leaveswere then added.**" The italics are mine as the maple leaves were described in the 1921 royal proclamation as being "Proper" (i.e. in their natural state) and until 1957 appeared in the shield and on the Red Ensign tinctured Vert (green). It was Alan Beddoe's version of these arms in which the baroque shield gave way to the more modern heater type and the green maple leaves were changed to the more attractive red or Gules tincture.

Strome Galloway in *Beddoe's Canadian Heraldry* (circa, 1981) wrote that there was a strange inconsistency in that, at the College of Arms, "they are still depicted officially as Vert and are blazoned Proper, whereas in Canada they are still blazoned Proper, but depicted Gules!" However, my own arms from the College in 1976 featured the red maple leaves in the Canadian shield on the grant. Still, I learned from Branch member Alex. Greenwood that in his arms granted in 1987, he was refused a red maple leaf in his crest by the College, since it would be in conflict with the red maple leaf contained in the Canadian Royal crest. So, he got a green one instead. Confused? You betcha!

The second error in the Department of Canadian Heritage web page concerns the statement: "During World War I, the maple leaf was incorporated into the badge of every Canadian regiment." There were numerous regiments, many of them of Highland or Irish origin, which did not feature the maple leaf. Indeed, four of the Regular Force infantry regiments of today, which took part in the great War of 1914-18, The Royal Canadian Dragoons, The Royal Canadian Regiment, Royal 22e Regiment and Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, did not then and do not now, have maple leaf badges.

Readers will learn elsewhere in this newsletter, of the augmented arms received by this province in 1987. What you may not know is that less than 10 years later, the Provincial government decided to supplant these with a logo at a cost to the tax-payer of \$110,000. The expensive logo was described by the bureaucrat in charge as having "a cleaner more elegant look." She is quoted further in the *Times-Colonist* article of April 26, 1996 on the subject as referring to the new logo's use being "centred around cost savings." When I brought this item to the attention of the Canadian Heraldic Authority, they could not help but state the obvious...the amount of money the B.C. government would have saved had the Heraldic Authority been consulted before proceeding with deliberations, which took place over a two year period according to the press coverage..

Ah, well, its getting to be a Canadian tradition of when things work, fix them, eh! ☺☺☺☺

REM

Her Majesty's Canadian Arms with the wrong dexter supporter



Expensive BC Logo

CANADIAN HERALDRY STRIVES TO MEET MODERN SOCIETY'S NEEDS

by Rean Meyer

An article appeared in a national newspaper last December about a private member's bill in Parliament aimed at abolishing from the statutes: the Criminal Code, the Canadian Forces Superannuation Act, etc., the "illegitimate" label attached to persons born of unmarried parents. Since much of heraldic law as we have come to know it evolves from the era of male domination of society and sole rights of inheritance, the Canadian Heraldic Authority, now in its 11th year, has had to adapt its rules to conform with, not just the laws of Canada, but to fit the mores of Canadian society.

Mr. Harb, the MP for Ottawa Centre, meanwhile stated his bill was intended to "harmonize Canadian legislation with the 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child". The same article also made mention of his unmarried status and his two-year old daughter. Since, according to Harb, more than two million Canadians have been born out of wedlock, it is his feeling our laws should reflect the changing times.

One supposes he has a point. If this were England, where it is estimated one of every thirty births is illegitimate, think of all the future escutcheons with a baton sinister coupé (what Victorian writers of romantic fiction called a Bar Sinister), were a fraction of those so born to petition for arms! Luckily for our own Heraldic Authority, the subject of illegitimacy, were it to figure in a petition for arms, would probably come within the terms of the Charter of Rights which prohibits discrimination because of birth, etc., and is moot whether Mr. Harb's Private Member's Bill, ever becomes law.

From a romantic's view, what a pity if the marks of distinction associated with bastardy, as old as heraldry itself, were to disappear completely because of political correctness. Had this been the case in 1717 when the College of Arms held a Chapter (a meeting) on the subject, such noble persons as the Dukes of Buccleuch, of Queensberry, Grafton, St. Albans and of Richmond and Gordon, all natural sons of Charles II; and the Duke of Beaufort, the Earl of Munster and so on, would never had the right of debruising their shields with a baton sinister coupé and *cappé in*

metal (the latter reserved for royal bastards). A Bordure Compony was frequently used by those of the peerage who were not of the blood i.e. non-royal. This is especially so in Scots heraldic practice.

However, Mr Harb also believes society can no longer define what a family is; that "you define your own family". Well, that should give pause for reflection on the part of our Canadian Heralds. A 19th century echo of these sentiments appears in Arthur Charles Fox-Davies' *The Art of Heraldry*: "the social status of the offspring of a given man depended little upon the legal legitimacy of birth, but rather upon the amount of recognition the bastard received from his father" and... "the social position of a bastard as 'belonging' to a family was pretty generally conceded, therefore he carried the arms, sufficiently marked to show he was not in the line of succession".

So what has all this got to do with our own heraldic institution? Simply, that what many of us see as an age of diminishing values, our European ancestors were also a pretty rum lot at times. Fox-Davies wrote that originally, "illegitimacy was of little if any account, even to the point where it has not debarred the succession of some of our own sovereigns, although from the earliest times the English have always been more prudish than other nations". He continues..." In Ireland...it is a strikingly different genealogical difficulty to decide in many noble pedigrees where, if any, of the given sons of any person were legitimate, and which of the ladies of his household, if any, might be termed his wife." To conclude, except for being outside the laws of inheritance, being born on the wrong side of the blanket in today's argot, although not exactly cool, was no big deal among the established classes.

As for the ladies, our Heraldic Authority makes no distinction in the portrayal of arms granted to "women", (to use their term) who receive them in their own right, complete with shield, visored helm, crest and motto. Kim Campbell, the former Prime Minister, insisted the blazon of her arms include the generic sign for her gender as one of the charges.

It is interesting to learn that Spain and Portugal were way ahead of Canada with their long traditions of inheritance of arms through the female line, to the extent that husbands would surround their own arms

with a Bordure charged with single heraldic devices taken from their wife's arms.

As to the Canadian use of helms, crests and mottoes, whereas the custom has mostly been to depict ladies' (father's) arms on a lozenge, I do recollect the surprise expressed before the transfer of heraldic authority to Ottawa, when a petition for arms from the Canadian daughter of one of our Heraldry Society members resulted in a grant from Lord Lyon of a complete achievement based on her father's own Scots armorials, with right of inheritance by her illegitimate son. These he bears today with the distinctive bordure marking his act of birth..

In summing up, I believe heraldry to be anything but moribund as critics would have us believe. The great volume of work performed by the Heraldic Authority, together with its backlog of petitions, is proof of heraldry's vitality among a small number of Canadians, but larger in numbers than was the situation before the transfer of the authority from the Queen to her representative at Rideau Hall.

In the edited reproduction of Athabaska Herald's commentary below, readers will note the buzz words only too familiar and conforming with Ottawa's dreams of a Camelot society. To be fair to Charles Maier, who in 1989 was writing at a time when there were many unanswered questions (some of which still exist, e.g. adopted children's right to step-parents' arms, surname identification with, and entitlement to inheritable arms, etc.) Mr. Maier and his colleagues are having to tread the same treacherous path of political correctness which has so overwhelmed our Canadian society. Meanwhile, since its formation in June of 1988, much has been accomplished by the Authority in laying a sound foundation for a viable Canadian heraldic heritage.

Extract from article entitled Heraldry and genealogy- The Canadian Connection, published in *Heraldry in Canada*, September, 1989, by Charles B. Maier, Athabaska Herald

The question arises as to what relevance the genealogical and symbolical practices of a distant, elitist, sexist and somewhat brutal age can have for Canadian society today, which openly disavows a good many of the principles upon which feudalism was based. Today outward power and influence

are more often welded by national and international corporations than by families. The equality of men and women has been asserted as a fundamental social principle, and equality of opportunity for all members of society has become a stated goal without which society could not smoothly function. In such an atmosphere it is no wonder that those aspects of heraldry and genealogy that celebrate feudal values are in danger of being held up to general ridicule and public criticism.

The relevance of heraldry and genealogy to modern Canadian society flows from the basic human impulse that have caused aboriginal people to paint their bodies, knights to decorate their shields, and which lead all of us to want to know about our social and genetic identity, and to celebrate this with graphic symbolism. Such practices must, however, be made to coincide with the generally accepted social values. Many questions must be answered to enable a Canadian heraldic system to allow for the transmission of symbols within families in such a way as to reflect the multicultural and other values of modern Canadian society. Personal grants of arms from the Canadian Heraldic Authority generally include a phrase stating that the arms to be borne by the grantee and his or her descendants "for ever hereafter according to the Law of Arms of Canada". This phrase will come to be more clearly defined by usage, and thus will no doubt have important consequences for the way Canadians understand the link between genealogy and heraldry.

A Canadian system of descent must make provision for the inheritance of arms in a way that respects the nature of the particular family and the heraldic or cultural traditions that various families honour. The equality of rights between men and women must be affirmed and the principle that the legal right to a coat of arms is vested in one person needs to be respected.

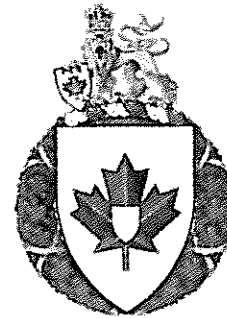
It would seem that all children of a Canadian armiger will need to be able potentially to inherit the armiger's symbol (sic). The decision as to which son or daughter inherits the undifferenced coat of arms might be made by the armiger, taking into account the heraldic and other traditions honoured by the family. The decision might then be recorded at the Canadian Heraldic Authority, and in the armiger's will.

All children of an armiger might be encouraged to display the arms of their parents as a courtesy, preferably with Canadian marks of difference included

for male and female children. Quarterings might be inherited when both parents are armigers.

It is to be hoped that the children of armigers, and many other Canadians, will want to mark(sic) their particular contribution to the community by receiving, as an honour from the Crown, a specially differenced version of their parent's arms, or an entirely original coat of arms. Records of the granting and the descent of arms will be maintained by the Canadian Heraldic Authority, and will no doubt prove a rich source for genealogical researchers in years to come.

•••••



CADENCY MARKS
for **WOMEN**

BRISURES
pour **DAMES**

Heart	1		Cœur
Ermine spot	2		Moucheture d'hermine
Snowflake	3		Flocon de neige
Fir twig	4		Branchette de sapin
Chess rook	5		Roc d'échiquier
Shell (scallop)	6		Coquille
Harp	7		Harpe
Buckle	8		Fermail
Claricord	9		Claricorde

EDITORIALY SPEAKING...

Last time it was the hard drive wot broke...this time getting used to some new (for your hon. editor, that is) WP software delayed our progress in getting out this edition. Our thanks to the patience of Peter Gardner, our secretary-treasurer and member Gord Gedge for allowing our many telephone calls and proffering advice on how to apply all ten thumbs to the key board--one at a time.

We now have access to the newsletters of Ottawa and Toronto branches as well as the Society's journal *Heraldry in Canada* and its newsletter *The Gonfanon*. All are superb and of a varied nature. We are not certain of exactly what it is that our own membership would like to see in this Branch's publication. Personally, as editor, we think news of heraldic events, of the members themselves, and an article or two on contemporary, but not necessarily local heraldry, allows for an enjoyable and easy read. The Society's objective of educating and informing its readers on a national level, is commendable and we shall endeavour through these pages to add to our readers' knowledge.

Therefore, it's our intention to publish a newsletter in plain English, which we hope will entertain and inform, but without aspirations towards a Rhodes scholarship in Heraldry. Of course, in each edition we shall sprinkle here and there, heraldic phrases and foreign-sounding words, both to satisfy our heraldic examiner, and hopefully motivate some readers into consulting Graham Anderson about improving their knowledge by sitting for exams he administers on behalf of the Heraldry Society.

There comes a time when any subject, hobby, or special interest wears a bit thin. And this happens only too readily when readers restrict themselves to one reference book or one source of heraldic learning. Pipe

smokers (are there any left?) always saw the wisdom in giving a favourite pipe a rest and switching over, or breaking-in a new one before returning to the original. The same goes for reading about heraldry. One must look elsewhere from time to time for enjoyment.

From our own experience down through the years, it has been of great value to read journals from the UK, and other Commonwealth countries as well as from America and most recently, those of former Communist bloc countries. So we encourage readers to pass their copies of *The Blazon* to heraldic friends wherever and whenever, and obtain similar publications for their own learning and enjoyment. Canada is gradually developing heraldically its own customs and usage, cadency marks for female armigers being but one example. I feel our contributions in this field are of interest to others, regardless of their nationality.

Although we wish to run our Branch as informally as possible, and keep expenses to the minimum, we do have a set of by-laws drawn up by Peter Gardner, a balance sheet of our finances and minutes of the last AGM, all of which are available upon request. Meanwhile, we look forward to your comments, your slings and arrows, and your articles for publication. Most of all we welcome **your membership dues**. We would also like to have on file, a copy of the arms of all Branch members so entitled. A book plate will suffice. :a:a:a

*This edition of The Blazon is dedicated to
the memory of Anne Lane, P.L.J.*

FLAGS, STANDARDS, BANNERS..

Readers will note elsewhere in this newsletter the meeting of the **International Congress of Vexillologists** to take place in Victoria this summer. There are more people on this planet who can identify with flags than with heraldry, and yet both sciences complement each other. Unfortunately, some developing countries have chosen flags in complete disregard of the laws governing heraldry. Newfoundland (with apologies to Branch member **Kevin Hutchings** of St. John's) celebrating its 50th anniversary in Confederation, though not a developing country, is a prime example with its logo-type flag. But many heraldists, are just as ignorant on the subject of vexillology, which of course, deals with everything on the subject of flags. So for Branch members and the flag fraternity, the following are but a few bits to ponder.

Remember the brouhaha over the "Royal Standard" (sic) not being flown at half-mast [or as the *Globe & Mail* would have it, at "half staff"] at the time of the mourning for the late Princess of Wales? The Palace explanation that this was proper was valid, but unacceptable to the great majority of Britons and the tabloid press. Nevertheless, it was based on centuries-old protocol.

The Royal banner, to use the correct term, is only flown when the Monarch is in residence. Since the Queen was at Balmoral at the time of the tragedy, Buckingham Palace was not flying her personal flag, nor any other, for it is only the monarch's personal flag which flies over the royal residences. When the Queen and other members of the Royal family returned from London, an exception was made to placate the feelings of the vast majority, who did not understand that proper protocol was being observed. These feelings were encouraged by the popular press (as tabloids are labelled in the UK), and the Union Flag was raised in lieu of the Royal banner, and lowered to the half-mast position. Thus, mass hysteria of the moment triumphed over hundreds of years of tradition.

Another departure from protocol was brought to the attention of readers of *Time Magazine* by HSC Society member **Kevin Harrington** [of the **Canadian Flag Association**, Scarborough] ie. the use of a royal flag with an ermine *bordure* on the late princess's casket, used for those members of the Royal family

who do not have their own personal flag or banner. Actually, the status of Diana at the time of her death was that she was no longer a member of the Royal family. As a peer's daughter and sibling of Charles, the Earl Spencer, use of the Spencer banner would have been the normal protocol. However, since she was still styled Princess of Wales and only recently divorced, the royal pall that did drape her casket appears in retrospect, to have been a wise choice.

Frequently, I observe the flag bearing the Royal Arms of Scotland, ie. a standing red lion on a yellow background [*Or a lion rampant and a double tressure flory gules*] displayed by those proud of their Scottish connection [eg. **Mr. Munro's** famous book store in Victoria]. Actually, this flag is another of the personal banners of the sovereign flown when she (or he, as the case may be) is in Scotland. It flies over the residence in which the sovereign is residing, usually Balmoral or Holyrood House. The white cross of St. Andrew on a blue field is the actual flag of Scotland, just as the Maple Leaf is that of Canada.

As for our own flag, it too is frequently misused even though the Secretary of State has published an excellent book **Symbols of Canada* and maintains a web page on flag etiquette [<http://canada.gc.ca/canadiana/armm-e.html>]. Mention is made of the "National Flag of Canada" taking precedence over "provincial and territorial flags". Too frequently, I have noticed those who stage settings for interviews involving both flags are unaware of which goes where and the Maple Leaf is placed to the viewer's right ie. in the secondary position. In Quebec, more often than not, the Provincial *Fleur-de-Lis* is to the right of the speaker in keeping with that government's agenda fostering sovereignty. Next time you see a Canadian official or cabinet minister making a statement in which the Maple Leaf and a provincial flag are displayed, take note of their positioning, and which occupies the place of honour according to proper protocol.

Last Remembrance day, the flag on the Peace Tower was displayed flying exactly at half-mast rather than one hoist width from the top of the

pole as was formerly the custom [and still is aboard HM ships and at naval establishments where flags and ensigns are flown at "approximately three-quarters of full hoist"]. Toronto Branch's *Hogtown Heraldry* dealt with this subject earlier, remarking on the position of the Union Flag over Buckingham Palace during the mourning for Diana, Princess of Wales.

According to the web page "Flag Etiquette" setting: "The flag is brought to the half-mast position by first raising it to the top of the mast then immediately lowering it slowly to the half-mast position". It stipulates that the position of the flag at half-mast depends on the size of the flag and the length of the flag staff, and it must be lowered at least to a position recognizable as being in the mourning position.

Flags are meant to be flown outside, yet contemporary Canadian politicians and generals have now resorted to American custom by posing for their official portraits with the ubiquitous Maple Leaf at their side. Not to be outdone, the Speaker in the House of Commons has two such flags, one on each side of his chair! Since the nation's flag now flies 24 hours a day, year round, over the Parliament buildings (except on Accession Day, when it is replaced by the Union Flag, better known as the Union Jack) is it really necessary for flags in the Chamber and in the office of every bureaucrat? Since the Mace represents Parliament in session, how nice it would be if there was a Speaker's banner in the procession, possibly carried by one of the security staff and placed to the right of the Speaker's Chair when he or she enters the Commons chamber. Maybe the Chief Herald could pursue the idea with the Speaker's Office. Flying two flags from one pole is very bad form, and is one of the main reasons why military bases have yard arms, so that more than one flag can be displayed, such as the base commander's, the command or formation flag, etc. at the same time the national flag is flown. One item of the aforementioned publication titled "Dignity of the Flag (sic) states..."when carried past in a parade or review, all present should face the flag (sic), men should remove their hats, and all should remain silent. Those in uniform should salute." Again, this is in imitation of the US custom, the Stars and Stripes being part of the pledge of Americans' allegiance to their country.

The only flags which rate such observances in Canada are the Sovereign's and regimental colours of a battalion of infantry, or the guidon or standard of a cavalry regiment [but *not* those of any corps or branch

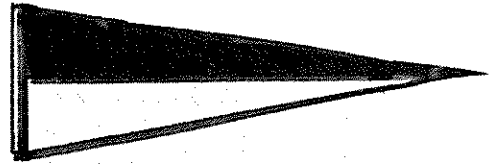
of the three services]. The reason for this is that the colours of a regiment ie. flags called the Queen's Colour and the Regimental colour, and their equivalent in the Navy and the Air Force, when presented, are consecrated, and it is for this reason that personages in plain clothes eg. governors-general, lieutenant-governors and the like, while inspecting guards of honour, pay compliments by raising their hat [or saluting if in uniform] when passing the colour, and again when it is displayed during a march-past. Guidons are the "colours" assigned to cavalry regiments, whereas pennants and pennons are the colourful little pieces of cloth on the lances of cavalry troopers and members of the RCMP musical ride. Regimental Colours, and the like, are a subject for a book by itself [eg. *Standards, Guidons and Colours of the Commonwealth Forces* by Maj. T.J. Edwards].

And what about banners, standards, gonfalons and guidons we read of? Well, an armiger has the right to fly a flag of his arms (those on the shield that is) from his own flagpole, or display his banner as many of us did at our recent Branch AGM and Patron's luncheon. Understandably, there aren't too many standards around these days, jousting and tournaments having somewhat declined in popularity. Standards have the distinction of bearing, not only the crest, but also the motto(s) of the armiger. **Fergus Macdowall of Garthland** offered to have his displayed at the Patron's luncheon. The Chief of Clan Macdowall's thoughtful offer was regretfully declined when it was learned his banner was 12 feet in length! Next time Fergus, we'll rent a larger dining room. Banners are almost a perfect square and meant for processions and indoors. Some of us remember Sir Winston Churchill's funeral procession at St. Paul's in which his stall banner of the Garter, and that of Warden of the Cinq Ports were carried by officers of his former regiment. Many members of the Heraldry Society possess either a flag of their arms, or a personal banner of the same. The B.C. & Yukon Branch, will gladly advise on how these can be acquired after which one may wish to have a talk with one's bank manager. ❦❦❦

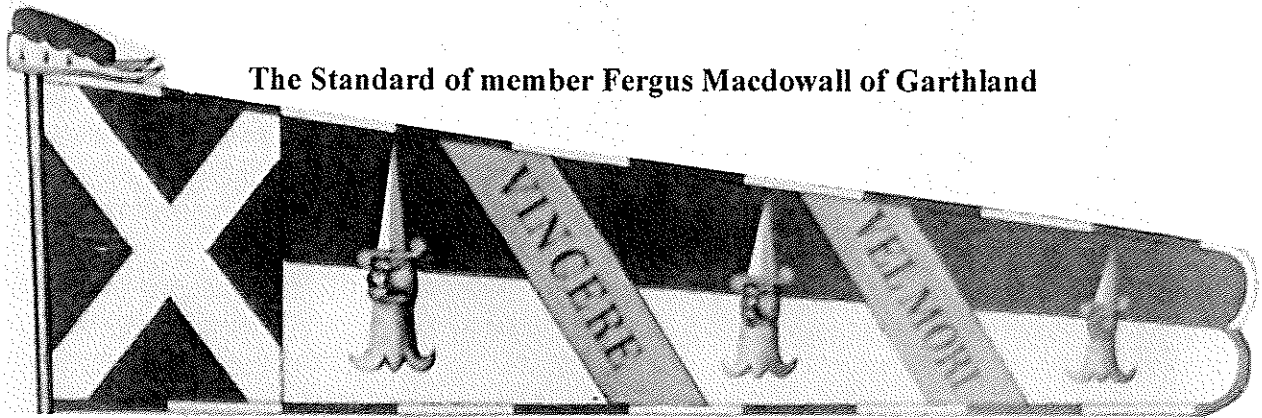
R E M

*Although there is coloured representation of all flags past and present used in Canada, and the introduction of those assigned for use by Francophone communities, there is no mention made, nor illustration of, the three service ensigns of the Canadian Forces!

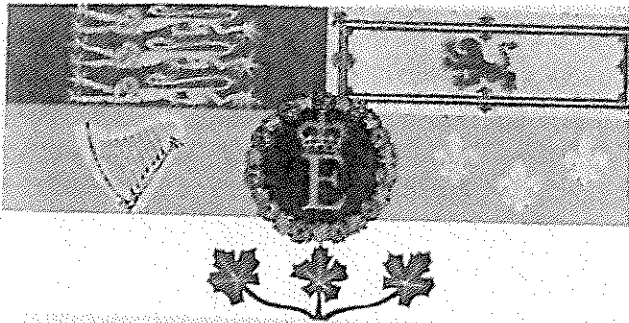
EXAMPLES



Pennon/Pennant



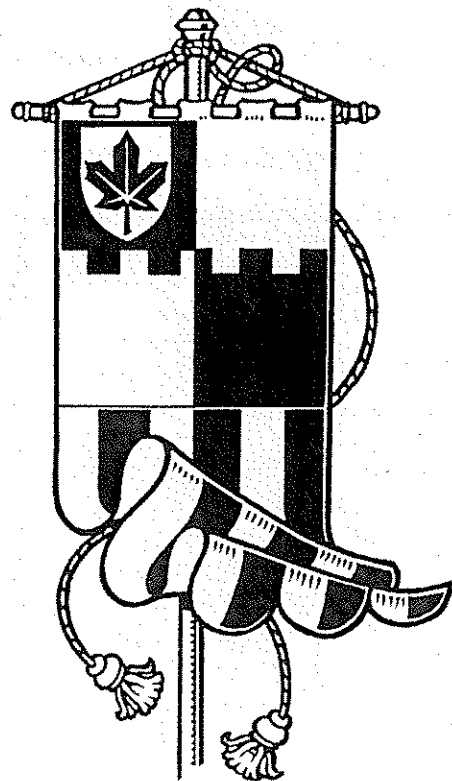
The Standard of member Fergus Macdowall of Garthland



The Queen's Personal Canadian Flag



Banner of the Lieutenant Governor of BC



A Gonfalon

THE 1999 AGM



Earnest discussions -
left to right - Rean
Meyer, Peter
Gardner, Jean and
Evan Petley-Jones



Some of the members relax - John Neroutsos, Graham Anderson, Lynn and Laurie Patten, C. W. Kingston and Fergus Macdowall

1999 Membership BC/Yukon Branch (at time of publishing) including complimentary and exchange newsletters. Known armigerous members are noted by an asterisk. Errors and omissions should be brought to the attention of the Hon. Editor of *The Blazon*.

*G.L. Anderson *FHSC*
 Maj. W.A. Anstis
 Richard Bird
 Baron von Bothmer
 Baroness von Bothmer
 Dr. Robert Bruce
 *C.M. Buchanan
 K.L. Burke *LLB*
 *Sir R.Cave-Browne-Cave
 *Rt Hon Lord Chatfield
 *Gerald Churley
 *LCol. O.F.C. Cook *FHSC*
 Chas. A. de Cosson
 The Flag Shop
 *Col. J.L. Frazer
 *Cdr. Peter Gardner
 *Mrs Anne Gardner
 LCol. G.P. Gedge
 *A.A.Greenwood *PhD*
 M.F.H. Halleran
 G. Hansche
 *Michael Hobbs
 *Kevin Hutchings
 *D.E.Kennedy *FHSC*
 *C. W. Kingston
 R. Y.von Koniczek
 *C. G. Lane
 K.H. Lane
 *D. W. Lawson *FHSC*
 Arthur Leynard
 Capt. P. Loofs
 *His.Hon.A.G.Lynch-Staunton
 Asst/Cmr C.I.MacDonell
 *Macdowall of Garthland
 Maj. W. R. MacDonald
 Maj. J.H. MacKendrick
 *Mrs J. Matheson *H/FHSC*
 Keith Mason
 Rev. Steven Mackison
 *Mrs. M.T. McCullough
 *I.E. McPherson *QC*
 Maritime Museum of B.C.
 Michael Measures
 *R.E. Meyer
 G.A. Mitchell
 BGen. J. Neroutsos
 *Lawrence Patten
 *Cdr. E. Petley-Jones
 Dr. R. W. Radcliffe

Michael Rae
 J. Paul Richards
 *Capt. D. F. Robertson
 S. Rodnunsky
 Maj. Brian Scott
 L.A. Schweitzer
 *David Watson
 J.B. Wilkes
 Prof. Wm. C. Wonders

Honorary Members

Mrs I. Alexander *FHSC*
 Melvin H. Smith, Q.C.
 *Hon Robert Rogers, LLD.

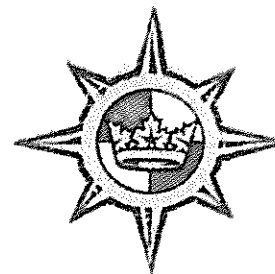
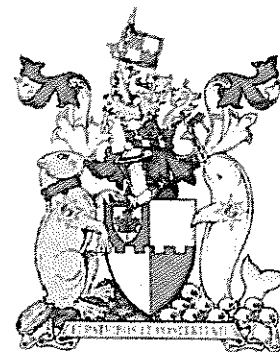
Complimentary/Exchange

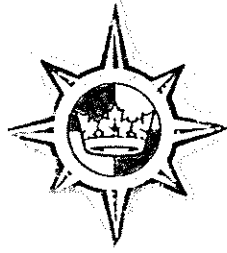
Mrs Isobelle Harris-Gov't House
 *Col.S.C-Galloway
 *Hon.G. Gardom *QC*
The Gonfanon
Hogtown Heraldry
HSC/SHC
 *R.Macpherson *FHSC*
 Estate *Dr.D.W. Rae
 *Okill Stuart *UE*
 Victoria Pub.Lib.
 *Robert Watt *FHSC*

Pending: final notice

Arthur Beck
 Jennifer Bruce
 R.W. Clark
 David Crerar
 Crestwood Arts
 Lawrence Dampier
 P.A. Dawes
 *L.B. Excell
 G.S. Ford
 D.S.A. George
 *Colonel P. D. Holmes
 B.W. Hutchison
 MGen. Geo. Kitching
 Leopold Kurcz
 Col. A.D. Matheson
 Mrs. K. McCorkell
 J.C. McKeag
 A. R. Paton
 J.W. Richardson
 Dean Allan Tiegs

R.H. Thorlarkson
 K.B. Turner
 W. van der Schee
 R.H. Vanderwater
 Walter West
 Yao Hswin Hwang





THE HERALDRY SOCIETY OF CANADA-B.C./YUKON BRANCH
(formerly the Western Canada Branch)

Under the distinguished patronage of His Honour Garde Gardom, Q.C.
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia

Branch Executive 1999-2000

President: Rean Meyer, *U.E., C.D.*

Past-President: Charles Buchanan, *Esq., B.A.*

Vice-President: Mr. Kenneth Lane

Hon. Secretary/Treasurer: Cdr.(N) Peter Gardner, *C.D., CMA, CGA*

Hon. Editor *The Blazon*: R.E. Meyer, *Esq.*

Directors: Cyril Lane, *Esq.*, Lawrence Patten, *Esq.*

(At Large): For Greater Vancouver – Mrs Teresa McCullough & Sir Robert Cave-Browne-Cave, *Bt.* For Calgary – David Watson, *Esq.*

Heraldic Consultant: Graham Anderson, *Esq., M.A., FHSC*

Publisher: volunteer sought

The aim of the Branch is to promote the understanding, enjoyment and proper use of heraldry by bringing to-gether those interested in all things of an heraldic nature. *The Blazon* is the official publication of the B.C./Yukon Branch supported solely by its members. It is published three times annually and included in the membership available to anyone in Canada for the annual fee of \$10.00 (US\$10.00, for overseas and residents of U.S.A.) payable by cheque or money order included with the enclosed application form. Members of the Heraldry Society of Canada/*la Societe heraldique du Canada* may pay directly to Ottawa in which case a receipt for income tax purposes will be issued. Otherwise, please make payable to: HSC/SHC-B.C./Yukon Branch. A separate receipt will be issued by the Secretary-Treasurer for non-members of the HSC/SHC *on request*.

Articles for *The Blazon* should include date and source if media; otherwise copyright permission, bibliography, etc and if possible, photo-ready art work. The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Branch or the Heraldry Society of Canada. A self-addressed and stamped envelope is requested if submitted articles are to be returned to sender.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:

Secretary/Treasurer
5-2353 Harbour Road
Sidney, B.C.V8L 3X8

ARTICLES FOR PUBLISHING:

The Editor
18-4771 Cordova Bay Road
Victoria, B.C. V8Y 2J7



NOTICE

UP-ISLAND BRANCH LUNCHEON

WEDNESDAY, 1200 HRS 16 JUNE 1999

FOUR POINTS SHERATON HOTEL NANAIMO

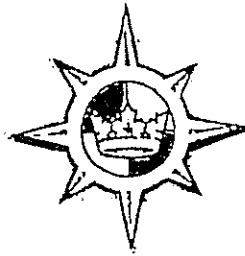
DRESS: Informal/Tavelling attire

IN GENERAL: This is a get-together luncheon to have a drink, possibly a buffet lunch followed by a visit to the nearby Nanaimo Military Museum arranged by CDR. Evan Petley-Jones, one of the directors. This museum is one of the best for its size in Canada.

ACCOMMODATION: Depending on the numbers, we may very well just have a sit down lunch in the hotel restaurant at which time one can order from the menu. If we get a turnout of 20 or more, we can have a private room and a buffet for approx. \$16.00 max. which would allow us to circulate and converse more freely than in the public dining facility of the hotel. Your Branch executive wants feed-back and ideas from its members and this will be the last opportunity until the AGM in the autumn.

TRANSPORTATION: Those who may wish to travel as foot passengers from the Mainland can be picked up on arrival in Nanaimo by our local members. But we must know in advance and which B.C. Ferries dock you will arrive at. **Please call Laurie Patten at 250-756-2143** if you need transportation from the ferry dock.

We anticipate a pleasant day in beautiful downtown Nanaimo. Spouses, friends and lovers (of heraldry) all welcome.



THE HERALDRY SOCIETY OF CANADA-B.C./YUKON BRANCH

Victoria Flag Shop to Sponsor
Exhibit at Maritime Museum of BC

Opening Thursday June 10th, 1999 at the Maritime Museum of British Columbia is an exhibit of over 40 flags entitled, "*Historic Flags of the West Coast*".

In recognition of 10 years in Victoria, the Flag Shop is sponsoring this show. The flags recognize the history of the west coast- Vancouver Island particularly- through flags. Starting with the explorers, English, Spanish, and Russian, the exhibit moves to shipping companies, fishing fleets, towboating, transportation and Dominion of Canada vessels.

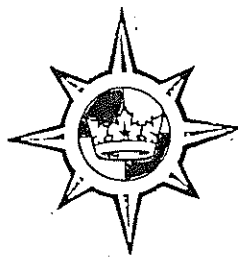
Many of the flags displayed come from the Maritime Museum's collection. The remainder have been reproduced by the staff of the Flag Shop. They will be donated to the Museum upon completion of the exhibit as the Flag Shop's gift to the maritime community.

For information on the Historic Flag Exhibit, contact Jim Webb at the Flag Shop in Victoria.



THE FLAG SHOP

SERVING VANCOUVER ISLAND FOR 10 YEARS



THE HERALDRY SOCIETY OF CANADA-B.C./YUKON BRANCH
(formerly the Western Canada Branch)

Under the distinguished patronage of His Honour Garde Gardom, Q.C.
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia

Application for Membership

Surname followed by given names: _____

Mailing Address: box no./apt. no. & street: _____

City: _____, Prov.: _____ Postal Code: _____

Tel. No. (____) _____ Facsimile No. (____) _____

E-mail _____

Profession/Occupation: _____

Honours and awards, academic qualifications: _____

Armigerous: Yes or No _____. If "yes" please indicate source of grant of arms and date of acquisition and a sample of the arms suitable for reproduction.

Other relevant information. _____

Note: All applications are treated as property of the Branch and the HSC/SHC. Addresses are not sold, traded or released to any outside agency or commercial firm.

Annual fee of \$10.00 (**US\$10.00 for U.S. residents**) by cheque or money order included _____

Please make payable to: HSC/SHC-B.C./Yukon Branch and mail to:
Hon. Secretary Treasurer, HSC/B.C. Yukon Branch
5-2353 Harbour Road, Sidney, B.C. V8L 3X8

A receipt will be issued by the Secretary-Treasurer. Branch membership dues may be made at the same time of application for (or renewal of) membership in The Heraldry Society of Canada/la Société héraldique du Canada for income tax purposes.

