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Orders of the Day

The Publication of the Association of Former MLAs of British Columbia

Volume 20, Number 2

February 2014

February - Government House



Spring has arrived in the Cut Flower Garden with a spray of hot pink cyclamen coum, crocus and snowdrops (2013)

Her Honour

The Honourable Judith Guichon, OBC

Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia

Orders of the Day is published regularly throughout the year, and is circulated to Association members, all MLAs now serving in Legislature, other interested individuals and organizations. Distributed throughout BC and into Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario.

Material for the newsletter is always welcome and should be sent in written form to:

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Or faxed to: 250-477-2532

Or emailed to ootd@shaw.ca

Annual subscription rate is \$40.00 for those who are not Association Members.

Editor: Hugh Curtis
Layout/Production/Research: Rob Lee

Thank You and Miscellany

A film revisited. We recently sat again to view "The Gathering Storm", a superb characterization of Winston Churchill's discouraging years in the 1930's.

He was out of the U.K. government and a lone voice warning against the rising power of the German military power. The situation is well-known to all.

What one can marvel at again is the work of Albert Finney and his portrayal of Churchill. In our view, it stands as very special!

The Year of the Horse. Chinese New Year is the longest and most important celebration in the Chinese calendar. The Chinese year 4712 begins on Jan. 31, 2014, the Year of the Horse.

Chinese months are reckoned by the lunar calendar, with each month beginning on the darkest day. New Year festivities traditionally start on the first day of the month and continue until the fifteenth, when the moon is brightest. In China, people may take weeks of holiday from work to prepare for and celebrate the New Year.

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We extend our thanks to the Director and staff for their continuing courtesy and assistance when we seek help in research and information for this publication. It's of major importance!

The Association of Former MLAs of British Columbia is strictly non-partisan, regardless of members' past or present political affiliation. Founded in 1987, the Association was formally established by an Act of the British Columbia Legislature on February 10, 1998.

Orders of the Day was conceived, named and produces in its early stages by Bob McClelland, former MLA and cabinet minister, following his retirement from office.

An opinion: term limits in elected office

Is it a practice no longer in vogue?

From time to time, but not recently we suggest, this practice was a relatively popular topic with its' enthusiastic adherents.

Today, not so much.

Many of us immediately think of the legislated policy as it applies to the U.S.A. presidency, as well as other office-holders in that nation.

In Canada the concept has been advocated from time to time, applying to municipal councils, provincial legislatures, and members at the federal level.

To our knowledge, always subject to contrary information, the law is not in place in this country.

Is it not correct voters at any level here can and do exercise their undoubted right to impose their own highly effective form of limiting one's term in office. It's called defeat at the ballot box.

Your views? We'd be interested to have them.

Countries with no term limits for heads of state

Africa

Comoros, Uganda

2 out of 32 countries - no limits

Asia

India, Japan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka

6/27 countries

Europe

Azerbaijan, Belarus, Germany (Chancellor), Italy, Russia, San Marino, Serbia, Switzerland, United Kingdom

9/37 countries

Oceania

Australia (Governor General)

1/10 countries

The Americas

Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Peru, Uruguay

5/20 countries

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Veteran politician hits the books

By Ian Bailey
The Globe and Mail
Published Thursday, Oct. 17 2013

As a cabinet minister, George Abbott had civil servants to do his research. Now the veteran municipal and provincial politician is flying solo as a PhD student working on his thesis at the University of Victoria.

The former education, health and aboriginal relations minister did not seek re-election in May, ending a run of 34 years in municipal and provincial politics. Before entering the legislature, Mr. Abbott was a lecturer in political science at Okanagan University College. Since retiring, Mr. Abbott, 60, has returned to the classroom, teaching B.C. politics at the University of Victoria where he earned a masters degree 35 years ago.

More recently, he has shifted his focus to writing a 200-plus-page thesis on how the Tsay Keh Dene had their lands flooded out due to the construction of the W.A.C. Bennett dam in the 1960s and the impact of Canada's division of powers between Ottawa and the provinces on aboriginal public policy. He expects his work will take four years.

You were a powerful cabinet minister. Is it humbling to be a student?

A little bit. It's also, in lots of ways, a great relief. In cabinet, your time is never really your own. I never really felt the full impact of that until I left politics. Cabinet ministers work hard all week. When they go home on the weekend, everybody has expectations about what they're going to do. You're always feeling the pressure of public expectation. You go to the store and someone wants to tell you about what, in particular, has annoyed them about their provincial government. It's a challenging life. I have absolutely no regrets about leaving it.

What was it like discovering time that was your own?

It was terrific being able to get up in the morning and go for a walk with my wife or a bike ride or to the golf course and not have to worry about getting into the office for eight or 10 or 12 hours of meetings or deadlines.

Does Victoria feel like a different place to live as a student and not a cabinet minister or MLA?

Yes. Even though, as a cabinet minister, you may leave the office, the office never really leaves you. You have to be conscious of where you're going, what you're doing there, who you're talking to, why you're talking to them. There's always that pressure in the background.

What's the most challenging thing about returning to school?

For 17 years I've had people to assist me. If I needed something written, people would write it for me. Now I have to — apart from the generous assistance, periodically, of my wife — figure these things out for myself. Now when I have a 15-page paper due as I had last Friday, I am writing it and researching it. It's a bit of a stressful challenge of confidence. I haven't written a term paper for 35 years. It's feeling pretty challenging going back to university at this stage. I felt good about the first paper I submitted. Whether my professor will feel good about it or not remains to be seen.

It's a lot of work. Did you need to get a PhD?

No. When I was 25, 26 years old I had to make a decision about whether to go on and do a doctorate. I certainly could have done it at that time. But I also wanted to do some other things in life, including get away from university for a while, get married, have a family, start a business. I am convinced I made the right choice but I always, in a lot of ways, wondered what it would have been like to do a doctorate and I am finding that out now. It's challenging as hell and really a lot of hard work.

Why this topic?

It's an important story. I think there's some things governments, federal and provincial, still have to learn about things like aboriginal education, aboriginal health and so on. We have come a long way since 1960, 1970.

But there are still challenges in the way in which, because of the division of powers in Canada, the respective governments go about their work. We remain less collaborative, less collegial in aboriginal public policy than we need to.

Are you seeing things as a student that you wish you could have added to the cabinet debates on postsecondary education?

I used to get quite involved in the cabinet debates on postsecondary. I taught for 15 years. I had those experiences to bring to the debate. I can't think of a lot of things I would have said or done differently in those discussions than what I would do today because of the experience I had as a teacher.

Does your experience in all this suggest it's never too late to return to university?

I am very much a believer in lifelong education. I am never going to be a tenure-track professor. But I do want to keep my brain engaged. I want to do this in a way

where I learn but in a way that fits into a slightly more relaxed lifestyle than the one they are accustomed to.

Mike Harcourt often jokes about a club of ex-politicians fighting to not relapse and return to politics. Have you signed up?

I am on the 10-step program for recovering politicians. I am entirely confident that my days in elected office are done. Having said that, I had 34 consecutive, uninterrupted years in local and provincial government. Looking back on it, it is a kind of addiction. We are recovering politicians. I am just glad I got to pick the time at which I got to leave. Not everybody gets that opportunity.

(Ed. note: George is now a welcome Member of our Association. He is now a resident of Saanich.)

British Columbia is a leader in understanding and planning for the ongoing delivery of Medicare.

The "Report of the British Columbia Royal Commission on Health Care and Costs" (the Seaton Commission) and "Conversation on Health" are examples of two comprehensive processes which did include the public. These findings are important for the future sustainability of Medicare.

The **British Columbia Chiropractic Association** participates and supports ongoing research on health care outcomes, cost effectiveness and the implementation of these results to address the annual increase of health care costs. Additional information on health care studies, research and analysis can be found on the BC Chiropractic Association website: www.bcchiro.com/bcca



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After sensational charges of last summer, legislature bombs case proceeds quietly

By Sunny Dhillon
The Globe and Mail
Friday, January 3, 2014

At a mid-December pre-trial hearing in the legislature bombings case, the gallery inside B.C. Supreme Court was nearly empty.

What a difference five months can make.

When the RCMP announced the arrests of John Nuttall and Amanda Korody and said the couple had planned to set off pressure-cooker bombs outside the B.C. legislature on Canada Day, the alleged plot was international news.

In the days that followed, information about the couple slowly trickled out. Mr. Nuttall was a former musician with a rap sheet for petty crime and a history of drug use. Ms. Korody, 10 years his junior, worked at a convenience store near their basement-suite home in Surrey.

The pair had converted to Islam a few years earlier. No motivation for the alleged plot has been revealed, nor any information about the final moments leading up to their arrest, and the case has largely faded from public view.

At the December hearing, Ms. Korody entered the courtroom first. She had a quick glance out at the gallery before taking her seat.

When Mr. Nuttall arrived and saw his co-accused, his face immediately lit up. He whispered to her at several points during the hearing.

The evidence discussed in court that day is covered by a publication ban. The parties are due back in court in mid-January.

In an interview, Mark Jetté, Ms. Korody's lawyer, said the trial will be this year.

"There's a lot to learn. I think you'll find the case interesting when you get to actually hear it," he said.

Tom Morino, one of Mr. Nuttall's lawyers who frequently spoke with reporters after the arrests, did not return a call.

Marilyn Sandford, who more recently joined Mr. Nuttall's defence team, declined to discuss the case.

Mr. Jetté frequently serves as a special prosecutor.

Mr. Morino represented Mr. Nuttall in a robbery case about a decade ago. Mr. Nuttall was sentenced to 18 months of house arrest after Mr. Morino argued his client was high on cocaine at the time of the offence, but had since weaned himself off illicit drugs.

Mr. Nuttall and Ms. Korody were arrested on Canada Day after a five-month investigation. The RCMP held its news conference on July 2.

The pressure-cookers filled with rusted nails and metal. It has said Mr. Nuttall and Ms. Korody did not receive any support from abroad.

The RCMP has maintained the public was never in danger because it had intervened to ensure the bombs could not explode.

The arrests came as a surprise to friends of the accused. They said Mr. Nuttall and Ms. Korody had been seen as thrill-seekers who loved rock and roll, although the couple had complained about the presence of Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan.

In August, Mr. Morino said his client had been certified under the B.C. Mental Health Act and transferred to a psychiatric ward.



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Vancouver Social Service Agencies call for made in B.C. social policy framework

by Craig East

Five of metro Vancouver's largest social service agencies are calling for a province wide discussion to create Social Policy Framework that would define how we can build better lives for our children, our parents, and ourselves.

At a meeting organized by Board Voice, the boards of Family Services of Greater Vancouver, Greater Vancouver Community Services Society, Options Community Services of Surrey, Pacific Community Resources, and PLEA Community Services jointly drafted and approved *There is a Better Way*.

The statement calls on community leaders and provincial and municipal governments to partner with the social services, health care, justice, and education sectors to begin a conversation with British Columbians to create a plan to meet our social needs now and into the future.

"We believe how we as people, as communities, as organizations and governments respond to the needs of our children, our aging parents, new immigrants and victims of violence defines us," says Michael Davis, a Director of Family Services of Greater Vancouver. "We are calling for

a vision that will guide all the people that work to make our lives better."

The statement points out that virtually every family in the province will access social services at some point in their lifetime. The services that are trying to address some of the most pressing social issues cross ministerial silos, bridge across the government, non-profit and corporate sectors, and lack a common vision.

"The needs are increasing while resources get tighter," says Carol Matusicky, the Chair of Board Voice. "We think a well-developed social policy framework that is pragmatic in delivery and measured by outcomes could streamline delivery of critical services and improve the results for those who need it most."

Board Voice will be talking to service delivery and government partners to build support for the province-wide initiative.

Craig East, CPA, CA is a founding Director of Board Voice Society, and a long serving Director of Options Community Services Society, a community based organization serving Surrey, Delta, White Rock and Langley.
www.boardvoice.ca



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Nellie's trip to town reveals the true beauty of nature

Victoria Times Colonist
January 12, 2014

Nellie McClung, known across Canada as a member of the Famous Five who campaigned for women to be recognized as persons, wrote a column for the Victoria Daily Times. We are reprinting her column about life in Victoria almost 80 years ago. This column appeared on Saturday, Jan. 8, 1938.

The robins, cut off from their natural supply of food during the short time the snow was on the ground, made attacks on the holly berries and so there is a scarcity of this lovely token in our neighbourhood. But there is cedar and Oregon grape, with its shining green leaves, and red arbutus berries. It seems the robins keep holly berries and arbutus berries for their "iron rations," with holly first and arbutus second choice. This year only the holly suffered.

Still there is an abundance of lovely things this season, on account of the open winter. The winter jasmine is covered with yellow blossoms; the marigolds are full of little yellow suns; one of our neighbours has an Oriental poppy in bloom in great flashing flowers of burnt orange, which burn against her white house. I can see them through the window as I write. Another neighbour has Canterbury bells doing their third term of blooming for 1937, which is a pretty good record. I presume

the old blossoms were cut off promptly and so the new blossoms followed.

Down at the road, we planted poppy seed to make a great showing next spring, and they are up in thousands. Maybe the frost will catch them and reduce them to pulp, but at least they have had a shot at life, poor little gay adventurers! Nature is careful of the race, but careless of the single life!

The days have been warm and bright, with cirrus clouds in a blue sky and pockets of fog in the low places. The sun lies warm and amber-colored on the hilly surface of San Juan Island, and the Vancouver-Victoria boats gleam white against the blue water of the gulf.

A man said to me, while I was in the East, that I should not write so much about the beauties of the coast, for my readers are for the most part prairie people who are probably thawing out their radiators, shovelling snow or putting turpentine on their chilblains, and therefore in no mood to enjoy the pictures I draw of green fields and rippling seas.

My eastern friend is wrong. I know the prairie people. They are the real beauty lovers! Never have they grown cold to beauty, nor ever faltered in their devotion. They like to know that somewhere the sunlight falls on grassy meadows and skylarks are singing in January.

Life has its great compensations; and if the seasons are short on the prairie, the people's memories are long, and their hearts responsive. They do not begrudge anyone their mead of lovely things.

The most appreciative letters I get are from the people who have seen their own gardens cut off in their very prime by



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a killing frost. Now they are glad to hear about other people's flowers. They like to read of the lapping of the sea on the gravelly beach, the skimming of the gulls or even the agonized note of the foghorn. They have enough imagination to make it real.

People who are not able to go to town themselves are glad to have a description of the shops. Today, I went in on the bus, enjoying every green field we passed; the crowds of people on the side roads, waiting to be picked up women with baskets and string bags, men with library books in shawl-straps, even the dogs that tried to enter the bus and had to be turned back. Some of the women had thoughtfully brought a child to take the dog home, lovely children, almost as red-cheeked as the apples they were eating.

In town, I saw the baskets of statice, sea lavender and everlastings, in crimson and mauve and yellow; bouquets of honesty, shining white and pure, with its strangely spiritual air of something that does not quite belong to earth.

"We are shipping many of these winter bouquets to the prairie," one of the women told me. "That's where they are appreciated."

"I wish every last family there had a wreath of holly and a basket this year," she said.

I knew, of course, that she had been one of the women who had wrapped her plants in newspapers and carried them from east to west window to catch every gleam of winter sunshine. And so she was. Transplanted just a year ago from Saskatchewan, and lonely for her old neighbours. "Every lovely thing I see, I want to send them!" she said.

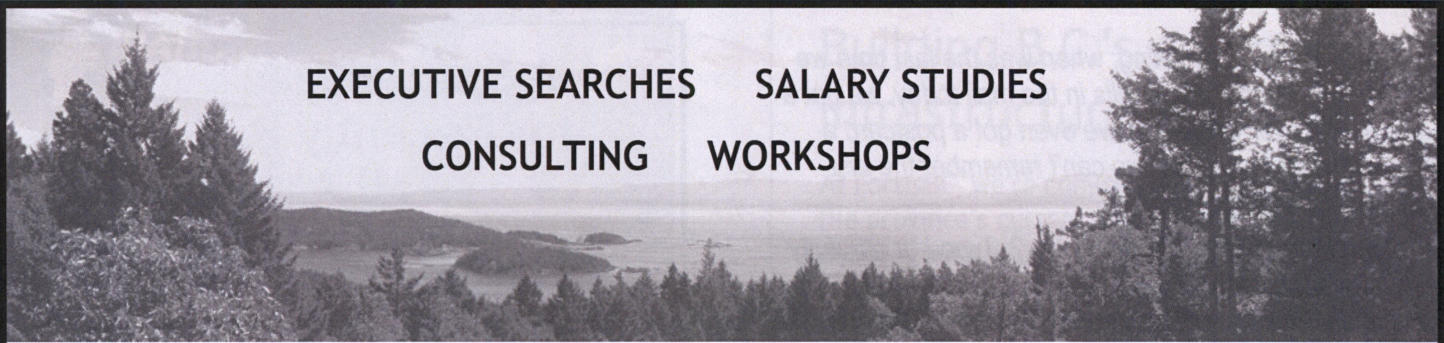
I came home on the late bus, through the clear moonlight and sat with one of the neighbours who was born here and had never been away for more than a week, and loves every hill and valley.

"It's the country that binds one's heart," she said. "Cities are much the same, by what I hear, just brick and mortar, and elevators and plate glass, and strange people hurrying, and no one caring about you, or anything. The city seems a cold, hard, noisy place, and a day in it is long enough for me.

Lights glittered from the windows of the houses below us as we ran along the high road at Cedar Hill. The air was mild and balmy as it is in spring, and the wide valley below us was lovely in the moonlight.

I was the last passenger on the bus, and when I was let down at Lantern Lane, I stood a while to enjoy the beauty of the night. The stars hung low, glittering in the cloudless sky, and the road running down to the sea was a ribbon of silver. There were a few throaty sounds from the night birds, and far away, the barking of a dog.

Then I turned and walked up the lane, in the mellow beam of the Lantern (which had been lighted because I was coming home) and I know that it is this light, this home-light, shining for you or for me across the world, which makes all lights brighter, all burdens lighter, sweeter, all scenes lovelier, and it does not matter whether it shines down a country lane that is bordered with cherry trees or gleams from the front window of a little apartment in a crowded, noisy city, or cuts through the dusty atmosphere of the wind-swept prairie.



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The remarkable Wesley Drewett Black

(deceased in January 10, 2000)

He was one of a kind personable, often outrageous in private conversation, a 'booming' speaker, knowledgeable on almost countless subjects. That was Wes.

He served twenty years in B.C.'s legislature, 1952-1972, elected seven times in Nelson-Creston constituency. During this time he served in many portfolios. His service in government equalled that of Premier W.A.C. Bennett, although the latter was MLA for longer, elected first in 1941.

In his retirement days Black was a frequent contributor to early issues of this newsletter. Recently we found one of his thoughtful columns in our issue of April 1998. At that time 'Orders' was in care of Bob McClelland.

Black's column of that date has stood the test of time, as true today as it was then.

Lament of Letters

By Wes Black

I recently got to thinking: when was the last time we got a letter? We got some bills in the mail today, we got a supermarket flyer yesterday, we even got a postcard a couple of weeks ago. But we can't remember the last time we got a letter.

You remember letters, don't you? Typed or carefully written by hand sometimes on expensive stationery, sometimes on scraps of paper they brought with them latest news from a friend, relative or lover. There's no sound quite as welcome as the clunk of a thick letter falling through the mail slot; no joy so sublime as passing your eyes over the words of a missed loved one; no taste as anticipated as the sweet tang of sealing an envelope on a meticulously written missive; no touch as intimate as when you realize your hands are in the same place as the sender's were.

Once considered something of an art, letter writing appears to have gone the way of the dodo, a casualty of our fin-de-siècle mania for instant communications. The telephone, the fax machine, the Internet they each put a nail in the letter's coffin. It's enough to make you think there is something inherently wrong about having to wait a few days to hear from an intimate.

But that was the great thing about letters. They took time. Time to compose, time to be delivered, time to be read. We admit it, letters have no place in today's communicating-at-the-speed-of-light world. They're just not time effective. They're not competitive.

What is seen as their curse today is actually part of their blessing. Because letter writing involved such a large temporal investment, no matter what the content, the underlying message of a letter is, "You are important to me."

Our regular readers may still have the August 2013 issue (Volume 17, No. 7, page 9.) There we have the same subject by today's Andrew Coyne "How we write effects what we write."

Black in 1998, Coyne in 2013, doubtless many others in between.

It's a happy coincidence for our newsletter!

A Special Message for Recently Retired MLA's

We offer this suggestion for those who have left legislative office after the General Election in May.

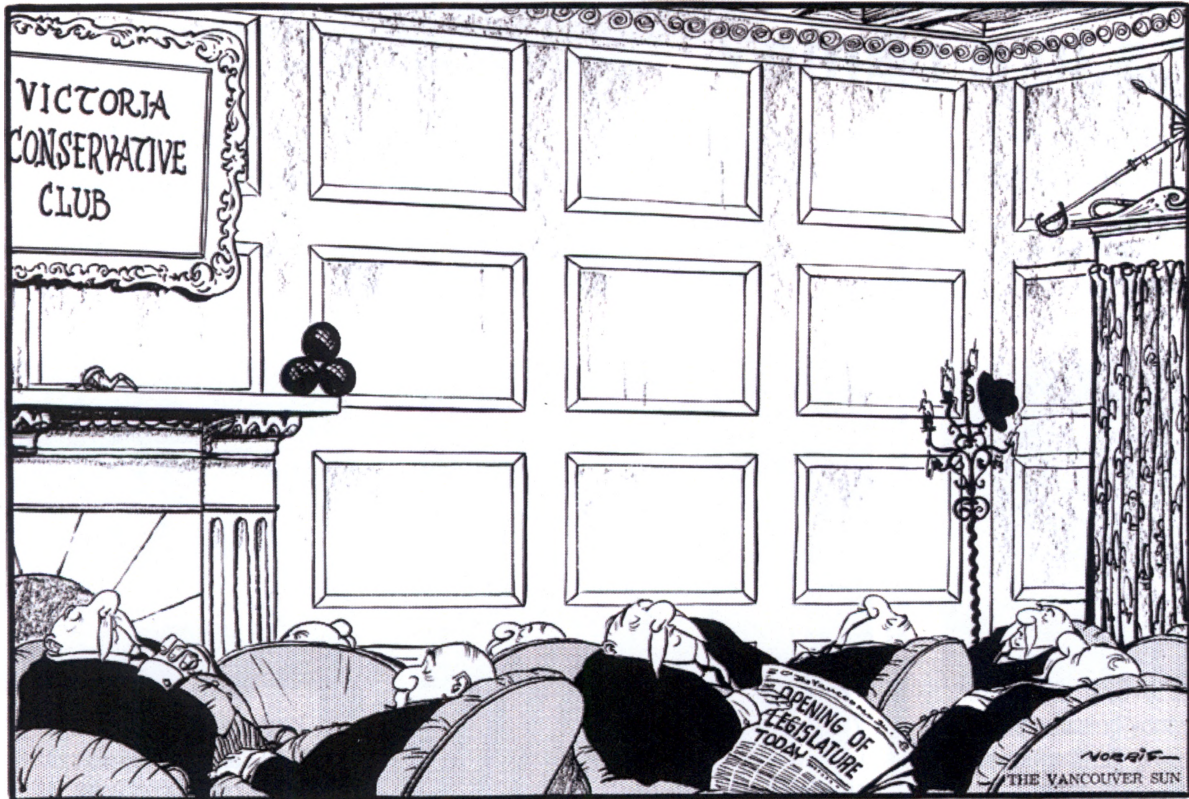
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Question Period

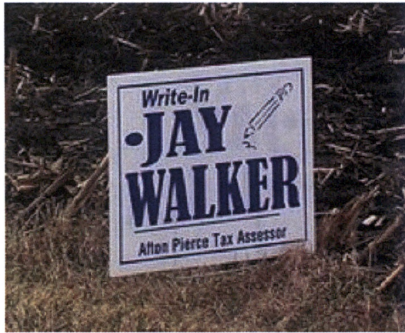
offbeat news, humour, and things that make you go "hmm..."

What's in a name?

Top eight unfortunate politician names, or
Top eight favourite politician names for headline writers

Yes, we've had our share of unfortunate politician names in B.C.: (Cecil Robert) C.R. Bull, Liberal, South Okanagan - elected 1937; (Richard) Dick Burns, Liberal, Rossland elected 1933, 1937; Fred Crone, Liberal, Vancouver Centre, elected 1937, died 1939.

But can you imagine being the campaign manager for the following eight candidates? Amazingly, five of these politicians won their elections.



8. Jay Walker

Afton Pierce Township (IL) Tax Assessor

Elected 2009 as write in candidate, re-elected 2013

(Probably would have lost in the election for bylaw enforcement officer)



7. Timothy Shotwell

Lost two elections for Clark County, WA sheriff to Garry Lucas

(Maybe Shotwell should have hired Eric Clapton to write his campaign song)



6. Krystal Ball

In 2010 Ball ran to represent Virginia's 1st congressional district in the U.S. House of Representatives and was defeated by Republican incumbent Rob Wittman.

(She didn't see it coming?)



5. Frank Schmuck

Finished third in Republican primary, Arizona District 20

Actual news item: Mischief-makers just can't seem to get enough of "Vote Schmuck" campaign signsto the great consternation of Frank Schmuck, Republican candidate for the Arizona legislature. The signs are being stolen almost as quickly as supporters can put them up, the *Ahwatukee Foothills News* reports. "Did someone think it was a joke?" asks a concerned Schmuck.

"I do have a funny last name, but this early in the campaign season?"



4. Honorable Janelle Lawless

Elected Circuit Court Judge - January 1, 2003, re-elected 2009

(start with "Michigan Voters Elect Lawless Judge", and go from there)



3. Richard Swett

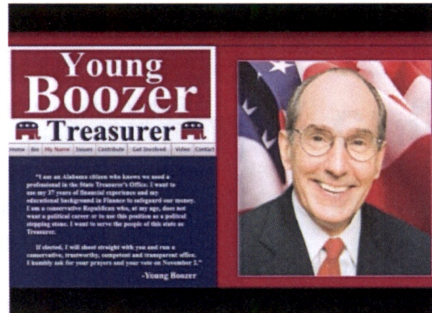
US House of Representatives, 1991-95
US Ambassador to Denmark, 1998-2001

(when he lost the election in 1996, was the headline "No Swett"?)

2. Young Boozer

Elected Alabama State Treasurer, 2011

Boozer began his "Stump Speech" campaign ad with the line "I'm Young Boozer, and yes, that's my real name"; the ad closed with Boozer stating, "Young Boozer: funny name, serious leadership."



1. Mark Reckless

British Conservative Party politician, Member of Parliament for Rochester and Strood, elected at the 2010 general election.

(he's number one because he lived up to his name. Below is the actual story from the Daily Mail.)

*Daily Mail,
July 11, 2010*

A shamed Tory MP has admitted he was too drunk to vote in the debate on the Budget after a night of debauched behaviour on the Commons terrace.

Former banker Mark Reckless was so inebriated that he fell to the floor of a Commons bar before the crucial vote in the early hours of the morning, before being bundled into a taxi home by fellow MPs.

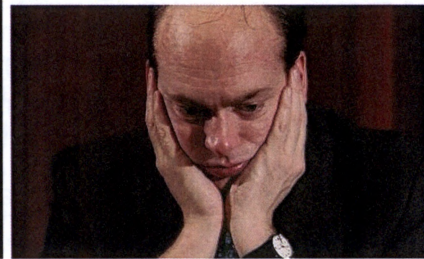
The extraordinary scenes came during a six-hour drinking session that lasted until 2.30am on Wednesday, involving dozens of MPs and their aides.

Commons bars took a record £5,000 during the evening as taxpayer-subsidised Pimm's, wine, beer and champagne flowed.

Tory MP Mark Reckless: I was too drunk to vote on the budget

By James Lyons 12/07/2010

MP missed savage cuts debate



Mr. Reckless, the MP for Rochester, Kent, was among the most enthusiastic revellers. At one point, he fell on the floor and had to be helped to his feet.

Later, he struggled to open a bar door, repeatedly slamming it on his toe, apparently unaware his foot was in the way.

Some MPs roared with laughter as he blundered about. Eventually, others came to his aid.

Mr. Reckless claimed he decided not to take part in the 2.07am vote because of his drunken state.

'I thought it would be inappropriate in the circumstances,' he said.

However, other Tories dispute this version of events and say he was asleep on the terrace during the vote and received an official warning from his party the following day for ignoring the whip.

A recent classified ad

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Telemarketing

Resumes are currently being accepted for temporary part time positions (20 hours per week). Must be available evenings and weekends.

Applicants must possess recent proven sales experience and skills, a pleasant telephone manner, and be proficient with Microsoft Office.

No phone calls please.

Please send a cover letter and resume outlining your skills and experience to:

Human Resources
Times Colonist
2621 Douglas Street
Victoria, BC.
V8T 4M2

Fax: 250-380-5380

Email: hr@timescolonist.com

While we thank all applicants for their interest in working with us, we wish to advise that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Mr. Reckless, an MP for just two months, told *The Mail* on Sunday: 'I feel very embarrassed. It was a mistake I will not be repeating. I have learned my lesson.'

Mr. Reckless was taken to the Commons exit by fellow MPs who eased him into a taxi, telling the driver to take him home to Rochester, 30 miles away, at a cost of £150.

'I will certainly not be claiming it on my expenses,' he said.

Letters

Many thanks for the complimentary edition of the December 2013 *Orders of the Day*. I thoroughly enjoyed reading the Bulletin and I wish to thank you for the very kind invitation to attend your wonderful dinner at Government House.

Once again, thanks for all the great work you do.

Sincerest best wishes,
Michael James O'Connor, Q.C.
Victoria

(Ed. note: Michael is an active and highly regarded member of the Greater Victoria legal community.)

Enclosed is a cheque for 2014 dues plus a little extra for general purposes.

Sad to lose old friends like James Lorimer and Garde Gardom.

Cheers to all.

Bill King,
Fruitvale

Please find enclosed my dues cheque for this year. Thank you for your continuing commitment to the Association and to the production of *Orders of the Day*.

With best wishes for 2014!
Andrew Petter
Simon Fraser University

We welcome your letters - you can mail them to:

P.O. Box 31009
University Heights P.O.
Victoria, B.C. V8N 6J3

Or email to: ootd@shaw.ca

Member News

Susan Brice of Saanich

Public office is featured in virtually every issue of this publication. It's indeed part of our DNA.

However, few of us can equal the length of service or the variety of posts occupied by this well-known person.

Susan's time in elected office spans 1975 to the present, with interruptions.

Consider the start.

- 1975 to 1980 Greater Victoria School Board, chair for two years.

- From school board to Oak Bay Municipal Council 1980-1990, including five years as mayor.

- In 1991 an attempt to serve as MLA in Oak Bay - Gordon Head riding.

Susan took time out for a few years ("time for family") but bounced back for the 2001-2005 time frame as a Liberal MLA, with cabinet duties.

This listing is not yet complete.

In 2005 she returned to municipal office, in Saanich, still serving in that post today.

To all of this Susan observes, "It's all interwoven" and "I still enjoy serving."

In an earlier career this lady was a teacher, commencing in the '60's.

Wow!

Lorne Nicolson Nelson-Creston

First elected in 1972

This 'thumbnail' sketch of Lorne describes another pleasant and friendly MLA and Cabinet Minister of days gone by.

Although true to his NDP roots, Lorne was always at ease in interacting with his political opponents inside and outside the Legislative Assembly.

Now living quietly in Nelson (Lower Six Mile Road), he and Frances pursue that which interests them.

In our conversation of January 11th, 2014, he described a hectic last December. Their son, a Purolator driver in the area, enlisted Lorne's help with the greatly increased volume of parcel deliveries through most of the month.

Lorne told it this way.

"There were many twelve hour days, even longer on Christmas Eve. We covered Rossland, Castlegar and other points doing the job."

Lorne did not specifically mention his muscles during the month, we can only guess about them. Sufficient to say after December 25 it was a welcome return to more normal activity.

The Nicolsons have been keen supporters of this Association for many years, and are occasionally with us at our events.

Good people - good friends!

Member News

Please send news about your activities to ootd@shaw.ca for the next newsletter.

Agnes Kripps

1925-2014

With sadness we announce the passing of Agnes Kripps (nee Oksana Semeniuk), November 28, 1925 - January 5, 2014 at her home in Vancouver.

To honour her memory she leaves behind her husband Stephen; daughter Bonnie Thorpe (Edward); son Robert (Libby Harrison); daughters Julie Northey (Lawrence) and Stephanie Kripps (Jerry Ehrmantraut); grandchildren Stephanie Thorpe, Ono Northey (Renee), Taras Kripps, Justin Kripps, and Simon Ehrmantraut; plus extended family members and lifelong friends.



(Ed. note: Agnes served as Social Credit MLA from 1969 to 1972 (Vancouver South, then a two seat riding.) We're told Agnes always spoke her mind in the Legislature and was frequently quoted in the press, radio and television. She was a Member of this Association since it was established, and was the 43rd Profile featured in this newsletter - see our September 2011 issue, Volume 17, No. 7.)

Keeping in touch

January 10

Two overdue conversations today with individuals in our Association.

Always a pleasure to talk with **Peg Orcherton** of Victoria, spouse of **Steve**, who served in the Legislature. Peg is a popular member of the Greater Victoria School Board, a trustee and Chair of that large entity.

Then, **Bill Hartley** of Maple Ridge. He was a popular MLA (1991-2001) and Speaker (March 2000 - April 2001)

His tall stature and trimmed beard added to his prominence in the House. A gentle Speaker, but not to be ignored when he was in the #1 chair.

Directors meeting

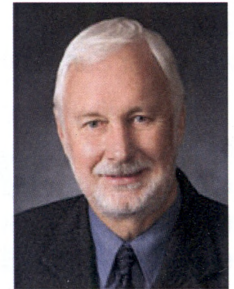
A meeting of the executive of this Association took place in a conference call session (January 13, 2014.)

As with any not-for-profit organization, we considered several items referred from last September's Annual General Meeting, along with other business. All Directors participated, except for two who sent regrets. (good to keep in touch)

Claude Richmond

We welcome **Claude Richmond** as the newest Member of our Association.

Claude was born in Blue River, B.C. and educated in the Kamloops area. He served with the Royal Canadian Air Force and worked for twenty-five years in small business. From 1974 to 1977, Claude served two terms as a City of Kamloops councillor and from 1978 to 1982 managed CHNL radio station



He was first elected as a Socred in a 1981 by-election, and was re-elected in 1983 and 1986. During his three terms as Member for Kamloops, he served as Minister of Tourism and Minister responsible for Expo '86, Minister of Social Services and Housing, and Minister of Forests. From 1988 to 1991, he was also Government House Leader.

After a ten-year hiatus, he was elected as a Liberal in 2001 and re-elected in 2005. During this time he was the 35th Speaker of the Legislature and Minister of Employment and Income Assistance.

Claude and his wife Patricia have three children and two grandchildren. He has been a member of the Kamloops Rube Band, a group of thirty-five musicians who travel the world as goodwill ambassadors for Kamloops and British Columbia.

See our Profile of Claude in *Orders of the Day*, Volume 17, No. 3, March 2011.

Dues now, please

**Members of the
Association**

Dues are \$60.00 per year.

**Subscribers and friends
\$40.00 per year.**

Vancouver South MP Angus MacInnis and Grace Woodsworth began the most storied marriage in the history of Canadian socialism

By John Mackie

Vancouver Sun, January 11, 2014

Normally, the only wedding engagements that make the front page of a newspaper are for royalty, or local bluebloods. But in 1932, The *Vancouver Sun* billed itself as "The People's Paper." And so, on Jan. 12, 1932, readers were treated to a front page story on the engagement of the socialist Member of Parliament for Vancouver South.

"Angus MacInnis to Wed Winnipeg Girl," read the headline. "Local MP Engaged to Marry Grace Woodsworth, Daughter of MP for Winnipeg."

Thus began the most storied marriage in the history of Canadian socialism. Grace Woodsworth was the daughter of J.S. Woodsworth, the leader of the independent Labour Party. A few months after his daughter married one of his closest allies in parliament, J.S. Woodsworth founded the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, the precursor to today's New Democratic Party. Angus MacInnis was a co-founder of the CCF, and in his day, as prominent as J.S. Woodsworth. He was a man of strong principles, and fearless.

In 1936, he bucked the official racism of the day to argue Asian-Canadians should be given the right to vote. During the Second World War, he defended the rights of Japanese-Canadians, when others called for them to be placed in internment camps and deported after the war.

"I am opposed to deportation," he said in 1944, "because these people have come lawfully into our country, and of the 23,000 or so that are here now, close to 15,000 of them were born in Canada, and consequently are no more responsible for the conduct of the Japanese government or Japanese soldiery than we are."

Grace MacInnis was as principled as her husband, and over time would become even more renowned. She was elected to the B.C. legislature in 1941, where she defended the rights of Japanese-Canadians, just as her husband did in Ottawa.

After Angus died in 1964, Grace was elected in his former seat of Vancouver Kingsway - the first woman

elected to the national parliament from British Columbia. She was also the only woman elected in the 1968 election, out of 264 MPs.

The MacInnises were not bourgeois socialists. Angus was born on Sept. 2, 1884, in Glen William, P.E.I., and grew up on a farm. He moved to Vancouver in 1908, where he became a milkman and then a streetcar driver for the B.C. Electric Railway. He worked for the BCER for 20 years, only leaving after he was elected a federal MP.

MacInnis was a member of Vancouver council from 1926 to 1930. The *Sun's* owner, Robert Cromie, supported him editorially in the election, but realized MacInnis had strong socialist convictions. Introducing MacInnis to *Sun* staff after MacInnis was elected, Cromie said: "This is Angus MacInnis. He wants to thank us for our support, and tell us to go to hell."

Grace Woodsworth was born in Winnipeg on July 25, 1905. She moved to Gibsons with her family in 1917, where her father was minister at the local Methodist church. By 1919, J.S. Woodsworth had returned to Winnipeg, where he was one of the leaders of the Winnipeg General Strike.

Grace shared her father's socialist convictions, and went to work with him in Ottawa in 1930 after returning from a year studying French at the Sorbonne in Paris. In Ottawa, a romance bloomed between the 47-year-old Angus and 26-year-old Grace.

"A community of interests drew the affianced couple together when Miss Woodsworth, who was acting as her father's secretary while in Ottawa, acted also in this capacity for Mr. MacInnis when he was attending parliament there," said the *Sun* story on their engagement. The couple were married on Jan. 23, 1932, at J.S. Woodsworth's home in Winnipeg.

They would be stalwarts for the CCF/NDP in the House of Commons for decades - Angus spent 26 years as an MP, Grace nine.

Angus died in 1964 at the age of 79. Ten years later, Grace was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada. She died in 1991, at 85.