



Special flower show

Inhaling the sweet smell of spring blooms is Lorna Clarke (left) a volunteer at the Acton Social Services and Peggie Balkind, the service's executive director. The two are showing off some of the beautiful blooms horticulture lovers will be able to view at "A Breath of Spring and Summer Flower

Show" to be held at the old Town Hall in Acton, March 23. Admission to the show, which will feature bouquets of fresh cut flowers, lush green plants and dancing fountains, is \$2, and all proceeds will go directly to Acton Social Services. (Herald photo)

A tribute to Dr. Forsey

By TOM RAMAUTARSINGH
Herald Special

A man who was the leading exponent of all matters relating to the Canadian Constitution and Canadian political issues cast a pall on Canada through his death at the age of 86.

Dr. Forsey was born on May 29, 1904 in Newfoundland. He received his Ph. D. from McGill University in Montreal, and was a Rhodes Scholar at Balliol College in Oxford. In his youthful days he was greatly influenced by his maternal grandfather, William Bowles. Bowles was the chief clerk in the House of Commons and Eugene visited his grandfather regularly at the House of Commons. Political questions became a normal daily occurrence at the Bowles' residence and young Eugene learnt a mighty lot at this tender age.

Dr. Forsey married Harriet Roberts, a St. John (N.B.) resident in 1935. They raised two daughters, Margaret and Helen.

His oratory, logic, knowledge and writings of Canadian history, both in English and French, made him the envy of politicians and academics. He spoke and wrote authoritatively on many issues which beset Canada. People of all walks of life looked to Dr. Forsey's pronouncements and interpretations as the final word.

He was never afraid to express his thoughts on key issues regardless of their controversial nature. When time did not permit him to say things he took to pen and paper. His language was succinct and to the point.

He left us a legacy in that if a

political party did not meet his stringent criteria then he would leave that party and choose the one that lived up to his expectation and standard.

He admired Conservative Arthur Meighen for his eloquent speeches and dour courage. He signed the 1933 Regina Manifesto which ushered in the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) which was the forerunner of the NDP. He quit the NDP in 1961 and supported Conservative John Diefenbaker in 1962, 1963 and 1965 general elections. He liked Diefenbaker's Bill of Rights and felt that it should be enshrined in the constitution. In 1968 he supported Pierre Trudeau who made him a senator in 1970. He retired from the Senate in 1979 having reached the mandatory retirement age of 75.

Dr. Forsey was a well-informed, courageous and independent-minded man whose chief rule of political conduct was to do what is best for Canada. His thoughts and actions deserve a great deal of praise. He had the clearest of memory, a good sense of humour and was a raconteur of note.

He taught at McGill University (Montreal), Carleton University (Ottawa) and at the University of Waterloo. He received many honorary doctorates.

I remember meeting Dr. Forsey in 1970. He was lecturing at the University of Waterloo. We walked along Seagram Drive in Waterloo. His voice was kind of unique and he was quick to respond to questions I posed. We chatted about the Quiet Revolution in Quebec, Maurice Duplessis and the closure of the Liberals' pipeline debate. We

struck up a relationship from then on.

Our next meeting was in Ottawa when I assisted with the first National Youth Parliament of Canada in 1980. University students from across Canada occupied the Senate Chamber for about two weeks proposing and debating bills. The big difference between the regular parliament and the Youth Parliament was that members voted as they wished on the issue regardless of being government or opposition members. Dr. Forsey chatted with the young parliamentarians and explained the fine points of our parliamentary system. The Hon. Stanley Knowles addressed the Youth Parliament on this same occasion.

We became friends and corresponded or spoke on the phone about issues of the day. My last correspondence with Dr. Forsey was on the Senate's actions in thwarting the will of the elected House of Commons. His last correspondence arrived two weeks ago. He sent me two papers he had researched. They were 1) Memorandum on PM's who were not MPs and 2) Ministers brought into the Cabinet from outside Parliament.

To my mind no Canadian has attained the stature and authority of Dr. Forsey when it comes to constitutional issues. He can be considered an icon when we speak of political and constitutional questions. He saw Canada as a great country and it disturbed him tremendously that there are people who would attempt to rend asunder this great country. Dr. Eugene Forsey was truly a man for all seasons.

Kinsmen Clubs battle cystic fibrosis

The Association of Kin Clubs has just announced another record-breaking annual contribution in the fight against cystic fibrosis: \$1.7 million for 1990.

Kinsmen and Kinettes have been devoting time and talent to the CF cause for over 25 years, a partnership which has helped to foster historic advances in CF treatment and research.

Among the more hopeful achievements of the past few years are, the discovery of the gene responsible for cystic fibrosis in August of 1989, and more recently, last September (1990), another genetics breakthrough which resulted when scientists, led by CCF-supported scientists in Canada, constructed a 'normal' version of the CF gene, and introduced it into CF-affected cells, thus correcting the principal defect in CF, under laboratory conditions.

The pace of CF research continues to accelerate, with the announcement in February '91 of a further advance in scientific knowledge of the disease. Building on recent breakthroughs, researchers in Canada have revealed some of the fundamental properties of the CF gene protein, which is a vital step in the development of a cure or control for cystic fibrosis.

Just as remarkable as these major steps toward a cure or control, is the progress which has taken place in the treatment of cystic fibrosis. Since the Kin/CF partnership was first formed, the median age of survival of an individual with CF has risen from four years to the high 20's.

"It is hard to imagine how we could ever have come this far without our Kin friends. They've been by our side every step of the way, and have promised to stay with us till victory is won. We will never be able to thank them enough," said Phil Wall, President of the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Kinsmen and Kinettes rank among Canada's most generous citizens, year after year, providing much-needed assistance in communities across the country. The CCF has been a privileged and grateful beneficiary of Kin good works almost since its inception.

"Kinsmen and Kinettes are extremely proud to have played a role in the successes achieved by Canadian scientists. In 600 Canadian communities, our local clubs are striving to help CF children by setting new standards for fundraising excellence," stated Gordon Charlesworth, President of the Association of Kin Clubs.

Cystic fibrosis is a genetically transmitted, incurable disorder, which affects primarily the lungs and digestive system. While a growing number of persons with CF are living into adulthood, cystic fibrosis continues to take the lives of more Canadian children than any other inherited disease.

The Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation is a Canada-wide, non-profit, health agency incorporated in 1960. The Foundation sponsors an extensive research programme, and its ultimate objective is to discover a cure or control for CF.

VON foot clinic

VON Halton Branch in conjunction with Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital is pleased to announce a Community Foot Care Clinic. The clinic is to be held at the Emergency Department of the hospital starting Tuesday, April 23, 1991 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. The clinic will continue on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the same time and location.

Please call 1-800-387-7127 to

Brampton meeting

The Halton-Peel Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society is meeting March 24 at Brampton's Chinguacousy Library, 150 Central Park Drive, second floor meeting room at 2:00 p.m. Visitors are welcome. This is a workshop meeting. "What we're doing in Genealogy. How? Where? When? Why?" For more information call 877-2803.

make an appointment. The VON Foot Care Clinic previously held at the Georgetown Public Health Department on Main Street will be discontinued as of March 22, 1991. Patients who attended this clinic are welcome to come to this new location for foot care.

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