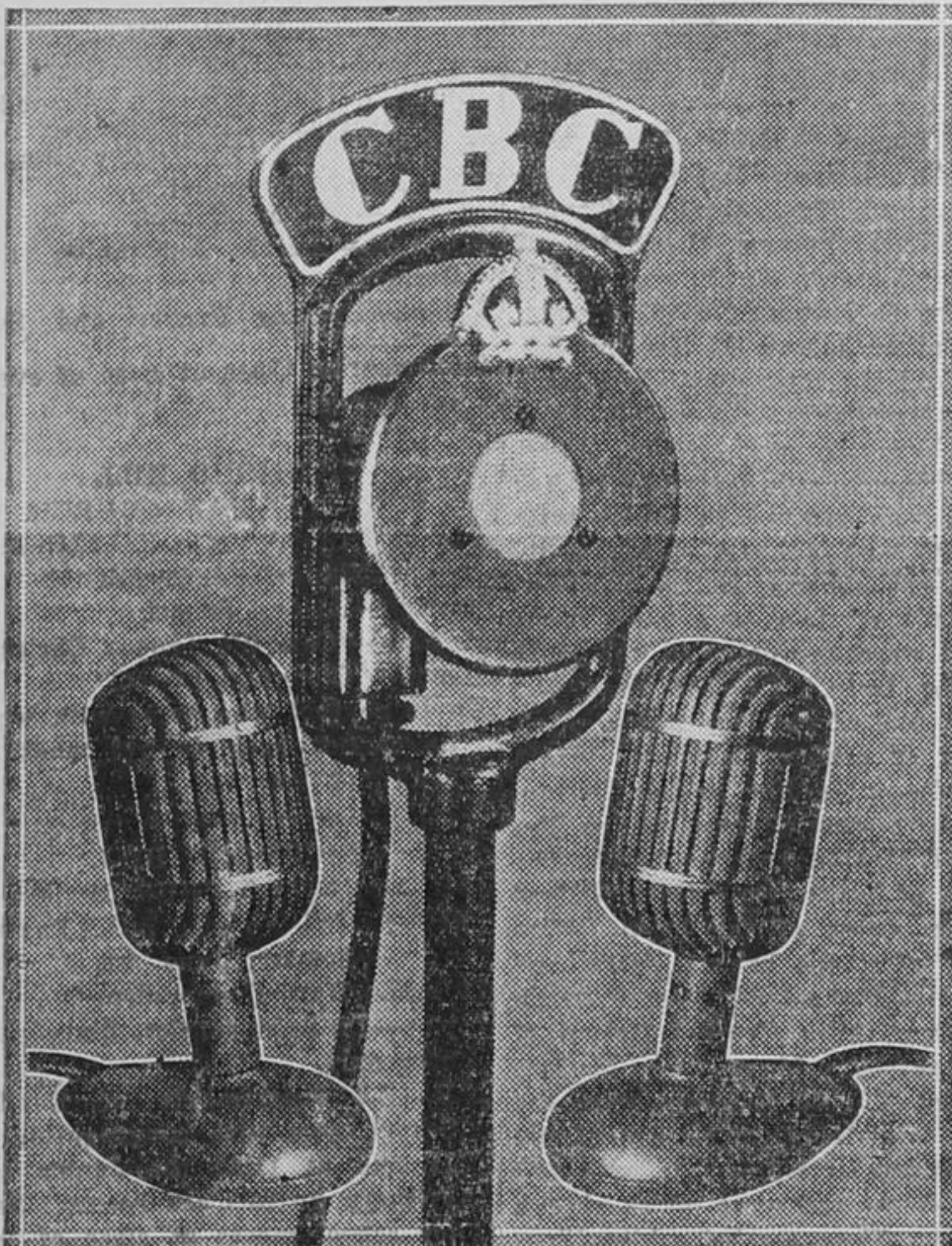


The King's Microphones



THROUGHOUT the Empire the voice of His Majesty during the Royal Visit to Canada will be heard through these microphones. They have been produced by the Northern Electric Company, to the specifications of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. The microphone bearing the Royal Crown is one of many produced for use across Canada during the tour of Their Majesties, and is specially designed for reduction of wind noise for use out-of-doors. The two oval shape microphones are gold plated and of the new Cardioid type which will be used to broadcast His Majesty's message of greeting on arrival at Quebec and on the occasion of the Empire Day Celebrations from Winnipeg.

THE ROYAL VISIT

By S. J. DORNAN, C.W.N.A. REPRESENTATIVE ON THE PRESS PILOT TRAIN

Second Release Covering the Visit of Their Majesties to Ottawa, Toronto and Winnipeg

On Board the Royal Train. Like a burst of thunder, 100,000 people massed on Dominion Square, Montreal, greeted the King and Queen when Their Majesties appeared on the balcony of the Windsor Hotel, prior to entering the banquet room; again after repeated calls were made by the crowd, both the King and Queen left the banquet table to appear on the balcony. Undoubtedly the people of the largest city in Canada took the Royal visitors to their hearts.

Having to leave Windsor Hotel during the time of the banquet, the press party was escorted by a number of the mounted police; no person could move through the immense throngs without the aid of these manly officers of the law. On arrival at the pilot train there was time to file a number of telegraphic messages before the signal, to go, was given.

Late that night the both trains halted at Caledonia Springs for the rest period. Bright and early this writer was around and had a first hand view of the elaborate plans made for the safety and protection of the Royal party; there were members of the R.C.M.P. and a large number of railway officials, attending to every detail; it is at such stops as this that the locomotives of both trains are serviced and cleaned, ready for the trip of the following day.

All along the route to Ottawa, there were numerous small communities and each had its full quota of citizens lined along the railway line. I happened to notice one impressive thing, an aged man was standing in the midst of a field of about twenty acres and he was at the salute. I sincerely hope he was there when the Royal party passed; it was noticeable that many children were trained to bow and salute as the train passed.

Arrival in Ottawa, the capital city of Canada was a stirring event. There were miles of bunting and loyal decoration with the usual cheering crowds. The press party was escorted to the Chateau Laurier, the hotel de luxe of Canadian people, where we made our headquarters during our stay in the city.

The arrival of Their Majesties in this beautiful city was greeted with a salute of 21 guns. The arrival took place at a specially erected platform in a suburb of the city, from whence the triumphal procession commenced.

I had the distinct honor of a place in the Senate Chamber where history was written; here it was that His Majesty sat for the first time on His Canadian Throne and gave royal assent to seven bills, which as a result of this gracious act, has become law. Seated on His Majesty's left, on her Throne, was Our Gracious Queen, dressed in regal grandeur and wearing that charming sweet smile which has already endeared her to the millions of people who have seen her. The Senate Chamber was a most gorgeous scene; it was packed with Senators with their ladies and members of the aristocracy of the capital; the galleries were thronged with a galaxy of color; facing the throne were several members of Their Majesties suite in their full dress uniforms, while the ladies were stunning in their evening attire. Following the formal announcement, the Black Rod retired to the House of Commons and summoned the Member of that House to attend in the Senate Chamber to hear His Gracious Majesty give assent to some bills. There was a huge crowd of the Members packed behind the bar of the chamber. (Members of the House of Commons are not permitted to be on the floor of the Senate Chamber, until; but that's another story).

During the afternoon the members of the press party each received an engraved card from His Excellency, The Governor General, The Lord Tweedsmuir, announcing that by Command of Their Majesties, the press members were to attend a reception at Government House that afternoon. This was the highlight of the trip so far for the writers; lined around a reception room in single file, we awaited the entry of Their Majesties; some wondered what to do, but this fear or dread was soon dispelled when The King, accompanied by the Queen, entered and in a most informal manner walked around the circle and greeted each one present. Her Majesty came first, and

Mr. Walter Thompson, the Chairman of the Press Committee, introduced each one by announcing the name and the paper they represented. When it came this writer's turn, I was designated as Past President of the Canadian Weekly Press and sole representative of almost a thousand weekly newspapers. At this Her Majesty shook hands and said "you have some task"; His Majesty said "wonderful". The impression this writer formed can be put in a very few words. Their Majesties are a wonderful pair; loveable and as natural as one could dream; their handshake was no "milk and water" affair. There was a gentle grasp by The Queen which made one at ease at once, while The King gave a real grasp, as one would expect from their best friend.

The King wore a plain black jacket with striped trousers and his left hand showed a gold ring. The Queen was petite and winsome in a smart afternoon dress of powder blue lace, with small jacket; she wore a four strand pearl necklace, pearl ear rings and white shoes; most important of all she wore and has done so since I first set eyes on her, a charming and winsome smile in her own inimitable way. It is the unanimous opinion of the writers from the United States, that Her Majesty is just the sweetest person they have ever seen or heard of. Both the King and Queen have won the hearts of our American friends and they are assured a rousing welcome when they go south, for their charm and winning personalities have preceded them, by way of the American newspapers.

Saturday, 20th, was observed as The King's Birthday and as such it added splendour to the celebrations in this city of Ottawa. His Majesty attended the Trouping of the Colour while a huge crowd cheered themselves tired. Her Majesty witnessed the celebration from a window in the East Block. Shortly after that The Queen, accompanied by The King, drove to the new Supreme Court where Her Majesty graciously laid the corner stone and delivered an address; this was, I am informed, the first address The Queen has ever made on the radio and her voice would be heard over the world. The weather was ideal for such outdoor events.

At night the Parliamentary Banquet in the Chateau was a magnificent function. All the leaders in political life being honored with invitations; four of the press party received invitations, while another six had observer positions. I was one of the latter and viewed a wonderful showing of the latest in evening wear for both sexes. On the table in front of the seat where Her Majesty was located, sat the huge Gold Bowl, the gift of the Canadian people to Their Majesties. Outside the hotel 75,000 people had gathered to see the King and Queen, for the announcement had been made that they would appear; some one slipped up and Their Majesties were not advised of this public appearance. During the banquet Prime Minister King was advised that the crowd was getting out of hand and he immediately communicated indirectly with the officials and immediately Their Majesties were advised of the crowd awaiting their appearance. They left the banquet room and went on the balcony to be acclaimed with tremendous cheers and the National Anthem; at this time it was pouring rain but nothing daunted the populace.

Early Sunday morning it rained heavily and did not promise a very pleasant day for the Unveiling of the National War Memorial. However as the time approached, "King's Weather" again prevailed and in beautiful sunshine, Their Majesties drove to the Memorial. The crowd around the Memorial and on all available positions within sight, number 200,000, it is claimed. Standing at the edge of the press stand but outside the barrier was a small lad, who eagerly eyed my arm band and official badge. Having lads of my own, I approached and handed him a copy of the official program and he shortly said, "Will you kindly autograph it, sir?" However, I assured him the document would be more valuable without that appendage. His mother took a snapshot of the lad and myself and suggested she would send me a copy if I would give my address. This I gave as "Royal Train, Canada". This is just one of the many human touches I have noticed on this long trip.

On the platform before the train left Ottawa was Mr. S. J. Hungerford, President of the Canadian Na-

tional Railways, and a number of the Directors. They were there to bid an official adieu to Their Majesties.

For many miles out of Ottawa there were crowds along the railway right-of-way and all had a cheer for the train. The Royal Train, I am informed, was given a splendid send-off. Arrival at Kingston, we had five minutes to view the arrival of Their Majesties before the Pilot train had to move on. This old and charming city had most elaborate arrangements made for the reception but owing to the unavoidable delay on the Atlantic, Kingston had to have its program revised. The restricted plans called for thirty-five minutes' drive, following the presentation of certain citizens. Here, by the way, there was an amusing situation, amusing to me but not to those who were effected; whoever was to make the presentations after His Worship the Mayor and his wife had been presented, failed to do their job and my, oh my, there were some red faces. Kingston stole a march on all the rest of Canada for they detained Their Majesties one hour longer than had been planned, with the result the Pilot train was halted in order to keep "the block". On the outskirts of Cobourg the both trains were sidetracked for the night, and one minute after the pilot train was stopped, I tested the train telephone and called my good friend, Clarence Charters, at Brampton, to consult with him.

Arriving in Toronto, the Queen City, the reception was yet another triumphal entry of Canada's King and Queen, to one of the principal cities of the Dominion, and the welcome was a real emotional affair. The press separated on arrival, some going to the City Hall. I was assigned to the Parliament Buildings, there to a reserved seat over but to the right of the two Throne chairs. I had a splendid view of this historic occasion and enjoyed having many distinguished citizens of the province pointed out to me, as they occupied reserved seats on the floor of the Chamber. The proceedings in the Chamber were very dignified but loyal Ontario citizens, for there were many from out of the city of Toronto, cast dignity aside and a wild burst of applause greeted their beloved Sovereigns.

The Dionne Quintuplets, who had been enjoying a private presentation to Their Majesties, were brought through the Legislative Chamber and all those present enjoyed a very lovely sight. I do not care to enlarge on this story of the Quints as it will be played up by the daily writers. Hart House Luncheon was another glorious function. This writer was honored with an invitation to this event, also to Woodbine Park for the running of the King's Plate Race. H. E. Rice, Vice-president of the C.W.N.A., and Mrs. Rice, also represented the Ontario Weeklies at the Hart House luncheon.

Another history making day is about to end. Shortly Their Majesties will be given a loyal send-off by Toronto, the city of beauty with a grand future.

By the way I am in pullman car "Bowmanville" which daily reminds me of my dear friend, Geo. James, our Immediate Past President.

After leaving Toronto we were all deeply impressed with a huge crowd gathered at Midhurst; here it was estimated that 5,000 autos could be seen and the people went wild with delight; there was a profusion of decorations.

Regarding the Woodbine function where a very disappointing crowd, as far as size, saw the horse of George McCullagh win; there was much regret and decided expression given by the crowd that the jockey was not presented to His Majesty. The crowd yelled "take the jockey up, take the jockey up" but the gallant jockey was not presented and it was certainly his handling of the horse which brought it in first.

Personal tit-bits. His Majesty attends to matters of state while on the Royal train between stops; Her Majesty spends much time reading and in conversation with her Ladies in Waiting; presumably on matters of dress etc. Their Majesties have expressed a command that the Royal train be slowed up at every place where the engineer of the locomotive sees a large gathering of citizens; this is communicated to the King by a bell in his car which is attached to a button in the locomotive.

There has been a tremendous demand upon the occupants of the

Pilot train for letters from the train; this is due to the fact all letters bear the postmark which is composed of the Royal Standard with the words "Royal Train"; I have mailed about a dozen each day so far.

We are in daily contact with the outside world by means of the radio.

Winnipeg citizens augmented by 200,000 from outside the city, many of them from the United States, gave Their Majesties a real western acclaim; the rain which had been falling all the morning did not appear to dampen the enthusiasm. It was noticeable that His Worship Mayor Queen was the only one of the city fathers to wear a silk hat the rest of the Aldermen wore the regular head wear. The singing of several massed choirs of children in this city left a deep impression on Their Majesties. In fact the first western city to greet the Sovereign did it in a manner which was colossal.

Have just returned to train after driving in Royal procession for 2 1/2 hours amid wild display of loyalty. All records of cheering have been broken in Winnipeg.

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