

# A YANKEE IN THE QUEEN'S COURT

THE UNIVERSITY RIGHT

by Joseph M.J. Sanlei

Over the head of every Canadian there hangs the pitiful remnants of an archaic structure, despotic by nature, and which presumes that some people are born better than ourselves and our families. Just what is this structure which dares to presume such a thing? It is none other than the "beloved" monarchy. That innocent face appearing upon every bill and coin in the realm, hides but another more sinister face - the face of human idolatry, whose creed proclaims the inequality of man and the rights of some to reign, even if not to rule.

Monarchy, even that tempered by a constitution, has not changed since the days before the glorious Republican revolutions of the United States (1776) and France (1789) when Thomas Paine (who wished no higher title than "citizen" bestowed upon his name) wrote in Common Sense: "To the evil of Monarchy we

have added that of hereditary succession; and as the first is a degradation and lessening of ourselves, so the second, claimed as a matter of right, is an insult and an imposition on posterity. For all men being originally equals no one by birth could have a right to set up his own family in perpetual preference to all others for ever..." More than 200 years after this was written, posterity still bears the brunt of this superstitious structure, this monument to the ignorance of humanity: We may still observe our fellows (and perhaps ourselves as well) bowing (genuflecting?) to a fellow human being, not for the greatness of any deed that individual had performed for humankind, but rather because the ancestor of the man or woman of "royal" title was more brutal and barbaric than others and thus grabbed more power for himself, over the murdered bodies of others.

On top of foolishness, we then add stupidity - the monarch and family are paid richly for absolutely no work of significance (at least none that a private citizen could not equally perform) and live free of charge in not one but several palaces. Thus the "royal" family is but the highest of welfare recipients, but unlike others on state aid, we do not degrade the monarch, but actually honor her! "It requires some talents to be a common mechanic; but to be a king requires only the animal figure of man - a sort of breathing automaton. This sort of superstition may last a few years more, but it cannot long resist the awakened reason and interest of man." (Rights of Man, T. Paine)

Do not misunderstand my position. I wish to see no harm come to Elizabeth Windsor (whom the crown worshippers call "Queen Eliz.") or her family. I merely contend that she, and they, should become private citizens. If I wish to preserve the ceremonial offices of king and queen, for ritual's sake, then why not elect a man and a woman who, by their exemplary lives, served humanity in a manner worthy of the honor of a people's crown. To be fair, this elected "monarch" should be selected

from any of the member-states of the Commonwealth of Nations. For example, I nominate Mother Theresa of Calcutta, whose nobility far exceeds that of any of the so-called aristocracy occupying, or in line for, the throne at present. Thus for the very first time in the bloodstained history of kings and queens, the least barbaric shall reign and sovereignty shall be of the People, who freely choose upon whose head a crown shall rest.

Unless the monarchy be altered in the manner described above, and I don't foresee that it shall, then the whole damn institution should be scrapped, having no place in a nation (or nations) of FREE PEOPLE. Monarchy, it is argued, is a connection to a nation's history - but are not the people, who comprise the nation, the greatest connection with history themselves? History is a people, it is their heart and their soul, and belongs to no crowned imposter.

Let the only offices be elective, and the only titles be earned, and the only honors be bestowed for work well done! Never again may it be uttered in any corner of the earth: "long live the King (Queen)" but rather: "Eternally live the People!!"

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