

# New Judge

The Honourable Mr. Justice Allan McEachern

Chief Justice of the  
Supreme Court of British Columbia

Chief Justice McEachern has left the Bar but to the extent possible he will remain one of us. Since his call to the Bar, he has lived in the courts. Within the recollection of his partners, he has never been known to draw a will, incorporate a company or sully his hands with a deed poll. Not a man for all seisins. There are very few, if any, courtrooms in this province where Allan McEachern has not expounded the law with a total dedication and earned the respect of the presiding judge and his colleagues at the Bar. A study of his career will reward younger members of the profession.

He is a man without frills. His approach is the direct approach. There is nothing of the pedant in him. He prefers good English to bad Latin. He goes directly to the point and discards peripheral arguments. He has an enormous capacity for work and has kept a retinue of aspiring barristers fully occupied, as he dashed from courtroom to courtroom, frequently leaving in his wake flattened opponents. And with it all, an ever-present smile and an inborn courtesy. These qualities, essentially those of simplicity and sincerity, are devastating in a courtroom. The righteousness of the speaker's cause reverberates throughout the courtroom and seeps under the door into the juryroom.

But don't go away. There is more. It is a source of wonderment to his friends and colleagues that the Chief Justice has gone through life without a smoke or a drink and remained so resolutely cheerful. Perhaps he accepts, as Winston Churchill said of Mr. Diefenbaker, that he is only harming himself. When asked by the writer, His Lordship presented the following biographical material. He was personally present at his own birth in Vancouver on May 20, 1926 and, except for brief interludes at Penticton Public School, went through grades one to twelve at Langara Public School, Kitsilano Junior High School and Lord Byng High School whence he graduated in 1944 after only one brief expulsion on a joint charge with Phil Shier; entered U.B.C. in 1944 (English and History); Faculty of Law, 1947. At the Law School he joined and remained uncorrupted by Harry Rankin, Seaton, J.A., Collier, J., Meredith, J., Hutcheon, J. Trainor, J., Wetmore, C.C.J., Hinds, C.C.J., Minister of Labour Williams, Benchers McLoughlin, Severeid, Hogarth, Cox and other notables.

He joined Russell & DuMoulin as a student during Law School vacations and after graduation as an articled student. His Lordship was called to the Bar before Manson, J. in May 1951 and remained with Russell & DuMoulin until December 31, 1978.

His athletic activities included competitive swimming for Percy Nor-

man 1941-42, high diving, skating, sailing and in particular rugby. In 1953 His Lordship was a founder of the Kats Rugby Club and was President for 15 years during which the club won 13 provincial championships for which he was rewarded with a broken leg. In 1971 he became director of the B.C. Lions Football Club; 1964 President of Western Football Conference; 1967-69 President of B.C. Lions; 1967-68 President and Commissioner, Canadian Football League; 1969 President, Canadian Football League.

His Lordship was elected Bencher in 1971 and at date of his appointment was Senior Bencher of the Law Society of B.C.

His Lordship has served on the Executive of the Vancouver Bar Association and the council of the B.C. Branch of the Canadian Bar Association; 1975-79 Director and Chairman, Legal Aid Society.

His Lordship was married in 1953 to Gloria, and they have two daughters, Jean and Joanne. A fine family.

When asked to comment on his appointment, His Lordship stated that he owes his success to:

- (a) an understanding family
- (b) two loyal secretaries, Kae Mulvaney and Barbara Taylor
- (c) two good dogs
- (d) thirty understanding partners.

It is with regret that the writer reports His Lordship's failure as a poet. His poetic contributions to this publication have evoked emotions best left undescribed.

D. McK. B.



## KER & KER LTD.

Real Estate — Appraisals

- VALUATION DAY
- EXPROPRIATION
- ESTATE
- MARKET VALUE
- ARBITRATION
- EXPERT WITNESS

2021 W. 41st Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V6M 7Y7 Phone 266-7151

3 GENERATIONS OF SERVICE



Enjoy a holiday — or hold a meeting — at either Village Green Inn at Duncan or Vernon. Excellent accommodation. Indoor-outdoor pool, tennis, other fun facilities. HY's Steak House. Special package plans — including skiing at Silver Star in season.

For brochures, rates:

### Village Green Inns

# 603-1550 Alberni Street, Vancouver, B.C.  
V6G 1A5

Telephone: (604) 682-8484 Telex: 04-508880