

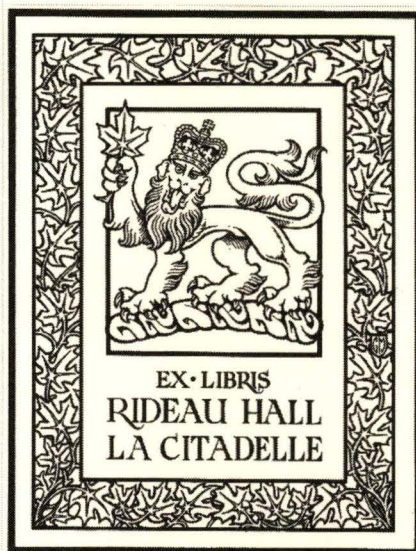
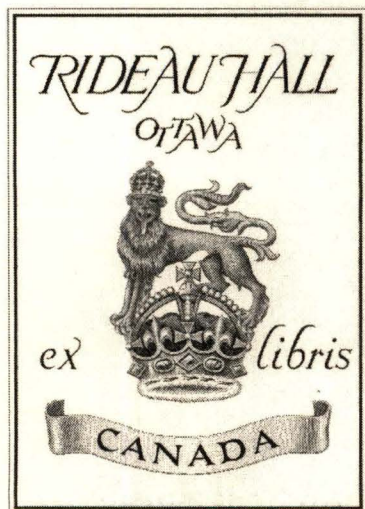
## ALCIUN RECEIVES ROYAL PATRONAGE

**T**HIS PAST SUMMER, we were extremely pleased to receive notice from Rideau Hall that the Governor General of Canada, her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, agreed to accept our invitation to become Patron of the Alcuin Society. Through the annual Governor General's Literary Awards and innumerable other cultural events, the Queen's representative has historically displayed a profound dedication to the arts in Canada. We are pleased to add the Society's aim of promoting the range of book arts, our ongoing public education events, and our annual national book design awards to the Governor General's already extensive endeavours to promote arts and culture in the country. We are also grateful to the members of her staff who helped contribute a few insights to the library at Rideau Hall to this issue, and donated copies of the two Rideau Hall bookplates to the collection at the University of British Columbia, Rare Books and Special Collections, over which our Ex Libris editor Ralph Stanton presides.

HOWARD GREAVES, CHAIR, ALCUIN SOCIETY

### EX LIBRIS

THE FIRST, AND older, of these two bookplates (below) identifies the books in the Library of Rideau Hall, the Ottawa residence of Canada's Governor General. The second (right) is the one currently used in books of Rideau Hall and La Citadelle, the historic residence in Québec City. Both use versions of the crest of the Arms of Canada. Both are printed using black ink, so this symbol of the sovereignty of Canada is not seen in its coloured version. The second plate uses the crest from the Governor General's flag, approved for use by Her Majesty the Queen on February 23, 1981, where the crest consists of a gold lion wearing the Royal Crown and holding in its right paw a red maple leaf. The lion stands on a wreath of the official colours of Canada, red and white.



The first plate is printed on beige paper with a glued back while the second comes with a peel and stick feature like our current postage stamps and is printed on white paper. The lion in the first plate stands calmly on his crown with only his lashing tail and right rear leg letting you know he is capable of acting. The more recent lion appears more vigorous as he holds aloft the maple leaf and looks out from his frame surrounded by more maple leaves in their own double frame. Both plates are appropriate to the task and stay within the tradition of using only black ink for armorial bookplates. Therefore, how the second plate would look if it used the stunning colours of the Governor General's flag can only be imagined. It is good to know the tradition of the bookplate is alive and well in Ottawa and Quebec City.