

# WHAT CANADIANS HAVE ACHIEVED IN LITERATURE

Sixteen Canadian Writers Have  
Been Crowned by the  
French Academy of  
Letters

BEST ANIMAL STORIES

Oldest Living Canadian Poet  
Now a Resident of This  
City; A Center for  
Authors

No less than sixteen Canadian writers have been crowned by the French academy, since 1880, when Louis Fréchette won the Montyon prize of 19,000 francs. Mrs. Francis Reeve, addressing the pupils and teachers of Crescent Heights High school, in connection with the book-week program yesterday, stressed this little known fact to the glory of Canadian writers.

"If such honor were bestowed upon Americans," said Mrs. Reeve, "it would be proclaimed the length and breadth of the United States, and wherever the American tongue could chant the tale of her talented sons."

Although confining her fifteen minute address mainly to present day living Canadian authors, she began by pointing out that Canada possesses a remarkable literary history which goes back quite three centuries. Our bibliography, in fact, opened in 1604 with a book of poems by Marc Lescaibots, inspired by and dedicated to the then new colony of Port Royal—Annapolis in Nova Scotia.

"To the French," said Mrs. Reeve, "we owe the traditions we have. The names of Charlevoix, Beaubien, Ferland, Caillon, and de Gaspé, besides many others, stand out. The last Canadian to be crowned by that supreme literary tribunal, the French Academy, was Henry D'Arles, who revised and published Edouard Richer's 'Arcadie.'"

"The Golden Dog."

Mrs. Reeve defined William Kirby's "Golden Dog" as a Canadian classic. "Can you conceive," she asked, "of any more romantic or thrilling background than old Quebec, with its seigneurs, Indians, gentleman adventurers, priests and sisters of mercy, and the stream of people from all parts of the world trickling into the new land?"

Before turning to the new writers she called attention to the recent republication of Major John Richardson's "Wacousta." This book created a furore in London while Thackeray was a boy and Dickens still alive.

Founder of American Humor

She also recalled the fact that our own Halliburton, author of "The Sayings of Sam Slick," founded the school of American humor.

Writers of Our Own Time

"Coming to the writers of our own time," she said, "Louis Hémon, though born in France, was saturated with the lore and the history of his adopted Canada. His 'Maria Chapdelaine' is a classic. It is as beautiful as a spring morning. It is as pure a piece of literary work as 'Marie Claire,' a book which a few years ago deeply stirred the literary world, and the author of which was a humble little seamstress of Paris. Louis Hémon also earned his living in a mean capacity. He was a laborer on an Ontario farm, and while walking from one farm to another, he was run over by a train. He was buried as a tramp. "Marjorie Pickthall attained fame

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RS LIFE

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ONTARIO, CANADA.

Calgary.

years of age. Married

TODAY'S  
CALENDAR

Y.W.C.A., chicken pattie tea, Parkers', 8 p.m.

Armistice chapter I.O.O.F., bazaar Capitol tea rooms.

L.A. to A.C.T., tea, card party, H. B. S., 8 p.m.

Cercle Franco-Anglais, dance, Sandstone hall, 9 p.m.

Scarboro Avenue L.A., bazaar, 235 Eighth avenue west.

Crescent Heights Horticultural society, whist drive, Robinson and Linton hall, 9 p.m.

Class No. 23, National Presbyterian S.S., sale, 704 Center street.

Lend-a-Hand Society, rummage sale, vacant store opposite city hall market, 8 a.m.

Smart Set club, dance, Penley Academy, 9 p.m.

N. End Community club, dance, 8.15 p.m.

and recognition only a few years before her untimely death.

"Canada's poets make a slender but a rare list. I put Wilson MacDonald first, because I consider him the most interesting and versatile of the poets and one of the greatest, also because he is the only Canadian poet living in Canada, who makes his living purely from his poems. He does not write saccharine verse. He may be said to be the only satirist among Canadian poets. He possesses somewhat of the same dramatic fire of the English poet, Massfield, and in some of his songs, we hear the pure, lark-like notes of a Keats or a Shelley. He is also a composer of unique distinction. I had the pleasure of hearing him sing and play his opera, 'In Sunny France,' and have never heard a wittier or more delicious musical comedy. Both words and music were written and composed by Mr. MacDonald. I have not the slightest doubt that some day his opera will set the world a-laughing and a-humming its irresistible lyrics and songs.

"Tom MacInnes is a western poet of significance. His most distinguished work is 'The Fool of Joy.'

"Kathryn Hale's verses are airy and fragile, errant wisps of fancy, dainty as a breath of perfume.

"Dr. Robert Norwood, at present of Philadelphia, but wholly Canadian, has written poetical dramas of rare charm and beauty.

"Bliss Carman, poet laureate of Canada, has lived to see the day of a popular recognition of his genius.

The Oldest Poet in Canada

"Calgary is the home of the oldest and one of the greatest poets of Canada, Charles Mair, whose poem 'Tecomseh' you all know in High School readers.

Perfect Animal Stories

"Among authors Sir Gilbert Parker has an international reputation. His 'Seats of the Mighty' has the elements of greatness in it.

"The three most perfect writers of animal stories in the world are Canadians, Charles G. D. Roberts, Ernest Seton Thompson, and Marshall Saunders, author of 'Beautiful Joe.' Oliver Curwood also writes stirring stories in which animals play a leading part. Whenever I see one of his preposterous ice and snow laden moving pictures of Canada, I question whether he can be really a Canadian. I believe he was born in the United States, though he writes of Canada, and he can tell a rattling good yarn.

"Basil King is one of the finest writers Canada has produced. He has a long list of splendid novels to his credit. My favorite has always been 'The Wild Olive.'

Members of a Calgary Family

"Arthur Stringer is both poet and author. He is versatile and clever. Periodically he migrates back to Canada. He leaves Canada because of the hard conditions under which the Canadian author must work. He leaves the U.S. because of the overwhelming nostalgia and homesickness that drives him back to his native land. Even when living in the States he is everlastingly slipping across into Canada, and a series of such visitations from Arthur Stringer usually precedes a prolonged return to the harsh but loved home sod.

"Jules Tremblay, poet, novelist, essayist and critic, recently published a fascinating brochure on Canadian Literature of French Expression. Mr. Tremblay is the National secretary of the Canadian Authors' association. He has written several novels and volumes of poems, but most of them are in the French language.

"Frederick William Wallace has written splendid sea stories. 'Wooden Ships and Iron Men,' 'Blue Water,' 'The Viking Blood,' 'Salt Seas and Sailormen.' These are some of the titles by the foremost writer of sea stories in Canada.

Favorite Woman Authors

"Of course we all have our personal preferences in books. If I were asked to name the woman author of Canada whose work I admire most, I would be inclined to say Mazo de la Roche, who wrote 'Explorers of the Dawn,' a thing as charming as Kenneth Grahame's 'Golden Days.' But after hav-

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dependable cough medicine. Easy-  
ly prepared, and saves about \$2.

If you have a severe cough or chest  
cold accompanied with soreness,  
throat tickle, hoarseness, or difficult  
breathing, or if your child wakes up  
during the night with croup and you  
want quick help try this reliable old  
home-made cough remedy. Any drug-  
gist can supply you with 2½ ounces  
of Pinex. Pour this into a 16-oz.  
bottle and fill the bottle with plain  
granulated sugar syrup. Or you can  
use clarified molasses, honey, or corn  
syrup, instead of sugar syrup, if de-  
sired. This recipe makes 16 ounces  
of really remarkable cough remedy.  
It tastes good, and in spite of its  
low cost, it can be depended upon to  
give quick and lasting relief.

You can feel this take hold of a  
cough in a way that means business.  
It loosens and raises the phlegm,  
stops throat tickle and soothes and  
heals the irritated membranes that  
line the throat and bronchial tubes  
with such promptness, ease and cer-  
tainty that it is really astonishing.

Pinex is a special and highly con-  
centrated compound of genuine Nor-  
way pine extract, and is probably  
the best known means of overcoming  
severe coughs, throat and chest colds.

There are many worthless imita-  
tions of this mixture. To avoid dis-  
appointment, ask for "2½ ounces of  
Pinex" with full directions and don't  
accept anything else. Guaranteed to  
give absolute satisfaction or money  
promptly refunded. The Pinex Co.,  
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Mother Happy

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A Mother this year, give  
her something that will  
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much easier.

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Range equipped with the

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OVEN HEAT REGULATOR

all she has to do is to place in the  
oven the food to be baked (a fruit  
cake, for instance) turn the Lorain  
Temperature Wheel to the proper  
degree of heat, light the burner and  
go away. While the food is being  
deliciously cooked with certainty  
of perfect results, she can rest, or  
read, or visit with friends.

The Lorain Oven Heat Regulator  
also makes it possible to cook a  
Whole Meal in the oven at one time  
—unwatched—with perfect results.  
Also, the canning of fruits and  
vegetables in the oven by the easy  
and approved sterilization process.

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the thing to make Mother happy  
every day in the year. Come in  
Today and ask for a demonstration.

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Gas Ranges

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A COAL HOD AND  
SHOVEL 98¢

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strong black iron Coal Hod, and  
a small Steel Fire Shovel, of a  
handy size.

Third Floor

ing mentioned Mazo de la Roche, I would swiftly add, L. Adam Beck, a lady who resides in Vancouver, and who writes beautifully. I have read only two of her books: 'The Ninth Vibration' and 'The Key of Dreams.' Also I should put in my little gallery Laura Goodman Salverson, whose novel 'The Viking Heart,' is a great work.

"Emily of New Moon" is a delightful book by L. M. Montgomery.

Popular Men

"Murray Gibbon has written some stories of our Canadian Rockies. Hopkins Moorehouse, the author of 'Deep Furrows,' the story of the Canadian Grain Growers, is a born storyteller. Arthur Heming is both artist and author. His unusual stories of outdoor life have brought him deserved fame. The author of 'D'Arcy Conyers' is Canon Bertal Heeney, incumbent at St. Luke's, in Winnipeg. His writing has made him many friends, and his charming personality has greatly added to his popularity. W. A. Fraser is another one of our popular novelists. Born in Nova Scotia he has lived a great part of his life in India and most of his stories are laid in that land. Archie P. McKishnie should have been included in the three premier writers of animal stories. Mr. McKishnie is a great writer on the subject of wild life of today. He has made an intimate study of the creatures of which he writes. The McKishnies are a very well known literary family, Jean Blewett, the well-beloved Canadian authoress, being a sister of Mr. McKishnie.

Unsuspected Numbers in Calgary

"Now my time is too limited to give you the names of all the Canadian poets and authors who are worth your reading, but before I close, I believe it will especially interest you if I tell you a little about the authors who are resident here in Calgary. Now, there are far more authors here than you would suspect. Not all of them have written books, but many of them are, nevertheless, writers of ability and great talent. I will tell you about the ones, however, who have achieved publication between covers.

Admiral Como, whose articles on world questions appear from time to time, has written several books on scientific and technical subjects. He is a rancher at Shepherd, and made a great naval record during the late war. I never saw so many medals and decorations in my life as Admiral Como possesses.

"J. W. Davidson, whom Calgarians know chiefly as 'High Mucky Muck' of Rotarians is well known as a writer of travel articles and articles on Arctic exploration. Mr. Davidson was one

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for 250,000 words. Refills  
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Genuine Tung

NITROGEN  
FILLED  
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A pure white light, long  
stem, and clear globe.

75 watt, reg. 80c.  
Special ..... 65¢  
100 watt, reg. \$1.00.  
Special ..... 79¢

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"Ralph Kendal is typical of this  
country. He might be one of the char-  
acters from his own stirring tales. You  
could not read any book that would  
give you more pride and delight in  
'his part of the country in which you  
live than Kendal's mounted police  
stories; 'Benton of the Mounted,' and  
'The Luck of the Mounted.' There have  
been many imitators of Kendal, and  
in the movies they have used his char-  
acters bodily in the other fellow's  
yarns, but Kendal's work has a place  
of its own.

"John M. Williams has written sev-  
eral of the most interesting books on  
music, used as text books. No doubt  
many of you are studying from them.  
When you sit down to the piano, it  
may not occur to you to look at the  
first page and discover the author of  
the book.

"Mrs. Elaine Catley, whose poems  
are now eagerly looked for, has had a  
book of poems published in London.

"Mrs. C. B. Waagen is better known  
for her unselfish work with the Red  
Cross, of which she is president. How-  
ever, Mrs. Waagen besides being a  
book lover, has also written several  
stories, and her novel, 'The Wayside  
Cross' is due for publication this sea-  
son.

"Sir James Outram is the author  
of important books on Alpine sub-  
jects. All of you who love the moun-  
tains should read them.

"Among the Calgary authors is Mrs.  
Nellie McClung, whose name is a  
household word.

"I would have liked also to mention  
the few—the very few dramatists we  
have in Canada, but I have not the  
time. However I cannot close with-  
out saying that I consider Merrill Den-  
nison, author of a volume of short  
one-act plays, entitled 'The Unheroic  
North,' a unique genius. Wilson Mc-  
Donald made the comment that he has  
the most original mind of any of the  
younger writers of the east.

—o—

NO PRESIDENT YET

The presidency of the Women's  
Canadian club remains vacant, await-  
ing the arrival of Mrs. F. W. Stock-  
ton from the coast. Mrs. Stockton has  
been delayed by the necessity of hav-  
ing a minor operation performed be-  
fore returning west. The retiring pre-  
sident, Mrs. D. A. Bruce, and nomi-  
nating committee of the club, hopes she  
will feel able to take over the position  
on her return, and state they will wait  
until the end of January, if necessary,  
for her acceptance.