

# The Gazette

1939

MONTREAL, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20,

## FRECHETTE LAUDED ON HIS CENTENARY

French-Canadian Poet Is  
Memorialized at Large  
Meeting Here

### MONUMENT SUGGESTED

Paul Le Duc Would Place  
Memorial in Front of U. of M.  
Building on Mount  
Royal

Marking the 100th anniversary of the birth of Louis Frechette, French-Canada's outstanding poet who won fame in his native land, in France and in the United States, more than 2,000 men and women gathered at the Windsor Hotel yesterday afternoon when Mrs. Honore Mercier, daughter of the poet, presented two of her father's manuscripts to the Quebec Government.

The manuscripts, were accepted by Hon. Henri Groulx, Provincial Treasurer, who represented Premier Adelard Godbout; they will be deposited in the Government archives in Quebec City where Frechette lived for many years.

Senator Raoul Dandurand, Government Leader in the Senate, who was a friend and associate of Frechette, recalled some amusing anecdotes of their early relations and described the reverence in which Frechette's name was held by the literary elite of France.

The story of Frechette's life, from his birth in Levis, Quebec, in 1839 to his death here in Montreal in 1908, his struggles, the different moods which characterized his work, his successes and failures, were related by Paul Le Duc.

Maxime Raymond, M.P. for Beauharnois-Chateauguy, who was the first speaker at the ceremony, congratulated the members of the Canadian Alliances for Women's Vote in Quebec on their initiative in sponsoring the demonstration to mark the centenary of the poet's birth.

It was a tribute to the women of Quebec, said Mr. Raymond, that in spite of the fact that the whole world was disturbed by the war which was in progress in Europe and when the women here were on the verge of winning a long and hard struggle for the franchise, that they should be the ones who remembered and honored the memory of "Canada's greatest patriot, poet and man of letters."