

# Founding Of U. N. B. Sir Howard Douglas

The history of the University of New Brunswick is an interesting one and its record can be traced through four stages. These stages, which cannot be distinctly separated, are:

1. The Academy of Liberal Arts and Sciences.
2. The College of New Brunswick.
3. King's College, Fredericton.
4. The University of New Brunswick.

It is to the Loyalist Settlers who came to this Province in 1783 that we owe the credit for establishing of this University. And it was that Loyalist wife of William Faine, who wanted her children properly educated, who set the wheels in motion. A petition, bearing the date December 13, 1785 and seven signatures was presented to Governor Thomas Carleton urging "the establishment in the infant province of an academy of liberal arts and sciences."

Governor Carleton was interested in the institution. He obtained a grant of two thousand acres of land and he urged the Legislative Assembly to grant a sum of \$200 annually.

Teaching was carried on after 1785 first in a cottage on what is now University Avenue, and in 1793 in a building opposite the present Cathedral on Brunswick street. Up until this time the Academy had operated under a "draft" charter and it was not until February 12, 1800, that the actual granting of the Charter took place and the Academy became the College of New Brunswick. However, the Academy, continued to operate in conjunction with the college and was later known as the Collegiate School.

In 1811 Rev. James Somerville was appointed Preceptor and on March 20, 1820, he was appointed the first and only President of the College of New Brunswick.

In 1825, the new Governor, Sir Howard Douglas, announced that the British government had authorized a sum of £1000 a year upon the condition that the Provincial Legislature would do the same. And at the same time £500 were appropriated to establish a library.

The next on the development of the institution was the erection of a suitable building. This building, built on the plans of J. E. Woolforde, was completed in December 1828. On New Year's Day, 1829, King's College was formally opened under the Royal Charter of December 1828. Dr. Somerville presided and Sir Howard Douglas was installed as chancellor.

In memory of this great occasion

the Governor established the medal which bears his name, the Douglas Gold Medal, "as a perpetual token of his regard and good wishes." During the course of his address Sir Howard said:

"Firm may this institution ever stand and flourish, firm in the liberal constitution and Royal foundation on which I have this day instituted it—enlarging and extending its material from and all its capacity to do good, to meet the increasing demands of a rising, prosperous and intellectual people; and may it soon acquire and ever maintain a high and distinguished reputation as a place of general learning and useful knowledge."

Even after such an auspicious beginning, dissatisfaction soon arose and in 1847 the charter of King's College was amended, but it still stipulated that Chapel, according to the rites of the Church of England, must be held. It was complained that over a sixteen year period only ninety-eight students had matriculated and forty-four had graduated, at a cost of £480 to the province for every matriculated student of the Anglican faith.

Finally, in 1859, an act was passed by the Assembly forming the ground work for the University of New Brunswick. The Royal Charter for King's College was surrendered and in 1860 Her Majesty approved "an Act to establish the University of New Brunswick."

There are many historical facts of interest connected with the University. In 1793 Carleton asked that the instrument used in establishing the boundary line between Maine and New Brunswick be given to the institution. Part of this instrument still remains in the University.

It is also interesting to note that the college could not cut the white pine trees growing on its land, since these were reserved for the exclusive use of the Royal Navy, as spars and masts and in return for the land, the Governor and Trustees of the college of New Brunswick were compelled to pay an annual quit rent of one farthing per hundred acres.

The first known alumnus to give his life for his country in military service was John Shore Saunders, B. A., 1836, who was killed in the battle of Chillianwalla, Punjab, in 1849.

We admire, respect and value the efforts of those who have founded our University of New Brunswick on so firm a base. We have a heritage to be proud of. May we ever honor it.



A Contributor To The Ideals Of The University Of New Brunswick

Sir Howard Douglas came to New Brunswick in 1824 as Lieutenant-Governor. He took a deep interest in the affairs of the province, particularly in education. At the time of his arrival, the College of New Brunswick was not in a very flourishing state and its governors were anxious to obtain a royal charter in order to reestablish the college on a firm basis with the aid of an endowment from the crown.

Sir Howard Douglas appreciated this need and determined to help the governors in obtaining a royal charter. Among those who were anxious to obtain this charter were men who believed that the new college should be an institution in close connection with the Church of England—with an Anglican theological chair and with professors and governors who were members of the Anglican Church.

Sir Howard Douglas, however, realized that there were people of different religious denominations in New Brunswick who would not be willing to lend their support to such an institution nor send their sons to it. He, therefore, wrote many long and interesting letters to England, explaining to the authorities there why the college would have to be open to students of all denominations with no requirements that they sign the 39 Articles of the Church of England, either at matriculation or at graduation.

Douglas's correspondence records the opposition he had to face in order to gain these concessions. Douglas himself was an Anglican. He was familiar with the universities of Oxford and Cambridge where degrees were granted to Church of England members only. He must therefore be given credit for his endeavors to obtain a charter for the college of New Brunswick which was comparatively liberal.

In 1829, however, Sir Howard Douglas was expressing hopes that the college might flourish as it was then constituted. He was the first chancellor of King's College and presided at the opening ceremonies on January 1, 1829, when a group of interested spectators gathered in the Arts building which had just been completed.



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### READING RUMORS

by "Mardie" Long

The Beavers think they surprised us by tying our Co-Ed Basketeers in the recent unique fixture; and we were surprised to find we could stay within sight of their score at all; so everyone in general was surprised—especially the lookers-on, when the Beavers appeared in warm-up pyjamas and turbans. Great game, great fun, great party. Great Caesar! Beer! Hic? Thanks felias.

Several of the Reading Roomers are considering a quick switch in courses—contemplating theology—after the illuminating results of recent personality tests. Others are contemplating suicide.

Congrats to the Mt. A. Co-Ed Basketeers. Yea verily, they hadst given it to us—and how! In a game known amongst us as "Ritchie's Field Day" we were "taken" (apart) 26-9. The return game is to be played this Friday night at U. N. B.

Arrangements for Co-Ed Week have been pretty well outlined—Church night, show night, bridge night, sports night, Boxing Tournament, wolverine night, dance night are how things stand at present—Charlotte VanDine is to be Co-Ed Editor-in-Chief of the Brunswickan this year. (MT. A. PLEASE NOTE:

Douglas's name then will ever be included among those who have contributed to the liberalizing ideals for which the University of New Brunswick stands. With respect to the medal, it seems a pity that there is usually so little competition for this symbol of Douglas's personal generosity and interest in the college. Moreover the medal is a rather beautiful one and should be of historical significance and value to any student graduating from this university.

"A mathematical problem:— Given the number of a Fredericton policeman and the length of his beat—to find his area."

U. N. B. Co-eds have been putting out their "special" edition of the Brunswickan during Co-Ed week for many years past. How about that "we are the only ones who publish a co-ed edition of our college paper" in your co-ed edition of the Argosy? A little "stretched", what? Pat Ritchie was elected chairman of the Co-Ed Dance committee. We're sure she'll make it a big success. The usual Co-Ed sleighride will be held sometime this week if a suitable evening can be found. We're not taking any chances on a snowless March.

All the Reading Roomers wish to thank "Golly" for the very appropriate valentine which is now pinned to the R. R. bulletin board. We're sure it's true, too.

On Sunday afternoon from four till six the Reading Room was the decorative scene of a charming and well-attended tea. The purpose of this social get-together was to acquaint the wives of the Alexanderites with the co-eds and with each other, to meet the female members of the new college and to welcome the co-eds from Connecticut. The triple purpose was successfully accomplished. Mrs. Gregg and Co-Ed Prexy Blanche Law received, while Barb Golding and Leila MacKenzie made the introductions. Miss MacLeod and Miss Whimster poured for the first hour and were succeeded by Dr. Thompson and Mrs. Roberts during the second hour. Congrats and bouquets to Barb, Leila and their whole committee for making our Friendship Tea a success.

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