

# Doctor Edith G. McLeod

by GEOFFREY GREEN

Miss Edith G. McLeod, Registrar of the University of New Brunswick, is, in all probability, one of the few people who have ever had the distinction of preparing the graduation list for a convocation at which she was to be honoured.

At the annual fall convocation, held last Thursday, Miss McLeod received an honorary Doctor of Law (LL.D.) degree for her deep and abiding loyalty to UNB and to the province of New Brunswick.

Miss McLeod's allegiance to the province and the University extends beyond the twenty-one years in which she has held the position of Registrar. Born in Richibucto, Kent County, Miss McLeod is proud to point out that it is also "the home of both Robichaud and K. C. Irving."

After completing high school, Miss McLeod enrolled as an undergraduate in the UNB faculty of Arts. Of her undergraduate years, Miss McLeod speaks fondly of her love for dancing and English rugby. She was also highly impressed with the academic gowns the women students customarily wore at this time, although the men had discontinued the practise several years earlier.

Miss McLeod's Bachelor of Arts degree with honors in English and Philosophy implies the presence of a superior intellectual ability as is attested by Dr. Bailey. Dr. Bailey, Vice-President of the Academics, was an undergraduate contemporary of Miss McLeod at UNB.

After graduation in 1922, Miss McLeod accepted the post of librarian with the Geological Survey of Canada in Ottawa.

In a few years, Miss McLeod returned to her native New

Brunswick to take up the position of secretary to the late Dr. C. C. Jones, president of UNB from 1926 to 1940. Dr. Jones, at the time was badly in need of someone such as Miss McLeod, because, before her appointment, the President had been typing his own letters in the morning and teaching mathematics in the afternoon. Miss McLeod served in the same capacity to Dr. Jones' successor, Dr. Norman A. M. Mackenzie.

Her appointment to the post of registrar of UNB occurred in 1945 during the presidency of Dr. M. F. Gregg, VC.

As Registrar, Miss McLeod's duties are many and varied. She is responsible for the maintenance of all academic records, the processing of all applications and admissions, the preparation of the University calendar, the compilation of statistical reports, correspondence, which runs up to over one hundred letters a day and counselling and interviewing students. Furthermore, Miss McLeod holds the position of secretary for both the University Council and the Board of Deans.

Somehow, Miss McLeod still

finds time for other activities. Two years ago, she began constructing a new home. She found this experience most enlightening when she realized as she put it, "I couldn't distinguish a nail from a tack." Now, that her home is finished, Miss McLeod enjoys, "puttering in the garden, although I wouldn't call myself a gardener," she said.

In the social sphere, Miss McLeod is a past president of the Women's Faculty Club and the UNB Alumnae Society. She is presently a member of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs.

However, Miss McLeod's main concern is the University. It is her sincere hope that UNB will strive for ever-increasing quality in both the academic field and in the caliber of students. Miss McLeod has a preference for smaller universities, and although UNB has tripled in enrolment since Miss McLeod became Registrar, it is her wish that the University will never attain the proportions of McGill and the University of Toronto.

Miss McLeod's deep involvement in the life of the Univer-

sity of New Brunswick has led her to become the most widely known and respected figure on campus. Her colleagues speak highly of her. Dean MacNutt of the faculty of Arts said that Miss McLeod has been a spectacular figure at UNB for forty years. She is liked and respected by all members of the faculty. As Registrar, she has kept the students and faculty in order during the terms of five presidents. She is possessed with immense patience which has enabled her to endure the idiosyncracies of all.

Dr. Bailey, Vice-President of the Academics said this about Miss McLeod: "She is a person who adheres to the principles, but at the same time, she understands that rules

have to be constructed humanely. If she sees that a rule is going to result in injustice, she will seek a means of setting the rule aside. This is the mark of a good and experienced administrator. Miss McLeod is blessed with that Scottish characteristic of clanishness, loyalty to chief and colleagues.

On the subject of the degree of honorary Doctor of Laws, Miss McLeod is reluctant to speak. However, she has stated that "the good wishes and warmth of friends have made it all worthwhile."

Miss McLeod, the **Brunswickan** joins the faculty and the student body of the University of New Brunswick in a salute to you!



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