

The Brunswickan

special 120th Anniversary Edition

Honorary Editor-in-Chief
Sir George Foster

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To Sir With Love

The Brunswickan's beginning steps to history

Dear Sir

I noticed your letter in the Telegraph-Journal and thought you might like to know how I came into possession of the only copy, known to exist, of the first Canadian University Newspaper, the forerunner of the Brunswickan. At the time that I became the first professor of History at UNB, in 1938, there had become public concern as to how this province had fared under Confederation, and for discovering the influences that had shaped the development of New Brunswick. I planned a series of graduate theses on the subject which I planned to publish in the interest of public information. Unfortunately, there was nothing to work with. This province was the only one in Canada without a public archives. I therefore set out developing a collection of sources as a basis for a programme of graduate studies at UNB. When I became head librarian I transferred the collection to the Library as the Archives Department. At a conference of the Rockefeller Foundation in the U.S. I gave an address on the needs of New Brunswick which led to grants to support research in local history, the first grants the University ever received for research in the social sciences and humanities.

I was very anxious to collect old New Brunswick newspapers as one important source of information, and advertised in the press with that in view. A Mr. Clark, who lived on Charlotte Street, responded, I went to his house, and bought several old papers from him. He said "I have something that might interest you", and he brought out the first college paper and made a present of it to me. It was called The University Monthly and was dated September 1867. I afterwards gave it to the University and it is now in the Archives of the Harriet Irving

Library. Mr. Clark was well over ninety years of age and said that when he was a boy of seven he had helped his father set the type for it.

I am not sure that the present generation of students know to whom they owe the honour of having the oldest college newspaper in Canada. The enterprising editor was a boy called George E. Foster. He later became professor of Classics at UNB; then a member of the House of Commons, Minister of Finance in Sir John A. Macdonald's cabinet for thirteen years, was said to be the greatest orator in Canadian parliamentary history, was knighted by King George V, and was Canada's representative on the League of Nations. I heard him speak on two occasions and visited him in Ottawa not long before he died. He was chairman of the committee that raised the funds for building the Memorial Hall in circa 1922-23.

The Editor-in-Chief of the Brunswickan in 1925-27 was R.R. Henderson who now lives at York Manor. I was Verse Editor in those years, trying to revive the literary tradition of the University that had produced Bliss Carman and Sir Charles G.D. Roberts.

I hope these remarks may be of some interest.

Sincerely,

Alfred Bailey
Professor Emeritus

Mr Eaton sends his best

Dear Sir:

I spent many happy hours with the Brunswickan, reporting and writing columns, but never any serious writing like some of my dedicated classmates.

I do hope that your Reunion is a smashing success. Best of luck!

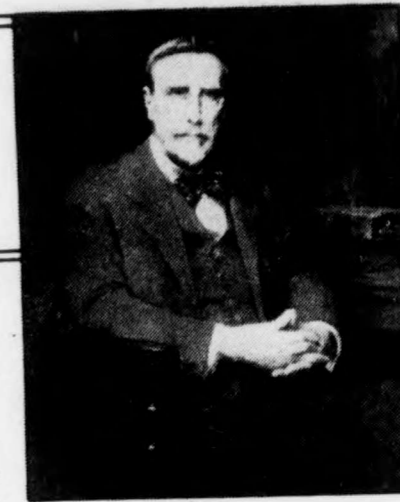
Yours Sincerely,
Fredrik S. Eaton
President, Chairman, and
Chief Executive Officer
Eaton's
Toronto



Enjoy the issue.
Sincerely,
the staff of the Anniversary
Issue.

Members of the Brunswickan 120th Anniversary Reunion organization committee, and we are certain, members of our alumni, extend their sincere wishes for a speedy recovery to Mr. Tom Foulkes, Editor-in-Chief 1925-26. Until very recently, Mr Foulkes had intended to take part in the Brunswickan Reunion festivities, as well as his own 60th class reunion, but could not do so for health reasons.

Mr. Foulkes was the first former staff member to officially request to become a chartered member of the proposed Brunswickan Alumni Club. We wish him all the best.



The Anniversary issue staff salute Sir George Foster

Dear Sir,

One hundred and twenty years ago you forged the way to student journalism at UNB. Today, an anniversary issue celebrating 120 years of tradition that has touched countless lives is the result of your actions.

Bottling the intangible elements that surrounds the Brunswickan and has seen us all through the years of euphoria and turmoil could never be our goal in producing this special edition.

We wouldn't even try.

In putting together this paper the contributors, listed in the masthead, helped drum up the spirit that serves to remind us of just what we're here celebrating.

Yet, we're not so blind as to not appreciate the efforts of the UNB Alumni, specifically Art Doyle and his staff. We hope that their involvement will not end here and we look forward to their participation in future Bruns Alumni Club events.

Furthermore, to those who are not in attendance at this reunion, we urge you to feel free in making suggestions to the Club.