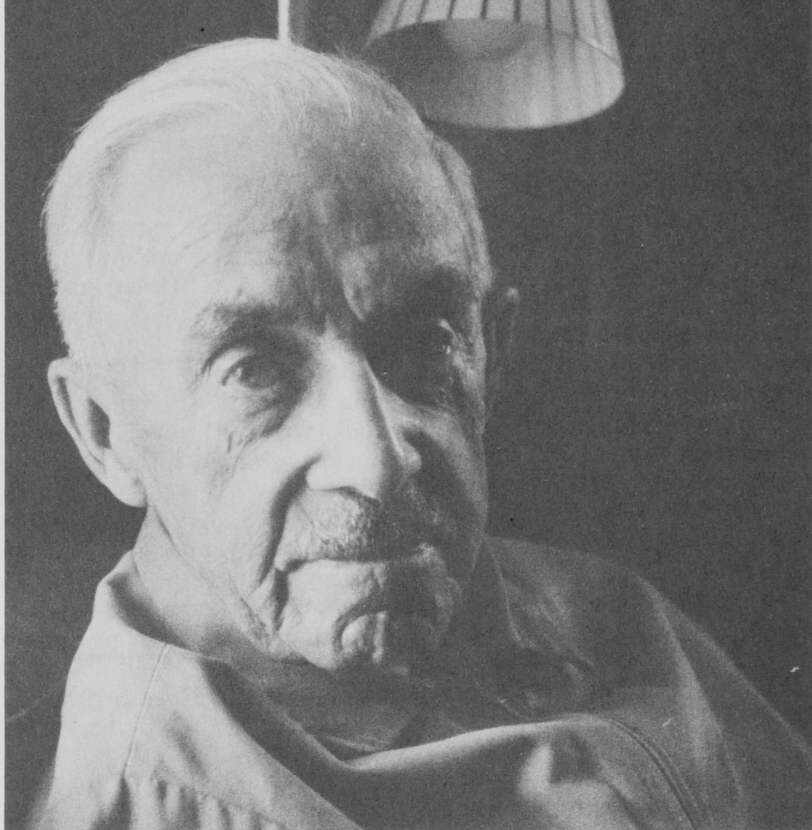




Ex-Sgt. H. McBeth.

Reg. No. 7850 ex-Sgt. H. McBETH

In a picturesque setting overlooking Murray Harbour in rural Gladstone, P.E.I. lives ex-Sgt. H. McBeth. The well-kept grounds surrounding his summer home gives an indication of Mr. McBeth's life style. He is a bachelor, lives alone and at 82 years of age, believes there is a place for everything and everything should be in its place.

After serving overseas during World War I, Mr. McBeth joined the Force on 6 June 1919 at Charlottetown. Following various postings throughout Manitoba and Ontario, Mr. McBeth was transferred to Baffin Island in 1925. The lure of the North held Mr. McBeth until he took his pension in 1946. When asked what it was about the North that held the attraction of so many men, he replied that it was an old Priest who said — "Once you have taken a drink of glacier water, you cannot live without it."

Mr. McBeth enjoyed his life with the Force

and summed it up in this way — "I was a bachelor and I was free to leave any time I wanted. The Force was good to me and I liked what I was doing, so why leave?" He never considered taking his discharge prior to the time of taking his pension.

Mr. McBeth could not recall any outstanding cases on which he had worked. As he remembers, everything was pretty well routine. Asked if given the opportunity, would he live his life over in the same way? He replied, "I would stay here in Gladstone only long enough to have my breakfast."

Editor's Note — After joining the RNWMP in 1919, Hugh Alexander McBeth began travelling in earnest, shuttling back and forth between the "outside" and the north, that area of Canada which was to claim him back six different times. In all, he was transferred 26 times, perhaps a good indication of his flexibility. On June 5, 1945, he was granted a medical discharge to pension. Ed.