

PROFESSOR G. A. McALLISTER



PROFILE BY A FRIEND

Professor George A. McAllister, B.A., M.A., B.C.L., L.L.M., was born in West Saint John in 1919 and from his earliest years showed a marked propensity for academic life, particularly in the sphere of law and politics. As both a friend and a neighbor of the late Chief Justice J. B. M. Baxter it is not inconceivable that his interest in these matters was attributable, at least, in some measure to this association.

After completing his High School training with commendable success George McAllister attended the University of New Brunswick where he established himself as an assiduous worker and an able scholar. Under Professor Burton Keirstead he took first class honours in Economics and Politics and later received the Master of Arts degree in Economics. Also, during this period, those persons who became his friends and associates were not long in discovering his capacity to assume responsibility with competence in respect of extra-curricular activities.

Returning to Saint John George McAllister pursued what proved to be his main interest, the Law, and as a consequence of hard work and ability he received the B.C.L. degree with high distinction from the University of New Brunswick Law School. He then worked for several years with the Institute of Public Affairs, Dalhousie University, specializing on matters pertaining to Industrial Relations.

In 1945 he was awarded a very valuable scholarship and proceeded to Columbia University where he received the L.L.M. degree for his thesis on "The Constitutional Aspects of Canadian Labour Legislation."

The following year, George McAllister and Miss Barbara Anderson of Sackville, New Brunswick were married. Mrs. McAllister went with her husband to the University of British Columbia upon his appointment to the law faculty of that University.

The University of British Columbia temporarily lost the valuable services of Professor McAllister when at the end of two years there he was honoured by his old alma mater with a Beaverbrook Scholarship. This munificent scholarship made it possible for Professor McAllister

to attend the University of London where once again he steeped himself in the study of the law, but not to such an extent that he and his wife failed to take full and proper advantage of the facilities afforded by the scholarship to see England and learn of it's ways and customs.

On completion of his course at the University of London, Professor and Mrs. McAllister returned to Vancouver where they remained for a year. In 1950 the University of New Brunswick Law School recognized the advantages that would accrue to the school by obtaining the services of one of its outstanding former students. And so today, George McAllister and his wife are living in Saint John where he has the enviable distinction of being Professor of Law at the school in which he received his first legal training.

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THE MOOT COURT

This year the Moot Court has become the major outside activity of the school. Already four moots have been held — twice as many as were held all last year. Altogether fourteen are planned with every student of the school participating as counsel.

The first four moots dealt with cases on torts, contracts, constitutional law, and insurance law. All of the cases ran off smoothly and realistically.

The Court is divided into three divisions — First Year, Second Year, and Third Year, with counsel corresponding to the division of their year. The Third Year Division is presided over by a single judge who is a practicing barrister. Solicitors for the division are allotted from the second year.

The Second Year Division is presided over by a Chief Justice who is a practicing barrister and four associate-judges who are third year students. Solicitors for the division are allotted from the first year.

The First Year Division is presided over by a Chief Justice from the practicing profession with four associate-judges from the second year.

The Registrar is appointed for each case from the first year. His duties are clearly defined and include such tasks as preparing the Court room, introducing Counsel to Judges, and delivering the factums to the Judges. Factums are filed with the Librarian who carries out the regular duties of a Registrar in this regard, as he is the one permanent member of the court.

The problem of finding suitable cases for argument has been successfully solved in the Second and Third Year Divisions by basing the