

WILLARD E. IRELAND

British Columbia's Centennial year marks a propitious occasion to honour a man who has made the history of this province his chief concern for many years. Provincial Archivist and Librarian, long time editor of the B.C. Historical Quarterly, and former secretary of both the B.C. and Canadian Centennial Committees, the name of Willard E. Ireland carries automatic associations with a knowledge of Canada's past.

The son of a Methodist minister Willard Ireland

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Columbia. After graduation from the University of British Columbia

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1933, he was honoured as the University of Toronto's Mackenzie scholar from 1935-37, after which he conducted his research in the Hudson Bay Archives in London. His interest in Canada's history had taken firm root.

His wit made him a popular high school teacher at South Burnaby High in 1938, but two years later when he

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Willard Ireland's contributions extend far beyond the province. He is past President both of the British Columbia and the Canadian Library Associations. In 1961, he was on what might be termed "special library loan" to the Federal Royal Commission on Government Organization. A fellow librarian remarked that she judged how busy Willard was by whether or not she could see him at all behind the stacks of papers on his desk. His service specifically to university education is clear. He served two terms on the Senate of the University of British Columbia, and is currently Chairman of the Board of Governors of the University of Victoria.

Mr. Chancellor, in recognition of his fine work in preserving and bringing to life the history of this Province and of Canada, and of his service to the people of British Columbia, I present to you Willard Ernest Ireland for the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.