

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR

Sunday, October 4, 2009

*JOURNALISTS OF
BEECHWOOD*



History Told, Lives Celebrated



Sparks Street / rue Sparks
Ottawa, 1954




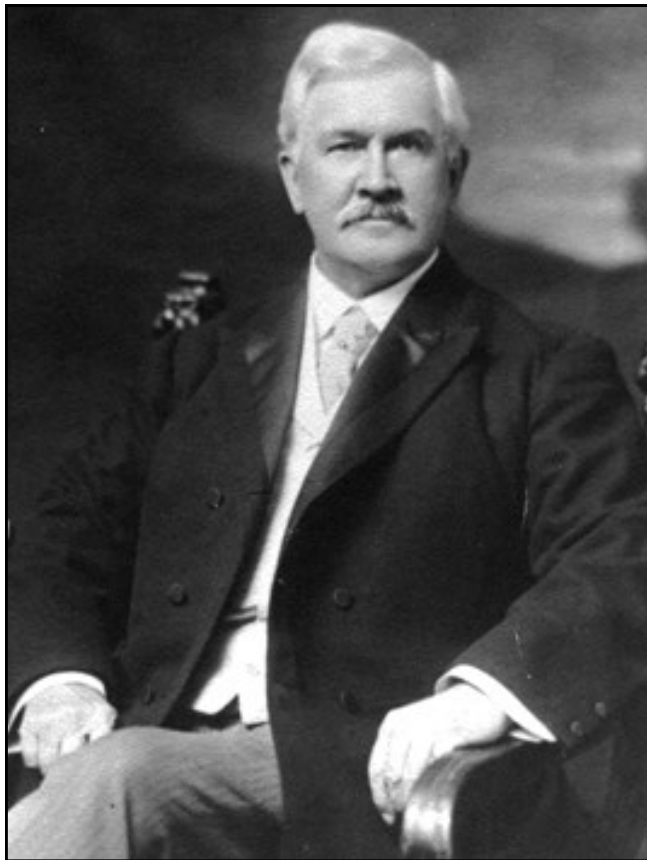
INTRODUCTION

As far back as the mid-1830s, less than ten years after the village of Bytown was founded, newspapers were circulating in Ottawa. Queen Victoria's decision to make the city the capital of the Province of Canada would not be announced for another twenty years. At the time, it was still a rough and tumble logging town, far out in the colonial hinterland. But as Bytown grew and expanded, so did its newspapers.

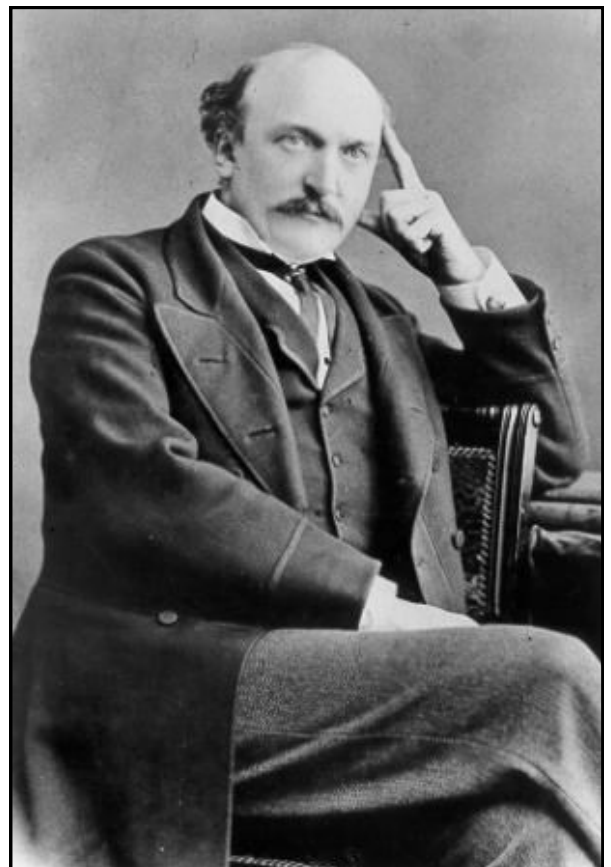
For our 15th Annual Historical Tour, The Beechwood Cemetery Foundation, together with the *Ottawa Citizen*, presents the "Journalists of Beechwood." Ottawa's newspapers have attracted a wide range of journalists over the years, several of whom found their final resting place at Beechwood Cemetery. While a number of these journalists worked for Ottawa papers at one time or another in their careers, many were not from here. In fact, a number of them were not even born in Canada.

As the National Cemetery of Canada, we are proud to be the final resting place of these men and women who, with their well-placed words, helped to define the identity of our nation in the eyes of its citizens.





Archibald Blue



Nicholas Flood Davin



Philip Dansken Ross



Hamilton Southam

ROSS, *Philip Dansken*

July 6, 1949. Yesterday, Ottawa lost one of its pioneers on the hockey rink and in the news-room. Philip Dansken Ross was born in Montreal in 1858 and was educated at McGill University. He started his journalism career with the *Montreal Star* in 1879. He joined the *Toronto Mail* in 1882, then moved to the *Toronto News* in 1883. In 1886, he came to Ottawa as the *Montreal Star's* Parliamentary Press Gallery correspondent. Later that same year, he became co-owner of the *Ottawa Journal* with Alexander Smyth Woodburn. In 1891, he bought the paper from Woodburn and steered its fortunes for the next half-century. He was also involved in the founding of The Canadian Press, the newspaper association.

His sports career also started at McGill, where he was captain of the football team and was a sculling champion. After he moved to Ottawa, he played for the Ottawa Hockey Club, which was to become the Ottawa Senators, and was one of the early organizers of the team. He played in the first Ontario championship game in 1891, in which Ottawa beat Toronto, five to nothing. Ross also played on the Rideau Rebels, the team organized by the sons of Lord Stanley, the Governor General of Canada. In 1892, Lord Stanley asked him to be one of the trustees of his new trophy for ice hockey, and that was a responsibility Ross carried until his death yesterday.

Somehow, he also found time to dabble in politics. He served for 21 years as an Ottawa alderman, but was unsuccessful in his election campaigns for Mayor and Member of the Ontario Provincial Legislative Assembly. □

SOUTHAM, *Hamilton*

July 2, 2008. Hamilton Southam was a dreamer his whole life. More importantly, he was a man who knew how to turn dreams into reality. He was the founder of the National Arts Centre, which is why Southam Hall bears his name, and he was a supporter of the new Canadian War Museum. He was also the driving force behind the installation of the Valiants Memorial, located near Confederation Square in downtown Ottawa. The memorial features nine busts and five full-sized statues of significant figures from Canadian military history. Clearly, history enchanted him.

He was born in Ottawa in 1916. His father, Wilson Mills Southam, was the publisher of the *Ottawa Citizen*. His grandfather was William Southam, founder of the Southam chain of newspapers. After serving in Europe during the Second World War, he briefly took a job as a reporter for the *Times* of London, before joining the *Ottawa Citizen* as an editorial writer in 1946. He left journalism a few years later to begin a career in the foreign service, and took a number of posts in Europe before returning to Ottawa in 1962.

Even after the *Ottawa Citizen* was sold to Conrad Black in 1996, the Southam name still means a great deal to the journalists working there today. Hamilton Southam represented the strong connection between the city's newspapers and its cultural life.

He died at the age of 91 and was able to say, near the end of his life, that he had no regrets. □

DAVIN, *Nicholas Flood*

Oct. 17, 1901. Yesterday in Winnipeg a Renaissance Man took his own life. Nicholas Flood Davin was a lawyer, a politician, a poet and a novelist, although his novel was never published. But for much of his life, he was a journalist.

While Davin studied law in London, England, he made his living as a parliamentary and war correspondent. He was dismissed from the *Belfast Times* after five months, allegedly for being too drunk to write. In 1872, he came to Toronto on special assignment from the *Pall Mall Gazette* of London, but was hired to work for the *Globe* in Toronto. A few years later, he became a freelance writer. In 1882, Davin moved west, settling in Regina, where he founded and edited the *Regina Leader*. He reported on the 1885 trial of Louis Riel. On the eve of Riel's execution, he disguised himself as a priest so he could get into the cell to interview the condemned man.

He was elected the first Member of Parliament for Assiniboia West. He lobbied for the franchise for women while he was in office. Although he didn't succeed in that quest, he was known as a persuasive, fiery speaker. In 1879, he wrote a report advising the government of Sir John A. Macdonald to institute residential schools for Aboriginal children. He had a varied and torrid love life, including a 10 year affair with a married woman. The affair produced two children, both of whom were put up for adoption.

Davin shot himself in a Winnipeg hotel, after succumbing to a bout of depression. His first pistol malfunctioned and didn't fire, so he returned it to the hardware store and bought another. □

WOODBURN, *Alexander Smyth*

April 1, 1904. Alexander Smyth Woodburn was born in 1832 in Northern Ireland and emigrated to Canada with his family when he was 10 years old. He settled in Gloucester, Ontario. As a young man, he learned the printing trade, and by 1863 he had established a printing and publishing firm on Elgin Street with his partner, John George Bell. By 1875, he had his own printing and bookbinding firm, also on Elgin Street, which printed the Ottawa City Directory for a number of years.

In 1885, he founded the *Ottawa Evening Journal*, and the next year he sold half-ownership to Philip Dansken Ross. A few years later, the printing business was failing. By 1893, Woodburn had sold the rest of the newspaper to Ross, and joined the paper's staff. He maintained his connection with the *Journal* until his death.

Woodburn helped to promote early agricultural exhibitions in Ottawa and 1871 he was elected to represent Wellington Ward on the Ottawa City Council. He had numerous philanthropic interests, among which were the Sons of Temperance Lodge in Ottawa. Woodburn also helped found the Protestant Benevolent Society and the Protestant Home for the Aged. When he died, he was 72 years old. □

BLUE, *Archibald*

July 28, 1914. Archibald Blue died in Ottawa yesterday. He was born in Upper Canada in 1840, and began his adult life as a teacher. In 1867, the year Canada became a country, Blue became a journalist. He worked for the *St. Thomas Journal* for over a decade, before moving to the *Toronto Globe* to work as night editor and an editorial writer. The following year, 1880, he started working for the *Toronto World* as an editorial writer. But like many journalists of his time, he had several careers.

In 1881, the Ontario provincial government asked Blue to investigate the benefits of collecting statistics on Ontario's agrarian production. Blue put his journalism background to work and produced a report on the benefits of statistical collection. In 1882, Ontario became the first Canadian province to create a statistics office, with Blue appointed its head.

In 1888, he became Deputy Minister of Agriculture, and in 1891 head of the Ontario Bureau of Mines. In 1900, he was recruited by the federal government as a Special Commissioner in charge of preparations for the census of 1901. In 1905, he was appointed Chief Census Commissioner for Canada. The *Canada Year Book* was founded under his direction.

After 30 years of service, uninterrupted by even annual vacations, Blue's health began to fail. Despite taking several medical leaves, Blue passed away in office as a result of heart failure. □

MACLEOD, *Robert Murdoch*

Feb. 7, 1949. Robert Murdoch MacLeod was born in Baddeck, Nova Scotia on October 11, 1861. MacLeod was a journalist and Editor for the *Ottawa Free Press* from 1882 to 1887. In 1890, he was a parliamentary reporter for the *Ottawa Citizen*, becoming President of the Parliamentary Press Gallery in Ottawa in 1896. Between 1891 and 1910, MacLeod was also a correspondent for several Canadian and American newspapers, including the *New York Herald*. Starting in 1894, MacLeod also served as the Canadian representative of Reuter's Telegram Company of London, England.

MacLeod was something of an adventurer. Between his work for the *Ottawa Free Press* and the *Ottawa Citizen*, MacLeod travelled abroad. In 1887, he sailed to the South Pacific Islands and spent two years travelling around Southern and Central America. During this period, in 1888, he found employment on the construction of the Panama Canal under Count Ferdinand de Lesseps.

The Honorable Colonel Samuel Hughes, Member of Parliament for Victoria, Minister of Militia and Veteran of the Second Boer War, was quoted as saying that MacLeod was "known and respected on all sides." He died on February 6, 1949. □

CHARPENTIER, *Fulgence*

February 7, 2001. Canada's longest-serving member of the Parliamentary Press Gallery passed away yesterday at age 103. Fulgence Charpentier was born in Saint-Anne-de-Prescott, Ontario on June 29, 1897. Over the course of his long and full life he had a wide variety of jobs, including diplomatic, political and bureaucratic positions. But his first love was journalism. He started working at Montreal's *Le Devoir* at the age of 18.

Along with many other young men of his generation, Charpentier joined the Canadian Forces in 1918. After leaving the military, he began covering Parliamentary affairs for *Le Droit*. He continued to work as a Parliamentary correspondent in Ottawa until 1930. Over this period he wrote for *Le Droit*, *La Presse*, *Le Soleil* and *Le Canada*.

Charpentier headed the Canadian Censorship Board during World War II, but in 1947 he joined the Department of External Affairs and spend the next few decades abroad, first as a cultural attaché and finally as an ambassador. A few years after returning to Canada, Charpentier was appointed Editor-in-chief of *Le Droit*.

Charpentier retired at the age of 71, but continued to write a weekly column on international politics for *Le Droit* for the next thirty years. It was only then, at the age of 101, that ill health finally forced Charpentier to put aside his trusty typewriter. He passed away on February 6, 2001. □

GALLOWAY, *Jean Caroline*

Aug. 12, 2002. Jean Caroline Love began her career in journalism the way so many others did, by writing for a university newspaper. She served on the staff of the *Varsity*, the University of Toronto newspaper, in the 1930s with the future comedy duo Johnny Wayne and Frank Shuster. She also covered special assignments for the *Toronto Star*. Galloway was a teacher as well as a journalist; she directed a course in journalism at the Toronto YMCA and taught English Literature, Commercial English and Advertising at a vocational school. Later, she edited the *West Toronto Weekly* and became Assistant News Editor for the *Toronto Star Weekly*.

After the Second World War, she married Colonel Strome Galloway, a soldier, occasional journalist, prolific author and co-founder of the Monarchist League of Canada. But contrary to the expectations of the age, she didn't stop writing. In the 1950s, her column "Sisters All" appeared in many Ontario weekly newspapers under the byline "Jean Love Galloway." She was President of both the Toronto and Ottawa chapters of the Canadian Women's Press Club. For several years, Galloway wrote features for the Canadian Press wire service from Fort Churchill and Europe. She died in Ottawa at the age of 84. □

OTHER IMPORTANT JOURNALISTS

SIR JOHN GEORGE BOURINOT
(JOURNALIST &
CIVIL SERVANT)
SECTION 22, LOT 36 S.E. PT.

ROBERT HAMILTON COATS
(JOURNALIST, AUTHOR &
CIVIL SERVANT)
SECTION 21, LOT 40 N.E.

BETTIE COLE
(JOURNALIST)
SECTION B RANGE 6 GRAVE 20A

CHARLES FREDERICK HAMILTON
(JOURNALIST)
SECTION 19, P.C. 4

ERNEST W. HARROLD
(JOURNALIST)
SECTION 30, GRAVE 146

MADGE HAMILTON MACBETH
(JOURNALIST)
SECTION 24 PC GRAVE 23

CHARLES CONRAD MEYER
(JOURNALIST)
SECTION 19, LOT T.G. 75

HENRY WENTWORTH MONK
(JOURNALIST)
SECTION C, RANGE 16, GRAVE 21

ROSA SHAW
(JOURNALIST)
SECTION B RANGE 6 GRAVE 25

SPECIAL THANKS /

Special thanks to Kate Heartfield, Editorial Writer, *Ottawa Citizen* and the *Ottawa Citizen* for sponsoring this event and providing research assistance and narrators.



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Beechwood, the national cemetery of Canada