Obituaries/Nécrologie
Nécrologie

Volume 1, Number 1, 1990

URI: https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/031024ar
DOI: https://doi.org/10.7202/031024ar

See table of contents

Publisher(s)
The Canadian Historical Association/La Société historique du Canada

ISSN
0847-4478 (print)
1712-6274 (digital)

Explore this journal

Cite this document

https://doi.org/10.7202/031024ar
OBITUARIES/NÉCROLOGIE

Much to the editors’ regret, the notice of the death of Hugh Wallace, published in the 1989 edition of Historical Papers/Communications historiques, contained a number of errors. Our distinguished colleague deserved better. The following is a corrected version.

* * * * *


Hugh N. Wallace 1920-1989

Hugh Wallace died suddenly on 19 October 1989. He had been a member of the Mount Saint Vincent University faculty from 1969 until his retirement in 1986.

Hugh was born and raised in Calgary. After receiving his BA in history from the University of Alberta, he worked for a number of years at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and the National Film Board. He returned to university for graduate study in the mid-1950s, first at Toronto for an MA in Political Science, then at Rochester for an MA in History, and finally at King’s College, University of London, where he completed his PhD in 1975. He began his teaching career at the University of Windsor in 1968.

During his years at Mount Saint Vincent, Hugh taught a wide variety of courses in the History department and served two terms as departmental chair. His field was Canadian history, and he took a special interest in the Britannic origins of Canadian culture and politics, in Canada’s evolving relationship with the United States, in the historic relations of English and French Canadians and, above all, in the history of the Canadian North. His book, The Navy, the Company and Richard King: British Exploration in the Canadian Arctic, 1829-1860, received uniformly high praise when it was published in 1980 and has become something of a classic in its field.

Hugh was, however, no narrow academic specialist. His interests and his knowledge ranged widely over the history of Western culture and beyond. He sought an integrated understanding of past and present. This quest was especially apparent, toward the end of his teaching career, in the seminar he offered on the thought of Harold Adams Innis, and in the project which lay uncompleted at the time of his death, his response to George Grant’s Lament for a Nation. This last, which he always referred to as his “letter” to Grant, amounted, in fact, to an extended and intricate statement of his own philosophy of history. His final work, which will be published posthumously, was an essay entitled “The ‘Filioque’ Clause: An Anglican View of Double Procession.”
Hugh combined a broad intellectual outlook with personal warmth and a wry sense of humour. He will be remembered by friends and colleagues with respect and affection.

Kenneth C. Dewar
Mount Saint Vincent
University