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## CHAPTER XXXI

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### SCOTTISH EDUCATIONALISTS

THE beginnings of education in the old Red River Settlement were witnessed about the year 1833, when the Selkirk colonists received among them a University man from Scotland who was to be the educational leader of the country. It is true that something had been done for the Indian children by the English Church clergyman between 1821 and 1831; but the advent of John McCallum, a Scotsman, and a student of King's College, Aberdeen, marked the commencement of the educational era in the Selkirk Colony. McCallum's School was the precursor of St. John's College, which, as we have seen, was raised and extended by another Scotsman, Bishop Machray. Founded under Church auspices, the school grew to be an independent institution, controlled by McCallum, with an allowance from the Hudson's Bay Company. McCallum died in 1849, having performed a good work for Red River Settlement, and the forces set in motion by him did much to make the settlers of all classes, as a people, superior in intelligence and education to those under the old Hudson's Bay Company régime.

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Reference has already been made to Archbishop Machray's work in establishing on a firm basis St. John's College in 1866. On the transference of Rupert's Land to Canada in 1870 the Scottish people of Kildonan demanded the foundation of a higher institution of learning for Manitoba. The Kildonan School had been, as was to be expected from a Scottish settlement, much the best school in the Selkirk Settlement. Here young men of promise had each in turn grown up to give a year or two of life to the vocation of local school-master. Indeed, the Scotsman, Donald Gunn, of whom we have spoken, had made the Little Britain School, near Lower Fort Garry, the leading example in the perpetuation of the parish school of his native land. Among those who performed good service for their native parish of Kildonan was the Rev. Alexander Matheson, who left a fine reputation as a teacher. He afterwards went to Knox College, Toronto, for his theological training, and was one of the most acceptable preachers in Ontario and Manitoba for nearly half a century. In 1869 a student and trained teacher of Scottish parentage, David B. Whinster, came to Kildonan from St. Mary's, Ontario, as principal of the local school. A fine disciplinarian and an earnest teacher, he raised its standard to a high pitch of excellence, and greatly increased the attendance. He also had much to do in 1871 in framing an Education Bill, which, though not adopted by the First Legislature of Manitoba, yet presented a model for subsequent legislation. In 1871 a

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determined effort was made by the people of Kildonan to obtain an institution of higher education for the country. The Rev. John Black had, during 1870-71, trained a dozen young men, who were under Mr. Whinster's care, in the elements of Latin, and these were to become the nucleus of the new college. Application was made to the General Assembly of the Canadian Presbyterian Church, which met that year (1871) in Quebec, for the establishment of a college at Kildonan. This petition was granted, and the present writer, the Rev. George Bryce, of Scottish parentage, born in Mt. Pleasant, Brant County, Upper Canada, a graduate of Toronto University and Knox College, Toronto, was appointed to found the college and to be its first professor. He accepted the responsibility, and journeyed to Red River by way of St. Paul, Minnesota, driving four hundred miles over the prairie to Fort Garry. Thus originated Manitoba College, which commenced work on November 10, 1871, with eleven students. The annual attendance has now reached three hundred, and it is the strongest college of the University Confederation of Winnipeg. In the year 1872, after a visit by the writer to the Synod of the Church of Scotland in Canada, the Rev. Thomas Hart, M.A., was appointed second professor in Manitoba College, taking the Chair of Classics and French. Professor Hart is the son of Scottish parents who came from Paisley, Scotland, to settle in Perth, Lanark County, Upper Canada. Educated in Queen's University, he has

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spent his life as an educationalist, taking a prominent part in the school and University work of Manitoba. During the same year there came as professor in St. John's Church of England College, Winnipeg, the Rev. James Dallas O'Meara, a graduate of Toronto University. His father was an Irish clergyman who did good work in the Lake Huron district of Upper Canada; his mother, *née* Dallas, was the daughter of a Scottish Presbyterian Elder of Orillia, Upper Canada. Rising in his Church, he became successively Canon and Dean O'Meara. He was a good scholar, an eloquent preacher, and a public-spirited citizen. He died suddenly, much lamented by the community.

The name McIntyre has become noted in connection with education in the Canadian West. Well known, and much appreciated for his worth and progressive spirit, is Mr. Daniel McIntyre, now Superintendent of the Winnipeg schools. Of Highland descent and born in New Brunswick, Mr. McIntyre early rose to prominence as an educational leader in St. John. Coming to Winnipeg in the early days as a teacher, he became inspector of the city schools, and thereafter reached his present position. Under him the schools of Winnipeg have risen to a height equalled by those of but few cities in Canada. Mr. McIntyre has been a prominent member of the Advisory Board of Education from 1891 till the present time, and has also been a useful member of the Council of Manitoba University.

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Another of the same clan is Dr. William A. McIntyre, of Scottish descent, who was born near Perth, Lanark County, Upper Canada. Coming to Winnipeg as a teacher in the public schools, Dr. McIntyre became interested in the training of public school teachers, and is now principal of Winnipeg Normal School. He has edited a number of school text-books, and has also taken a prominent part in higher education as a member of the Council of Manitoba University. He received his doctorate from McMaster University, Toronto.

Still another McIntyre of Scottish descent is Alexander F. McIntyre, a native of Glencoe, Ontario. Coming to Manitoba, Mr. McIntyre became a well-known teacher in the Brandon Collegiate Institute. In the course of time he took his B.A. degree in Queen's University, Kingston, and became vice-principal of the Winnipeg Normal School.

Another member of the staff of the Provincial Normal School is Mr. Sidney E. Lang, of Scottish descent, and formerly an inspector in the Manitoba educational system. Mr. Lang has edited a number of school text-books, and occupies an influential position in the Provincial system of education.

Of Scoto-Irish descent and born in the Province of Ontario was Robert R. Cochrane, B.A., who was a graduate in Mathematics and Physics in Toronto University. After doing good work in his native province as a High School principal,

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Mr. Cochrane came to Winnipeg in 1888 as Professor of Mathematics in Wesley College. An excellent teacher, he was appointed Professor of Mathematics in Manitoba University. For nearly twenty years he was a member of the Advisory Board of Education of Manitoba. As a member of the University of Manitoba, Professor Cochrane always took a living interest in, and he was for several years Chairman of, the Faculty of Science. He died in April, 1910.

Younger men of Scottish descent or birth who are now making their mark in educational spheres in the Canadian West are numerous.

A well-known educationalist of Manitoba, of Scottish descent, is Dr. Andrew B. Baird, of Manitoba College. Professor Baird was born near St. Mary's, Ontario, and was educated at Upper Canada College, Toronto. Having taken a distinguished course in Toronto University and Knox College, Mr. Baird studied in Edinburgh, taking the degree of Bachelor of Divinity, and went as a pioneer clergyman to Edmonton, North-West Territory, where he laid the foundation of the Church of his fathers. Appointed as a professor in Manitoba College, he has taken a prominent part in education, and is Librarian of Manitoba College. Among younger men of Scottish descent or birth are Dr. Guthrie Perry and Dr. Dick-Fleming, both professors of Manitoba College who are making their mark as educationalists.

Dr. Walter Murray, of Scottish descent, was born near Sussex, New Brunswick, and graduated

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in New Brunswick University. He was a distinguished Professor of Philosophy in Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia. On the establishment of the University of Saskatchewan in 1907 he was appointed President, and is busily engaged in building up a notable University, including Arts, Science, and Agriculture, at Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Three members of the staff of Saskatchewan University—Dr. Rutherford, Professor Oliver, and Professor Greig—are also of Scottish descent and are doing much toward the development of this promising University.

The influential Secretary of the Department of Education in Regina is Mr. D. McColl. His chief, Hon. J. A. Calder, is described as of Scotch descent, under the head of Legislators. Among the educationalists of the Province of Alberta is the Deputy Minister of Education, Duncan S. Mackenzie, a native of Ontario, of Scottish parents and hailing from the county of Bruce. As a well-known teacher in Ontario, and for some years of the Strathcona, Alberta, public schools, Mr. Mackenzie has had much to do with framing the educational system of the new Province of Alberta. Also notable as a pioneer teacher in Alberta, and now as Superintendent of Schools in the city of Edmonton, is Mr. J. McCaig, of Scottish descent. As a member of the Educational Committee in the province, Mr. McCaig has done his full share of work.

Among the latest to throw in his lot with the educators of Alberta is Principal Samuel L. Dyde,

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of Scottish descent, who has been appointed head of the new Presbyterian College of Alberta, affiliated to the University of Alberta. Educated at Queen's University, Kingston, and in Germany, Mr. Dyde was first a professor in the University of New Brunswick at Fredericton and afterwards Professor of Mental Philosophy in Queen's College, Kingston, which latter position he has filled with credit for twenty-one years. Professor Dyde has published a number of able literary productions.

In the early history of British Columbia there is little to record. While the Scottish race dominated, as we have seen, in the Hudson's Bay Company on the Pacific Coast, yet little attention was paid to the advance of education. The influence of the Church of England was strong, and almost all the earlier educationalists naturally were English. In fact, as is well known, English sentiment and English ideas largely predominated on Vancouver Island. However, on the fuller organisation of the Province of British Columbia, Dr. S. D. Pope, born in 1842, a graduate of the Scottish University of Queen's College, Kingston, became in 1884 Superintendent of Education for the province. To Dr. Pope British Columbia owes much of her educational development.

John Andrew, B.A., and Rev. P. F. McLeod also had a part, in the eighties, in educational matters. Mr. D. Wilson, B.A., and William Burns, B.A., both connected with the land of the heather, became inspectors and assisted in school organisa-



tion. The first High School in British Columbia was begun in Victoria in 1876 under G. B. Paul, M.A.; and the second, on Vancouver Island, by Walter Hunter, B.C.L. The first High School in Vancouver was begun in 1890 by Alexander Robinson, B.A., a Nova Scotian of Scoto-Irish descent. He is now Superintendent of Education for the province. One of the most notable friends of education in British Columbia was Hon. John Robson, already spoken of in Chapter XXVIII. A native of Lanark County, Ontario, he for ten years filled the office of Minister of Education for the Western Province, but was cut off prematurely in 1894. He was eulogised on his death as "an esteemed friend and valued counsellor, as well as an able and eloquent advocate of our free school system." The remarkable growth of Vancouver City during recent years has caused it to be regarded as the future educational centre of British Columbia. The province has lately decided, through a Commission, that the University of British Columbia, which is heavily endowed with land, will be situated at Vancouver. Already by the introductory work of a branch of McGill University in Vancouver, by the erection of the Methodist College in New Westminster, by the establishment of the Presbyterian College in Vancouver, the presage of the University for the province in Vancouver has been clearly seen. The head of Westminster Hall, as the Presbyterian College is called, is Principal John McKay, of direct Scottish descent. A native of Bruce County,

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Ontario, a distinguished graduate of Toronto University, and a student of Glasgow University, Principal McKay gained a reputation as pastor of Crescent St. Church, Montreal. His energetic work for his college and his hold on the Vancouver people have given him a high place as a successful educator and college-builder. With him are associated as educationalists in Westminister, Professor Pigeon, a young man who graduated in Toronto University and Knox College, and was settled as a clergyman in West Toronto. As a successful man in his profession, and a leader of the younger men of the Church, he has been appointed to Westminister Hall in Vancouver.

The Rev. John A. Logan, a Nova Scotian, who went to the Pacific Coast as a clergyman near Vancouver, has entered on the financial work of the New Westminister College, and his Scottish sagacity will no doubt be evident in this sphere.

A survey of the Canadian West in the four provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia will show the remarkable impulse given by educationalists of Scottish blood to Western civilisation and progress. The strenuous attention given by John Knox not only to a kirk in every parish but to a school close beside, and a higher institution of learning in every town, has made the Scottish people the most remarkable educators in the world. Western Canada may fairly claim recognition in this direction. No wise or fair man would minimise the work done by other nationalities in world and nation develop-

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ment, but it is patent that the Scottish people, not only in their leaders, but also in the whole body of the Scottish communities and Scottish elements in the districts of Western Canada, have been the friends and chief supporters of the school, the college, and the University in our diversified Canadian life.