

DEDICATION

Roy St. George Stubbs (1907–1995)

ROY ST. GEORGE STUBBS DIED ON JUNE 6, 1995, three days before his eighty-eighth birthday. It is eminently fitting that he be remembered by this *Journal* because he was a prominent supporter of the creation of this *Journal* and prolific contributor, particularly during its early years.

Roy was the second of the seven children of Lewis St. George and Mary Stubbs. He completed his B.A. at the University of Manitoba in 1931, having interrupted his studies to work as a reporter for the *Winnipeg Tribune* during 1928–29. He proceeded into the Manitoba Law School and became a student-at-law in the Law Society of Manitoba. He commenced his articles of clerkship with prominent Winnipeg lawyer M.J. Finkelstein; he completed his LL.B. programme and articles with his father and was called to the Bar in 1936. He continued in practice with his father, eventually joined by his brothers, Harold and Gerald. During wartime years he served in England and India with the RCAF. When he became a Squadron Leader he had occasion to employ his legal knowledge in several courts martial. In 1970 Roy was appointed Senior Judge of the Winnipeg Family and Juvenile Court, replacing A.J. Stringer; he served with distinction until his retirement in 1982.

Roy Stubbs was very much his father's son. He not only looked like a chip off the old block, but he inherited his father's temperament and philosophical views. Like his father he was a person of complete integrity, a humanitarian, a strong individualist, and intractable on a point of principle. His father is well remembered as an outspoken judge of the County Court and Surrogate Court, social critic and reformer, and long time independent Member of the Legislative Assembly.

Roy Stubbs loved books, both reading and collecting; he owned over 8000 books, including a very valuable collection of Canadian literature, which he donated to the University of Manitoba Library. Besides his passion for books, Roy was a gourmet cook, a wine connoisseur, Manitoba's first legal historian, and a writer.

Roy wrote over 35 biographical sketches for various law journals, more than 100 newspaper and law journal articles, notes, and letters, and in excess of 100 book reviews for both law journals and newspapers. Several of his biographical sketches were republished in *Lawyers and Laymen of Western Canada* (1939), and *Prairie Portraits* (1954). In addition, he authored *Men in Khaki* (1941), which traces

the history of four Manitoba regiments, and *Four Recorders of Rupertsland* (1967), about the early administration of justice in Rupertsland, the creation and operation of the General Quarterly Court of Rupertsland, the men who presided over the Court, and life in general in the Red River Settlement. When *Four Recorders* was published a review of it and an overall critique of his writings to date was published in (1969) 3 Man. L.J. 92 and (1970) 4 Man. L.J. 190. Roy was an ardent collector and promoter of Canadian poetry. His final book, *In Search of a Poet* (1975), was about the Icelandic poet Guttormur J. Guttormson.

Two praiseful editorials of Roy appeared in the *Winnipeg Tribune* and *Winnipeg Free Press*, one at the time of his appointment to the Bench and the other at the time of his death. The latter was entitled "A Prairie Scholar." Indeed, he was. In recognition of his contribution to the community as a lawyer, jurist, and legal historian, the University of Manitoba conferred upon him on 1 June 1995 an honorary Doctor of Laws.