

Aegidius Fauteux



 Aegidius Fauteux, n.d. Credit Biographies canadiennes-françaises, 1924.

b. Sept. 27, 1876, Sainte-Cunégonde, QC (now Montréal, QC); d. April 22, 1941, Montréal

Education:

1883-1887 Educated at the classical school Collège de Montréal

1887-1893 Studied theology at the Grand Séminaire de Montréal

1903 Called to the bar after graduating in law at Université Laval de Montréal [did not practice]

1936 Litt.D. (hon.), Université de Montréal

Positions:

1902-1904 Founder and editor for newspaper *Le Rappel*

1905-1909 Journalist for the newspaper *La Patrie*

1909-1912 Editor-in-chief for *La Presse*

1912-1931 Head Librarian, Bibliothèque Saint-Sulpice

1932-1941 Head Librarian, Bibliothèque centrale de Montréal

1937-1941 Co-founder and Director, École de bibliothéconomie de l'Université de Montréal

Publications (major works):

Fauteux, A. (1916). "Les Bibliothèques canadiennes et leur histoire (1534-1763, 1763-1916)." *Revue canadienne* 17 (2&3): 97-114, 193-217.

Fauteux, A. (1917). *La famille d'Aillebout: étude généalogique et historique*. Montréal: G. Ducharme.

Fauteux, A. (1922). *Journal du siège de Québec du 10 mai au 18 septembre, 1759*. Québec: s.n.

Fauteux, A. (1930). *The introduction of printing into Canada: a brief history*. Montreal: Rolland.

Fauteux, A. (1934). *Le duel au Canada*. Montréal: Zodiaque.

Fauteux, A. (1940). *Les chevaliers de Saint-Louis en Canada*. Montréal: Les éditions des Dix.

Fauteux, A., Juliette Chabot. (1952). *Classification des livres, plan systématique en usage à la Bibliothèque de Montréal*. Montréal: Bibliothèque de Montréal.

Associations/Committees:

1932 Founding member, Quebec Library Association

1934 Second vice-president, Canadian Library Council

Memberships in American Library Association, Société historique de Montréal, Royal Society of Canada, Antiquarian and Numismatic Society of Montreal, and the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

Honours:

1918 Member of Royal Society of Canada

1930 Officier de l'Académie française

1935 Société des Dix, Quebec

1936 Lorne Pierce Medal in History

1937 J. B. Tyrrell Historical Medal of the Royal Society of Canada

1966 The Annexe Aegidius-Fauteux de la Bibliothèque nationale du Québec (Montréal) named in his honor opens on 14 November

1955 Person of National Historic Significance, Canada

2001 Rue Aegidius-Fauteux, Montreal, is named in his honour

Accomplishments:

Aegidius Fauteux was a noted historian, librarian, and journalist who published many historical, genealogical, biographical, and bibliographical works over the course of four decades, 1900-1940. Under his direction, from 1912 to 1931, the Bibliothèque Saint-Sulpice grew into an essential research library and vibrant cultural centre. Fauteux kept pace with progressive library developments: he was an early Canadian adopter of the Dewey Decimal system and standard cataloguing rules promoted by the American Library Association. Fauteux established the first francophone library school in Canada in 1937 and directed its curriculum. More than a century after his devotion to building collections began, his efforts form one of the cornerstones of the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec.

Comments:

“His real bent was for scholarship and research, and he had no hesitation in giving up a successful journalistic career to become the founder and first librarian of the noted St. Sulpice library in 1912. It was well for Canada’s history that he did so, for the Dominion has had no more faithful chronicler.” – Editorial in *Montreal Gazette* marking his death, 23 April 1941.

Sources:

The Fonds Aegidius Fauteux (BM001) is held by the Archives de Montréal. (extensive holdings)
Maurault, O. (1941). "Aegidius Fauteux (1876-1941)." Mémoires de La Société royale du Canada, 3rd series 35, App. 3, pp.103-111.

Auger, R. (1967). "L'annexe Aegidius-Fauteux de la bibliothèque Saint-Sulpice." Bulletin de l'Association canadienne des bibliothécaires de langue française 13(1): 8-11.

Lassonde, J.R. (1987). La Bibliothèque Saint-Sulpice, 1910-1931. 2nd ed. Montreal: Bibliothèque nationale du Québec.

Lajeunesse, M. (2012). "The Contribution of Aegidius Fauteux and Edmond Desrochers to Quebec Librarianship in the Twentieth Century." Information & Culture 47(3): 340-57.

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