

William Stewart Wallace



Image of William Wallace, 2006-12-20

William Stewart Wallace, n.d. Credit University of Toronto Archives

b. June 23, 1884, Georgetown, ON; d. March 11, 1970, Toronto, ON

Education:

1906 BA (University of Toronto)

1909 BA (Oxford University)

1912 MA (Oxford University)

Positions:

1906-1907 Lecturer in English and History, Western University

1909-1920 Professor in History, McMaster University (Toronto)

1910-1922 Lecturer in History, University of Toronto

1920-1923 Assistant and Associate Librarian, University of Toronto

1923-1954 University Librarian, University of Toronto

Publications (major contributions):

Library contributions:

Wallace, W.S. (1921). "Taking the university library to the people." *University of Toronto Monthly* 21(6): 261-262.

Wallace, W.S. (1929). "The university library of to-day and to-morrow." *University of Toronto Monthly* 29(6): 225-226.

Wallace, W.S. (1933). "New library in the University College." *University of Toronto Monthly* 33(8): 261-262.

Locke, George H. and W.S. Wallace, eds. (1934). A joint catalogue of the periodicals and serials in the libraries of the City of Toronto. 4th ed. Toronto: King's Printer.

Wallace, W.S. (1938). "Canadian government documents." *Ontario Library Review* 22(3): 195-196.

Wallace, W.S. (1946). "Need for a National Library is urgent." *Saturday Night* 61 (6 October): 28.

Wallace, W.S. (1957). Report on provincial library service in Ontario. Toronto: Department of Education.

Historical and edited contributions:

Wallace, W.S. (1922). *By star and compass, tales of the explorers of Canada*. Toronto: Oxford [school text, rev. in 1953].

Wallace, W.S., ed. (1926). *The Dictionary of Canadian Biography*. Toronto: MacMillan [1st ed., rev. in 1945 and 1963].

Wallace, W.S. (1927). *A history of the University of Toronto, 1827-1927*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Wallace, W.S. (1927). *The growth of Canadian national feeling*. Toronto: Macmillan.

Wallace, W.S., ed. (1935-1937). *Encyclopedia of Canada*, 6 vols. Toronto: University Associates of Canada.

Wallace, W.S. (1949). *The Royal Canadian Institute centennial volume, 1849-1949*. Toronto: Royal Canadian Institute.

Wallace, W.S. (1954). *The Ryerson imprint: a check-list of the books and pamphlets published by the Ryerson Press since the Foundation of the House in 1829*. Toronto: Ryerson.

Associations (Presidential positions):

President, Ontario Library Association, 1942-1943

President, Champlain Society, 1943-1948

President, Canadian Library Association, 1951-1952

Honours:

1928 Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada

1936 J.B. Tyrrell Historical Medal [History], Royal Society of Canada

1948 LL.D, University of British Columbia

1951 LL.D, McMaster University

1954 LL.D, University of Toronto

1967 Canadian Centennial Medal

Accomplishments:

W.S. Wallace was the epitome of the scholar-librarian. Over the course of forty years, he wrote and edited many Canadian monographs and reference works in addition to his administrative duties at the University of Toronto. He joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force and reached the rank of major in World War I. He helped to establish the Canadian Historical Review and served as its first editor, 1920-30. He was a long-time member of the Champlain Society and edited or contributed to its publications. Wallace was a precise bibliographer and member of the Bibliographical Society of Canada. He was a lover of mystery novels and, upon retirement, he purchased the Dora Hood Book Room, a successful Toronto bookshop.

Sources:

Blackburn, Robert H. (1989). *Evolution of the heart*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, pp. 131-50.

Blackwell, John D. (1996). "A librarian extraordinaire: W. Stewart Wallace (1884-1970)." *Feliciter* 42(3): 36-37.

"W. Stewart Wallace." (1970). *Ontario History* 62(2): 82-83.

"W. Stewart Wallace." (1970). *Canadian Historical Review* 51(2):243-44.

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ELA biography compiled by Lorne Bruce

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