

ERIC GRAHAM McDOUGALL

A faithful member of the Brodie Club since February 28th, 1933, Eric McDougall passed away in Westminster Hospital, London, Ontario, on December 29th, 1944.

Mr. McDougall was born at Toronto on October 31st, 1887. His father was Judge Joseph E. McDougall, of York County Court, and his grandfather the Hon. William McDougall, one of the Fathers of Confederation. He attended Ridley College and was graduated from the University of Toronto in 1909 (M.A. and B.Sc.F., 1911). For a short time he was associated with the Dominion Forestry Service, Ottawa, and with the Forestry Service of British Columbia, in Victoria.

At the outbreak of the First Great War, Mac enlisted as a Private with the McGill Section of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, reaching France in August, 1915. He suffered the loss of his left leg on April 19th, 1916, at the village of Hooge, Sanctuary Wood, Belgium.

In 1917 he was appointed an assistant in the Agricultural Meteorology Branch of the Meteorological Service of Canada, in Toronto (later becoming Climatologist), in the course of which he wrote "Phenological Observations" (1922), "The Faunal Areas of Canada"—with the late Professor A. B. Klugh—(1924) and "The Moisture Belts of North America" (1925).

Mac's interest in natural history sprang from his association at the University of Toronto with such men as the late Dean Fernow, the late Professor Ramsay Wright, the late Dr. Davidson Black, Professor E. M. Walker and Professor R. B. Thomson. When ill-health forced his retirement from the Meteorological Service in 1926, he fell back on his early interests and devoted his time to the study of natural history. His appointment in the Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology's library in 1934 was the result of his desire to do something useful in natural history in a part-time capacity. From the museum he wrote articles, "The Range of the Caribou in Ontario" and "Moose in Ontario" (1935). Diligence and persistence marked his work at the museum.

Mac was one of the most conscientious members of the Brodie Club, serving faithfully on the Seasonal Reports and Library Committees. He was a regular contributor to the programs, his papers being characterized by thoroughness of preparation and brilliant flashes of humour. Thirteen prepared papers were given, starting in 1933, averaging a little better than one a year. These covered a variety of subjects—reports of American Ornithologists' Union conventions in New York, Pittsburg and Washington; returns from museum questionnaires on wolves, caribou, deer and moose; life zones; the elephant in history and its use in war; "From Bacterium to Baboon"; the Fleming Library; and biographical accounts of Catesby, David, Hooker and Pallas.

At the time of his death, Mac was one of a committee preparing a history of the Amputations' Club, in which he took an active interest. His widow, Dorothy Aylmer McDougall, survives him, and interment was in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Toronto.

THE 385th MEETING—JANUARY 4th, 1945. 1944.

Chairman, Logier. Attendance, 18 + 2 visitors.

PAPER: *The 19th Christmas Bird Census*, Rutter. Census was taken on December 26th. A total of 55 species was recorded.

OBSERVATIONS: *Rat Attacking Man and Chasing Cat*, Lindsay; *Wolves, Bald Eagle and Turkey Vulture in Prince Edward County*, Lunn; *Keen Vision of Great Horned Owl in Daylight*, Southam; *Black Squirrel Eating Buds of Conifers*, Downing; *Robin Killing Garter Snake*, and *Mechanical Device for Identifying Food of Nestlings*, Snyder; *Tree Improved by Work of Meadow Mice*, Rutter; *Damage to Trees by Rabbits and Damage to Flower Buds by Frost*, Owens; *Black Squirrel Obtaining Water From Ice*, McDougall; *Seasonal Change in House Wren Song*, Emery.

THE 386th MEETING—JANUARY 18th.

Chairman, Campbell. Attendance, 19 + 4 visitors.

BUSINESS: Discussion of cost of notices of meeting. Motion to send letter of commendation to City Planning Board.

PAPERS: *Activities of the Toronto Humane Society*, Dr. J. Leeson. Discussed the society's work in prevention of cruelty to animals, supervision of slaughtering, education on care of the horse, lost and found pets, veterinary work, and methods of euthanasia.

Wild Animal Life in High Park, Past and Present, Lindsay. History of the park, changes in its flora, and an account of its 24 mammals, 9 reptiles, and 11 amphibians.

THE 387th MEETING—FEBRUARY 1st.

Chairman, Snyder. Attendance, 25.

BUSINESS: Letter of resignation from the Secretary, Emery. Lindsay appointed for balance of year. Letter of appreciation to be sent to Emery. Letter to City Planning Board read. Letter read from Taylor, now in the army on the west coast. Discussion on length of summaries of papers secretaries should be expected to write.

PAPERS: *Joseph Hooker and His Friends*, McDougall. Life of continuous accomplishment reviewed. Hooker was one of the world's greatest botanists, from his first expedition with Sir James Clark Ross to his death at the age of 94.

The Geology of Renfrew County, Satterly. County is divided into two parts by 1,000 ft. contour. Northeast is low and comparatively flat; southwest is Madawaska Highlands rising to 1,500 feet. Area is underlain by pre-Cambrian rocks and some Palaeozoic limestone and was covered by Ordovician Sea in Palaeozoic era, and by the Continental Glacier during the Pleistocene. There were several marine invasions after the retreat of the glacier.

OBSERVATIONS: *Horned Larks in January*, Devitt; *Mourning Dove in January*, and *Fish in Screech Owl Cavity*, Harrington; *Towhee in January*, McIlwraith; *Frogs in Winter*, Coventry and Lindsay; *Unusually Mild Weather of Current Winter*, Snyder.

THE 388th MEETING—FEBRUARY 15th.

Chairman, MacArthur. Attendance, 22 + 4 visitors.

BUSINESS: Distribution of Proceedings. Letter read from City Planning Board.

PAPERS: *Origin of the North American Indians*, McIlwraith. Evidence indicates they migrated from Asia. Their knowledge of agriculture, etc., lost in migration, was developed chiefly on this continent. Possible contacts with Scandinavians and Polynesians discussed. Recent discoveries suggest that Indians reached this continent in the Pleistocene age.

Rare Bird Records from the Hudson Bay Region and their Implications, Snyder. Ranges of southern forms recorded from Hudson Bay discussed. Their northern limits swing northwestward, west of the Great Lakes. Theory advanced that most of these wanderers reach the bay from the west, rather than from the south.

OBSERVATIONS: *Short-eared Owls at York Downs*, MacArthur; *Barred Owl*, McIlwraith; *Nine Species of Ducks at Toronto in February*, Harrington; *Great Black-backed Gull on Georgian Bay*, Devitt; *Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker*, Baillie; *Captive Egret Eating Bread and Milk*, Southam; *Ravens Common in Porcupine District*, Satterly; *Gray and Black Squirrels Mating*, Snyder.

THE 389th MEETING—FEBRUARY 29th.

Chairman, McDougall. Attendance, 14 + 1 visitor.

BUSINESS: Report of injury to Campbell. Letter to be sent him. Motion of commendation to Proceedings Committee. Letter from Watson. Collection taken for Red Cross.

PAPERS: *Ragweeds*, Owens. Two species, found locally, described. Wide distribution of pollen through the air, and effect on hay-fever victims.

Rehabilitation and Conservation, Toner. Unfortunate results of experiments in placing returned soldiers on the land following the last war. Problem must be approached scientifically with the co-operation of agricultural technician, forester, biologist and legislator. Intensive education required.

THE 390th MEETING—MARCH 14th.

Chairman, Owens. Attendance, 17.

BUSINESS: Logier, seriously ill, now recovering. Further collection for Red Cross. Discussion of arrangements for 400th meeting. Report from Biographical Committee. Letter from Dr. John Dearnass.

PAPERS: *Relation of Nutrition to Physical Degeneration*, Harrington. Question discussed from standpoint of the dentist who has unusual opportunities to observe the effects of nutrition on bone structure. Dental research seems to show that food habits of civilized man cause progressive degeneration of teeth and bones.

Nesting Sites and Population of Baltimore Oriole, Outram. Observations on 525 nests, in winter, in Ontario south of Lake Nipissing. Decided preferences are shown for elms and for situations over roads. Center of abundance seems to be in Niagara Peninsula.

OBSERVATIONS: *Reports of Spring Bird Arrivals*. *Large Flock of Redpolls*, Devitt; *Skunk Abroad in Wintry Weather*, Rutter; *Deer Seen Near Toronto*, Downing.

THE 391st MEETING—MARCH 28th.

Chairman, Coventry. Attendance, 27 + 4 visitors.

W. E. SAUNDERS MEMORIAL NIGHT. Business Suspended.

PAPERS: *Early Recollections of W. E. Saunders*, Dr. John Dearness (McIlwraith).

The Saunders Records, Baillie.

W. E. Saunders and the Brodie Club, Rutter.

W. E. Saunders as I Knew Him, R. G. Dingman.

Dr. Saunders' Work for the Preservation of Nature, Dymond.

Recollections of W. E. Saunders, Taverner (Coventry).

THE 392nd MEETING—APRIL 11th.

Chairman, Bell. Attendance, 15 + 1 visitor.

BUSINESS: Dr. John Leeson elected to Active Membership. LeRay transferred to Corresponding Membership. Hoyes Lloyd elected to Corresponding Membership. Treasurers Report. Motion assessing each member fifty cents as a temporary measure to improve the club's financial position. Program Committee to report on possible publication of Saunders Memorial Papers. Letter from Allin, who is in hospital and from White, Lunn and Macklin. Letters to go to Allin and Corfe, the latter having lost his wife.

PAPERS: *Nidification Habits of Captive Birds*, Campbell. Report on breeding of various birds in the zoological collection of the Toronto Parks Department; discussion of curious nesting habits, period of incubation, effects of climate, etc.

The Emu, Southam. Description and history of this bird, its curious anatomical characters and mating habits.

THE 393rd MEETING—APRIL 25th.

Chairman, McIlwraith. Attendance, 25 + 3 visitors.

BUSINESS: Decided to hold field day at Armour Heights, May 21st. Letters from Lunn and Corfe.

PAPER: *Races of the Wingless Grasshopper and Their Distribution*, Walker. Curious problems of their distribution might be of general application. Discussion of the route of entry into Ontario, of the three races found here.

OBSERVATIONS: *Remarks on Song Sparrow Distribution in Ontario*, Snyder; *Pileated Woodpecker in Toronto* and *Botanical Notes*, Brown; *List of Birds from President's Garden* and *Raccoon on Yonge Street*, McIlwraith; *Swamp Tree Frog Calling From Face of Cliff*, Coventry; *Ducks Injured at Niagara Falls*, Outram; *Observations on Migration of Blue Geese at Lake St. Joseph*, by Clarence Watson (Baillie); *Newt found Under Ice*, Logier; *Smelts From Frontenac County*, Dymond; *Monkey Behaviour at the Zoo*, Southam; *Gray Fox From Frontenac County*, Downing; *Pigeons Nesting in Spray From Niagara*, Rutter; *Strange Animals at the Humane Society*, Leeson; *Hawk Migration, Gadwalls, and Singing Redpoll at Wasaga*, Harrington; *Polar Bear From Ontario*, Hope.

THE 394th MEETING—MAY 9th.

Chairman, Thompson. Attendance, 20 + 1 visitor.

BUSINESS: Recommendation of committee to defer publication of Saunders Memorial Papers accepted; final arrangements for field day; letters from Lloyd and Lunn.

OBSERVATIONS: *Recent Geological Literature on Southern Ontario*, Satterly; *Use of D.D.T. in Insect Control*, Brodie; *Robins' Eggs Found on Lawn, Placed in Nest in Flower Pot and Incubated*, Leeson; *Old-squaw Found Dead in Woods*, Hope; *Grasshopper Sparrow at Caledon*, Shortt; *Horned Owl Injured by Porcupine Quills and Flying Squirrel at Toronto*, Outram; *Snapping Turtle Habits*, Logier; *Spring Bird Arrivals*, Baillie; *Report on Early Fungi*, Bell; *Muskrat Pursuing Motor Car*, Emery; *Red Fox Den Near Milton*, McIlwraith.

20th FIELD DAY—HOGG'S HOLLOW—MAY 21st.

Due to the shortage of gasoline and rubber, the spring outing was held for the third consecutive year at Hogg's Hollow and adjacent fields. Eighteen men attended.

THE 395th MEETING—SEPTEMBER 26th.

Chairman, Baillie. Attendance, 15.

BUSINESS: Discussion of 400th meeting arrangements; Treasurer's Report; Biographical Committee's report; Toner transferred to Corresponding Membership; discussion on Secretary's position; nominations; motion to send club's publication, as requested, to the Museum of Comparative Zoology. The following were elected by acclamation,—*Treasurer*, Lindsay; *Library Committee*, McDougall, Brodie, MacArthur; *Conservation Committee*, Dymond, Coventry, McIlwraith.

OBSERVATIONS: *Grass Spider Occupies Bird's Nest*, Harrod; *White-footed Mouse and Spring Peeper Utilize Birds Nests as Shelters*, Snyder; *First Ontario Nest of Evening Grosbeak*, Baillie.

THE 396th MEETING—OCTOBER 10th.

Chairman, Hope. Attendance, 19 + 1 visitor.

BUSINESS: Decision to celebrate 400th meeting by program of special papers only; Whelan transferred to Corresponding membership; elections — *Membership Committee*, Snyder, Devitt, Coventry; *Program Committee*, McIlwraith, Shortt, Hope; *Proceedings Committee*, Baillie, Outram and Secretary; *Secretary*, Rutter.

PAPER: *Names, What They Mean and Don't Mean*, Thompson. An informative discussion on the difficulties and inconsistencies as well as the benefits of taxonomy.

OBSERVATIONS: *A Colour Variation of Fungi*, Bell; *Bay-breasted Warbler in Summer in Prince Edward County*, McIlwraith; *Status of Game-birds in Prince Edward County*, Lunn; *Clay-coloured Sparrow From Bobcaygeon*, Outram; *White Pelican Received at Zoo From Lake Scugog*, Southam; *Raccoons in Toronto*, Leeson and Downing; *White Pelicans in Ontario*, Baillie; *Autumn Colours*, Rutter; *Damage to Paper Birch by Leaf Miners*, Emery and Brodie.

THE 397th MEETING—OCTOBER 24th.

Chairman, Shortt. Attendance, 18 + 1 visitor.

BUSINESS: Framed photograph of the late Dr. W. E. Saunders presented by H. M. Halliday, through Southam.

PAPERS: *Life and Travels of Pallas*, McDougall. A characteristically thorough and entertaining review of the life and work of one of the world's greatest field naturalists.

Two Weeks at Mattawa, Ontario, Southam. Report of observations made from June 24th to July 7th, 1944, in an area that lies near the northern limit of the range of several species of birds.

OBSERVATIONS: *Rat Kills Chipmunk*, Lindsay; *New Notes From the Starling*, and *Autumn Colours*, Owens; *Mating of Brook Trout*, Snyder; *Gray Fox From Rainy River*, Downing; *Black-throated Green Warbler and Snow Bunting on Same Day at Toronto*, and *Golden Eagle at York Mills*, McIlwraith; *Raven at Toronto*, and *Banding Saw-whet Owls*, Southam; *Unsportsmanlike Killing of Black Bears*, Harrington.

THE 398th MEETING—NOVEMBER 7th.

Chairman, Devitt. Attendance, 20 + 3 visitors.

BUSINESS: Clarke returned to Active Membership; illness of Macklin, letter to be sent.

PAPERS: *The Federation of Ontario Naturalists' Summer Nature School*, Baillie. A review of the highly successful work of an institution, started experimentally in 1939. Dr. L. E. Jaquith illustrated the account with kodachrome slides taken by himself and Mrs. Jaquith, who were given much credit for the success of the undertaking.

Summer Birds of Beatty-Munro Area, Cochrane District, Satterly. Observations made while doing field work for Ontario Department of Mines in 1944. Four habitat types were investigated, 58 species observed and breeding evidence for 20 obtained.

OBSERVATIONS: *Whisper Song of Purple Finch*, Lindsay; *Red-eyed Vireo in November*, McIlwraith; *Prairie Hen from Manitoulin*, Baillie.

THE 399th MEETING—NOVEMBER 21st.

Chairman, Fallis. Attendance, 24 + 2 visitors.

BUSINESS: Complete recovery of Allin anticipated; greetings to go forward from Club.

PAPERS: *The Gray Fox in Ontario*, Downing. Differences from Red Fox described. Seems to have been a common Ontario mammal sometime prior to arrival of Europeans, but has been absent many years. Evidence now indicates that it may be coming back. Three Ontario specimens have been obtained during the past three years. Applied problem of its distribution to the problem of distribution in general.

The Master of Game, Clarke. A review of the book by this title, written in the 15th Century by Edward, Duke of York. Made appropriate comments and discussed the probable application of some of the ancient rules of hunting and game management to our own times.

THE 400th MEETING—DECEMBER 5th.

Chairman, Harrington. Attendance, 32.

BUSINESS: Baillie appointed to arrange Christmas Bird Census; letters from Deacon and Macklin.

PAPERS: *Early Days of the Brodie Club*, Snyder. An entertaining word picture of the clubs meetings in its early years and of some of its interesting members, as well as more serious remarks on what has been and will be accomplished.

Dr. William Brodie, Baillie. A summary of the comprehensive collection of biographical material which has been accumulating in the hands of the club's committee, appointed March 17th, 1942. This material will appear as a club publication, in due course.

Report on the Past One Hundred Meetings, Rutter. The membership and attendance have been maintained at a high level in spite of difficulties of war years. The Active Membership is now 32.

A Philosophical Review of Natural Science, Logier. A paper in lighter vein interspersed with salty humour and much sound philosophy, which was a masterpiece of its kind and vastly enjoyed by the audience.

Report From Friends of the Feathered Folk, Oughton. More enjoyable nonsense to conclude a very successful meeting.

THE 401st MEETING—DECEMBER 19th.

Chairman, Southam. Attendance, 18 + 3 visitors.

BUSINESS: Cross, Urquhart and Ussher returned to Active Membership, making 35 in that class—our limit. Motion to have Secretary communicate with Corresponding Members who have not been in contact with the club for some time.

PAPERS: *Some Characters Which Distinguish Man From Other Animals*, McIlwraith. A typically thoughtful and instructive paper from this member on man's brain development, digital dexterity of the fingers and bi-focal vision, particularly as applied to the use of fibres in basketry, weaving and rope-making, without which civilization could have hardly reached its present development.

Flightless Birds of the World, Devitt. Examples are found in many orders and families but with exceptions these are confined to the southern hemisphere. New Zealand is rich in flightless forms. Discussed modifications of skeletal structure and habits, possible origin, life histories, extinct forms and future of existing forms.

OBSERVATIONS: *Status of Upland Plover in Eastern Ontario*, Lunn; *Disasters to Night Migrants*, Bell; *Effect of Recently Exceptionally Heavy Snowfall on Birds*, Lindsay; *First Record of *Vervena stricta* at Toronto*, Owens.

20th CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS—DECEMBER 24th.

Sixty-four observers, including 18 members, covered the usual routes and recorded 67 species and 18,675 individuals, higher totals than ever before despite nearly two feet of snow on the ground since December 12th. Species recorded on the census now total 114.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP.

At the close of 1944, the Brodie Club had 83 members on its rolls—Honorary, 4; Active, 35; and Corresponding, 44. Dr. Seymour Hadwen, Mr. P. A. Taverner, Professor R. B. Thomson and Dr. E. M. Walker are our Honorary Members. The Active Membership is as follows:—Baillie, Bell, Brodie, Brown, Campbell, Clarke, Coventry, Cross, Devitt, Downing, Dymond, Emery, Fallis, Harrington, Harrod, Hope, Leeson, Lindsay, Logier, MacArthur, Owens, Richards, Rutter, Satterly, Shortt. Snyder, Southam, Macklin, McDougall (died Dec. 29), McIlwraith, Nielsen, Outram, Thompson, Urquhart and Ussher.

Our 44 Corresponding Members are:—Allin, Beamer, Black, Boggs, Cartwright, Clemens, Corfe, Deacon, Dear, Edmonds, Gunn, Harkness, Hart, Herrington, Hurlburt, Ide, Kay, Kurata, Landon, LeRay, Lewis, Lloyd, Lunn, MacLulich, McCowan, Milne, Munro, Oughton, Prince, Pritchard, Rawson, Ricker, Rippon, Rowan, Sheppard, Starr, Taylor, Toner, van Steenburgh, Waller, Watson, Whelan, White and Wood.

The average attendance at the seventeen meetings in 1944 was 22 (members 20).