

Convocation

Dalhousie University

OCTOBER 25, 1952

Invocation—The Rt. Rev. James B. Granville, D.P., J.C.D.

President's Remarks

Conferring of Honorary Degrees

Doctor of Laws:

George Frederick Curtis, LL.B. (Sask.), B.A., B.C.L. (Oxon.)
Dean, University of British Columbia Law School

Erwin Nathaniel Griswold, A.M. (Oberlin), LL.B., S.J.D. (Harv.), L.H.D. (Tufts et Case Inst.), LL.D. (U.B.C., Brown, Sydney, et Melbourne)
Dean, Harvard University Law School

Vincent Christopher MacDonald, B.A., LL.B. (Dal.), LL.D. (St. F.X.), J.U.D. (U.B.C.)
Judge of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia

Ivan Cleveland Rand, B.A. (Mt. Allison), LL.B. (Harv.)
Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada

Andre Taschereau, Q.C., LL.D. (Laval)
President of the Canadian Bar Association

Address: "A National Law School"

Mr. Justice V. C. MacDonald

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN

BENEDICTION

The audience is requested to rise when the academic procession enters the auditorium and to remain standing until the close of the Prayer of Invocation.

After the Benediction the audience will remain standing until the academic procession has left the auditorium.

CITATIONS

By Horace E. Read, O.B.E., Q.C., S.J.D., D.C.L., Dean of Law

Mr. President:

I have the honor to present George Frederick Curtis for the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws. He came from England to Canada in early youth and is a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan and Oxford University where he was a Rhodes Scholar. He is an able teacher and scholar who during ten years as Viscount Bennett Professor of Law at Dalhousie won the admiration and friendship of colleagues and students and was a respected participant in the cultural and civic life of Halifax. In 1945 he became the first Dean of the Faculty of Law of the University of British Columbia and has already, by wise and energetic leadership, developed a law school renowned for its high standards and the quality of its teaching.

As Royal Commissioner he was co-author of the MacQuarrie Report on Combines Legislation. As first President of the Association of Canadian Law Teachers, he gave fruitful direction to one of Canada's new learned societies.

In all of these ways Dean Curtis has maintained the great traditions of Dalhousie Law School and by living example inspired young men and women in a far distant place to achieve ideals of high scholarship and public service.

In the name of the Senate, I ask you, Mr. President, to confer on George Frederick Curtis the degree of Doctor of Laws, **honoris causa**.

Mr. President:

I have the honor to present to you Erwin Nathaniel Griswold for the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws. As Langdell Professor of Law and Dean of Harvard University Law School he is the distinguished head of the institution whose excellence inspired the founders of Dalhousie to establish the first university law school in the British Empire. Educated at Oberlin College and Harvard, he early earned his reputation as a national authority on the law of Taxation and became a trusted consultant to the United States Treasury. We at Dalhousie gratefully acknowledge our debt to Harvard for the Langdellian method of teaching law and for the rigorous training, widened horizons and lofty conceptions of the law imparted to many Dalhousians who down through the years have pursued post-graduate study within her walls. Dean Griswold enhances the prestige of his office as a national and international leader of legal education in combining cultured scholarship, true university standards and broad social service. He has set his hand to the task of utilizing the discoveries of social science "to satisfy more fully the yearning that lies in men for a clearer vision of what law and justice demand in their lives together."

In the name of the Senate, I ask you, Mr. President, to confer on Dean Griswold the degree of Doctor of Laws **honoris causa**.

Mr. President:

I have the honor to present the Honorable Vincent Christopher MacDonald for the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws. The Law School gained great good fortune when this Celtic son of Nova Scotia came to Dalhousie. He has been Winner of the University Medal in Law, private practitioner, professor of law for twenty-five years at this University and Dean of Law from 1934 to 1950. During these years he gained renown for his legal acumen and scholarship and became nationally recognized as an authority on the federal constitution of Canada, which he has shown to be not merely a "compendium of fixed mechanical rules but a living organism, which grows and moves in response to the larger and fuller development of the nation."

His contribution to the advancement of government and of the legal profession has been enduring and uniquely varied. He has lent his knowledge, keen intellect and sound judgment to the solution of difficult and momentous problems as secretary to a Prime Minister, advisor and member of Royal Commissions, consultant and representative for provincial and federal governments on constitutional matters, legal author and editor, as Associate Deputy Minister of Labor of Canada and chairman of Labor Boards, as member and President of the Conference of Governing Bodies of the Legal Profession in Canada and as representative of this country at important international conferences.

During his sixteen years as Dean of the Law School he not only overcame difficult problems and discouragements, engendered in part by economic depression and war, but, by thorough understanding of sound legal education, he raised academic standards and initiated changes in curricula and teaching methods adapted to the changing needs of law, business and government. Meanwhile he was an understanding friend of admiring and devoted students. He based his policies on his recognition of the broadened social responsibilities of the lawyer in a world of crisis and upheaval and on his belief that "the business of a Law School is not to make men smart, but to make them wise in their calling."

Today he adds lustre to his own name and that of Dalhousie as a Judge of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia. He has worthily upheld the Weldon Tradition. For all of these things Dalhousie is forever indebted to Vincent Christopher MacDonald.

In the name of the Senate, I ask you, Mr. President, to confer on him the highest honor in the gift of this University, the degree of Doctor of Laws, **honoris causa**.

Mr. President:

I have the honor to present to you the Honorable Ivan Cleveland Rand for the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws. Mr. Justice Rand is a graduate in Arts from Mount Allison University and in Law from Harvard University. He practised his profession successfully in Alberta and in his native province of New Brunswick, where he was created King's Counsel, and in 1924 became Attorney-General. Afterwards he was Counsel to the Canadian National Railways for seventeen years and was elected Vice-President of the Canadian Bar Association for New Brunswick in 1936. He was elevated to the Supreme Court of Canada in 1943 and since then in addition to performing his judicial duties with great distinction he has made an outstanding contribution to statecraft as creator of the famous "Rand Formula" for trade union security and as a member of the United Nations Committee on Palestine. Most recently he has shown his deep interest in legal education as head of a survey of legal education in Canada. As a member of Canada's highest judicial tribunal,

he has with profound learning and clarity of mind moulded legal doctrine to the social and economic needs of the times in accord with the traditions and principles of the common law.

In the name of the Senate of this University I now ask you, Mr. President, to confer upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws **honoris causa**.

Mr. President:

I have the honor to present Andre Taschereau for the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws. A brilliant son of one of Canada's most distinguished families, he was educated at Oxford and Laval Universities. In the practice of his profession he has shown outstanding integrity and ability, and was honored by his colleagues of the Bar of Quebec when in 1943 they elected him Battonier-General of his native province. Despite the exacting demands of his large practice as an advocate, he has rendered devoted service to the cause of legal education both as a Lecturer on Corporation Law at Laval and as a member, and lately as President, of the Conference of Governing Bodies of the Legal Profession in Canada. He has been successively Provincial Vice-President, Honorary Secretary and Dominion Vice-President of the Canadian Bar Association and is today its President. He not only has attained the highest office in the gift of Canada's national body of lawyers; he has throughout his notable career dedicated himself to achieving its ideal of national unity and to its purpose of "advancing the science of Jurisprudence, promoting the administration of justice, upholding the honor of the profession of law, and encouraging a high standard of legal education and ethics."

In the name of the Senate, I ask you, Mr. President, to confer upon Andre Taschereau the degree of Doctor of Laws, **honoris causa**.