



DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Halifax, Nova Scotia

SPECIAL CONVOCATION  
FOR THE DEDICATION OF THE  
KILLAM MEMORIAL LIBRARY

March 11, 1971

Rebecca Cohn Auditorium



ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

CONVOCATION PROCESSION

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN

INVOCATION

Reverend D. S. MacDougall

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Dr. Henry D. Hicks, C.C., Q.C.

PRESENTATION OF THE KEY

From the Contractor

Fred Waye

To the Architect

Laird L. Fairn, F.R.S.A.

To the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Dalhousie University,

Donald McInnes, Q.C.

To the President of Dalhousie University,

Dr. Henry D. Hicks, C.C., Q.C.

To the Director of Communications Services,

Louis Vagianos

## CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREES

Ernest Redmond Buckler

John Morgan Gray

Peter Augustus Frederick Grossman

Isaac Stern

## ADDRESS TO CONVOCATION

John Morgan Gray

O CANADA

BENEDICTION

## UNVEILING OF CORNERSTONE

Donald McInnes, Q.C.

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 for the unveiling of the cornerstone in the Killam Memorial Library.

Organist - Michael Gormley, Honours student in Music at Dalhousie University.

## CITATIONS

Mr. President:

Ernest Redmond Buckler is a graduate of Dalhousie University and one of Canada's finest writers. Although he was a successful short-story writer for years before he became a published novelist, the appearance in 1952 of his first novel, *The Mountain and the Valley*, gave ample evidence of a remarkable talent that placed him at once in the select company of truly significant Canadian writers. This first novel was followed in 1962 by another, *The Cruellest Month*, and in 1968 by a volume of reminiscent sketches of country life, *Ox Bells and Fireflies*.

To read Ernest Buckler's highly wrought and richly imaginative prose with the attention its fine craftsmanship and deep humanity deserve is a moving and enriching experience. It is no accident that *The Mountain and the Valley* impresses our undergraduates, freshmen and upper-classmen alike, as few other novels do, or that the same novel has already joined the august company of acknowledged classics in literature courses from coast to coast in Canadian universities. Its universal quality is manifest, but to Nova Scotians in particular this novel has unique value: it is a magnificent evocation of the surfaces and depths of country life in this province by a writer who is never satisfied with easy approximations and, in the words of his character David Canaan, will not rest until he possesses things "by describing them exactly".

For his outstanding contributions to the art of fiction and for his superbly sensitive revelation of the very texture of the Nova Scotian countryside, I ask you, Mr. President, in the name of the Senate, to confer upon Ernest Redmond Buckler the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

Mr. President:

John Morgan Gray, editor, historian, soldier, was born in Toronto in 1907, educated at Lakefield, Upper Canada College and the University of Toronto. In 1930 he joined the Educational Department of The Macmillan Company of Canada and, except during war service, has been associated with that company ever since. He took over its management in 1946, became its President in 1955 and since 1969 has been its Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

He has exercised an enormous influence in Canadian publishing. He actively encouraged the production of books about Canada and Canadians; not the least of his successes was the publication of Donald Creighton's famous biography of Sir John A. Macdonald. During his presidency, Macmillan's of Canada have acquired a noble list of many of the most distinguished books to appear in Canada during the past twenty years. He is an historian in his own right, having published an excellent biography of Lord Selkirk of Red River, whose name is intimately associated both with the West and with Prince Edward Island.

During the Second World War he served with the Toronto Scottish Regiment; and for his service with the Intelligence Headquarters of the 1st Canadian Army he earned an M.B.E.

For his conspicuous contribution to Canadian life and letters, for his wit, scholarship and earthy good sense, for his service to his country, I ask you, Mr. President, in the name of the Senate, to confer upon John Morgan Gray the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

Mr. President:

Peter Augustus Frederick Grossman is a librarian and a servant of the public.

A native of British Columbia, a graduate of the University of British Columbia and of the University of California, Mr. Grossman served as librarian in library systems in his own province, then as Director of Libraries of the Province of Nova Scotia, and, in more recent years, as Director of the Vancouver Public Library. He has been president of Library Associations of Halifax, the Maritime Provinces and of Canada and has represented the Canadian Association at meetings abroad.

Regional library services have been his special interest; he has studied developments abroad and he has sparked new services in this country. More than any other person he is responsible for the establishment of the regional library system in Nova Scotia, the basis for which was completed during his service here, and his survey of libraries of New Brunswick similarly led to development of regional services in that province.

Now retired from administrative responsibilities, Mr. Grossman has not left the world of books; he still assists the Vancouver Public Library and he maintains his interest in fine printing and binding and in the Vancouver Library press which he founded. In addition, his creations in pottery are regularly displayed and his interest in military history, arising from his service in the Second War, continues unabated.

On this occasion it seems fitting that we honour one who has contributed so greatly to his profession in service to the public, and whose work has meant much, particularly in this province. Thus, I ask you, Mr. President, in the name of the Senate, to confer on Peter Augustus Frederick Grossman the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

Mr. President:

The gift of true genius in the performing arts is given rarely — so rarely, in fact, that society usually demands little of the recipients except that they exhibit their talents periodically. Thus few great musicians have given the public more than their music. Isaac Stern has been a particular exception to this rule. He is acknowledged throughout the world as one of the great violinists of the century, both through solo performance and as a member of the unique Stern-Rose-Istomin trio. But he is also celebrated throughout the world as a distinguished citizen, who has lent not merely his name, but also his apparently limitless energy to innumerable national and international efforts to improve the quality of our lives.

When Carnegie Hall, the traditional shrine of great musical performance in America, was threatened with imminent demolition a few years ago, it was Isaac Stern who, in a matter of forty-eight hours, organized a group of concerned citizens who not only saved the hall, but restored it as an international mecca for musical performance. He has been adviser to the heads of nations on matters pertaining to the arts and a wise counsellor to innumerable young violinists on the threshold of professional careers.

In the era that may be remembered as one of suffering for so many people, few individuals have managed, through a combination of talent and thoughtfulness, to bring pleasure to so many members of the world's population. In gratitude for these rare gifts, Mr. President, I ask you, in the name of the Senate, to confer upon Isaac Stern the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.



