# **Draft History of Mount Royal**

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#### 1. Introduction

Mount Royal. For Calgarians, the name conjures up images of curving tree lined streets and stately old homes, of manicured lawns and gardens, of old money and gracious living. And for many decades, Mount Royal was indeed the elite neighbourhood of the city. Many of Calgary's wealthiest and most prominent citizens made their homes there. Many still do. Mount Royal was born at the end of the first decade of the twentieth century. The towns of the Canadian prairies were in the midst of a fabulous boom, transformed from dusty villages where livestock still roamed dirt streets to little metropolises with streetcars, theatres and bustling commercial districts. The Canadian Pacific Railway, so much a part of opening the west, started developing the large chunks of land it owned in many of these cities. The bare hillside rising out of the river valley, with its shallow gullies and coulees, may not have looked like a promising location for a luxury suburb, but in the eyes of the CPR's planners of the CPR. The company laid out a community especially for the well to do, giving them a refuge on the edge of the city, an elegant oasis created out of empty prairie.

This study is a social history of Mount Royal. More accurately, it is a history of the community as told through its human dimension, the people who called it home. It tries to answer the question: exactly what sort of people lived in Mount Royal? By looking at the lives of a select group of residents, we gain insights about what kind of people lived there and why, their standing in the community, their aspirations, and their accomplishments. By looking at the historical demographics of the district, as much as they can be understood, we learn something about the social and economic makeup of the neighbourhood and how it changed over time. We learn that in many ways, our impressions of the community as a time-tested preserve of the wealthy and the well-connected are not without foundation, but we also see that this was only part of the historical reality of Mount Royal.

# 2. Scope

This is a history of Mount Royal through its first fifty years. It covers a period stretching roughly from 1906 to 1956, from the neighbourhood's beginning, through its initial development, through its early maturation, and through a new era of expansion and renewal. A fifty-year span was chosen as it fit the resources available for this study and neatly bookends the community between two of the great economic booms in Calgary history. It also covers the historical period that is now slipping out of living memory and is most in need of study and documentation.

Although Mount Royal is one of the more geographically distinct neighbourhoods in Calgary, there is some blurring around the edges and it is necessary to define exactly what the boundaries of the neighbourhood are for the purposes of this study. At different times the name Mount Royal has been attached to the whole area from 17th Avenue to as far south as Sifton Boulevard and the Elbow River. (see map) The definition of Mount Royal used for this study conforms closely to the present boundaries given the community by the City of Calgary. On the west side it is 14th Street SW, on the east side it is the escarpment overlooking the districts of Elbow Park and Cliff Bungalow, on the south it is 34th Avenue and Council Way, and on the north it is the south side of Royal Avenue and Colborne

Crescent. The area north of Royal Avenue and south of 17th Avenue SW is now generally referred to as lower Mount Royal. It has not been included in this study as its development was somewhat distinct from Mount Royal proper.

Finally, this study is about the people of Mount Royal. Therefore, aside from a brief introduction to the general history of the district, no attention is given to the physical development of the area. Community institutions such as schools, clubs and associations are only touched on, and the reader will not find a discussion of the domestic architecture of the area. What the reader will find is almost two hundred biographies of area residents and an informed discussion of the larger social and economic changes in the area over five decades. This is not however, an exhaustive compilation. It only covers the first fifty years of a neighbourhood that is over ninety years old. There are many aspects of the district's social history that are not addressed. And there are bound to be individuals, historically significant or fascinating, who have been overlooked. No historical study is ever really exhaustive. I hope that readers will find this work interesting and informative, and that it be a wonderful resource for the community and an inspiration for more work on the history of this fascinating neighbourhood.

# 3. Methodology [may make this an appendix]

This section is a brief discussion of methodology used in this study for those readers who are curious. As the word implies, methodology is simply the methods that were used. It is essentially an explanation of how the research was done and why. There are two sections, one that discusses the broader analysis of Mount Royal's social history, which is called the structural history, and another that discusses the biography section. The two parts of the study work together. The structural history creates a context for the hundred and seventy biographies, while the profiles give deeper insights into the kind of people who called Mount Royal home.

# 4. The Structural History

This section of the study is concerned with the social structure of the neighbourhood and how it changed over time. With the evidence available, it tries understand the changing demographics of the area and to say something about social and economic nature of the neighbourhood. In essence, this is the big picture of Mount Royal, giving an overview of the sort of people living there over the first fifty years of its history. As such, it provides a context for the biographies presented in the second section. However, it must be stressed that this is a historical study, not a demographic study. Due the nature of the sources, it does not attempt the kind of statistical rigor expected by sociologists and their ilk. Instead, using only some basic statistics, we try to identify trends in the social development of the area. However, this work does try to reach beyond superficial impressions of Mount Royal and provide a useful analysis.

#### 5. Sources

A history is only as good as its sources. It is more difficult than one would expect to come to grips with the question of what kind of people lived in Mount Royal. If we want to discuss ethnic background, religious beliefs, the size of the families, the level of education, or occupations and income, we discover a problem: historical demographic information is limited. The best source should be the Dominion or Federal Government Census, but it is of surprisingly little use. Although it may seem like we are forever filling out census forms, which ask detailed questions about our occupations, income, family and even ethnic background, this information is very difficult to access. The raw data is not open to the public, including historians, and it is not summarised by neighbourhood, but instead by city or by census tract. For an area as specific as Mount Royal, there is really no reliable census information until quite recently. So while the census is the logical place to go, it is not very helpful.

All is not lost, however. City street directories were compiled and published for Canadian cities, primarily by the Henderson's Company of Winnipeg. Henderson's Directories are available for Calgary from 1885 through 1991. Starting in 1908, households were listed by street and avenue. This kind of directory is a very useful tool for historical research. They provide valuable clues about physical changes, such as when buildings are constructed – and demolished. They can also be used to reconstruct the social history of a neighbourhood. The directories list not only the head of each household, but also his (or her) occupation. Thus, we can see what most of the income earners do for a living. By making certain assumptions about what an occupation means in terms of income and social status, we can generalise about the social structure of a community like Mount Royal and the changes that take place over time. Furthermore, the directories also show us how long people stay at an address, so we can see how stable an area is and make educated guesses as to whether people own or rent their homes.

Henderson's Directories are not entirely trustworthy, as the compilers sometimes made mistakes in addresses and names. While they should be used with caution when identifying specific individuals, they are accurate enough to form generalisations about the residents of Mount Royal. Outside of directories and the census, our sources are limited, either not giving us much information beyond what the directories contain, or are consuming and more suited to biographical research. Thus, the city directories are the major source for the structural component of the study.

One other avenue of research is interviews. While the best way to find out more about people's lifestyles, attitudes, and particular events, this method has some drawbacks. The testimony from interviews is obviously subjective. People are frequently uncomfortable speaking about difference in affluence or social standing among their neighbours or between their community and others.2 Interview subjects are also often reluctant to talk about individual they know, either out of discretion or a fear of repercussions. A wide range of participants is usually necessary to avoid a skewed or biased view of an area. Arranging and performing interviews, however, is time consuming. Given the limited funding for this study, it seemed wiser to avoid interviews and rely on documentary sources, choosing a greater scope at the cost of less depth.

## 6. Analysis

So what can the occupations of the residents tell us about the neighbourhood of Mount Royal?

"The most nearly dominant single influence in a man's life is probably his occupation. More than anything else, perhaps a man's occupation determines his course and his contribution in life...there is no other single characteristic that tells so much about a man and his status – social, intellectual, and economic – as does his occupation."

While the language may now be sexist, the sentiments still hold true. We can make certain assumptions about people based on what they do for a living, so occupations are assumed to be a reasonable indicator of social and economic status. At the same time, knowing occupations can only tell us so much. We can only make educated guesses, for example, about a person's level of income. As for more informal aspects of social standing such as clubs, affiliations, cultural activities or political alignments, we are left with guesswork. Without being snobbish, however, it is fair to say some communities are clearly better off than others, and it stands to reason that a neighbourhood populated by lawyers, doctors and accountants will be different than one filled with mechanics, carpenters, delivery drivers and warehouse men.

For analysis, occupations were divided into ten broad categories, based loosely on the categories used in the Dominion census. The categories are purely descriptive. Business *Proprietors* includes small and medium business owners and company officers, as well as contractors in different trades. *Clerical Workers* covers the clerks, stenographers, bookkeepers, and adjusters that make up the support jobs of the white-collar workplace. Executive embraces the presidents, vice presidents, secretary treasurers and directors of large companies with operations extending outside of Calgary. General managers of big corporations were included in this category. Providers of financial services such as stockbrokers, insurance brokers and real estate brokers were grouped together as *Financial* Workers. The Managerial category encompasses the managers, administrators, superintendents and inspectors of businesses, government offices, and charitable organisations. *Professionals* include all the occupations that require university degrees and membership in a professional organisation, including doctors, lawyers, engineers, geologists, architects, accountants and educators such as instructors, teachers, principals and academics, as well as a few other miscellaneous types such as journalists. The financial category overlaps with *Sales Personnel*, which includes insurance agents and real estate agents as well as manufacturer's agents, travellers, salesmen and sales clerks. Skilled Workers covers a wide range of trades including tailors, carpenters, masons, plumbers, printers, and *Unskilled Workers* denotes jobs such labourers, teamsters, and warehouse workers. Retired householders and widows were given a category. Finally, a category marked *Unknown* is provided for the residents who did not provide a job description to the directory compilers.

There are some difficulties of interpretation about these categories that must be kept in mind and qualify any conclusions that have been made. There is a question of veracity: one must rely upon the accuracy of the compilers of the directories, as well as the honesty of those reporting their occupations. A second difficulty lies in grouping occupations. This was

essentially an arbitrary process. Many occupations can be categorised in several ways: a plumber who has his own plumbing business could be categorised by his trade or as a business proprietor. Corporate titles can be misleading; for example, a small local company might use titles such as president, chairman or secretary treasurer to describe its owners, but it makes more sense to classify them as business proprietors than executives. Some of the occupations, as listed in the directories, can cover a broad range of functions but also income and status. A clerk, historically speaking, can be anything from a simple stenographer to positions more akin to being a senior administrator. A third difficulty is the differences in social and economic position that can potentially exist between two individuals who may have the same occupation. In the legal or medical professions, for example, some practitioners might be much more prominent and financially successful than others.

As stated above, the categories we use are loosely based on the Dominion Census. Thus it is possible to compare the results from this study to the census, but again with some caveats. The different categories of occupations change from census to census. The census also organises its analysis of occupations by industry, such as primary or resource, manufacturing and service. In some census years, the statistics are broken down within these categories in such a way as to make it relatively simple to relate them directly to this study. Some categories such as Professionals or Sales are essentially identical. It is much more difficult to pick out other occupations, particularly business proprietors and skilled workers, so comparisons are not exact. Another important qualifier is the fact that only the statistics for male wage earners are used for comparison, although the census does detail the occupations of women as well. The city directories during our study period, however, overwhelming list men as the household head and only provide their occupations. Although in reality there were many working women of all descriptions in Calgary, they were not well represented in our sources.<sup>5</sup>

The second demographic indicator that can be derived from city directories is the time people remained in the area. The span of residence is assumed, with reservations, to be a measure of stability and an indicator of economic well-being, especially in so far as it indicates a resident owned their home. Home ownership, particularly before the Second World War, was an important financial achievement for most families. It is possible with other sources to determine whether or not a resident owned a house, but prohibitively time consuming to do on a large scale. However, it is reasonable to assume the turnover of residents in a house is indicative to some degree of home ownership. A high turnover probably meant the property was rented, and the opposite likely meant that the house was owned by the family living there. In any case, the rate of turnover of houses in an area and the number of houses vacant at any one time are an indication of the relative stability of the area. The overall rate of vacancy and number of residences with multiple households in the neighbourhood was tracked year by year.

Thus two demographic elements, occupation and residency, were analysed in five year periods, beginning in 1911. This corresponds in part to the Dominion Census, which was carried out every ten years until 1946, when it switched to five-year intervals. A direct comparison with statistics for Calgary was possible, subject to the reservations discussed above. Similar studies have also been carried out for the districts of Cliff Bungalow-Mission and Elbow Park in Calgary.<sup>8</sup> Although these earlier works have a different timeline and are less refined than the Mount Royal study, they provide direct comparisons to other areas

within the city. Both Elbow Park and Mission were clearly less prosperous than Mount Royal; Mission more so than Elbow Park. Both were, however, arguably pleasant, middle class neighbourhoods in the period we are concerned with, and provide a good contrast to the more upscale community on the hill.

With so many exceptions and reservations, a reader may be tempted to ask whether there is any point to the analysis section. The answer is yes. Although the sources are limited and so are the generalisations we can make about Mount Royal, patterns emerge that when connected to the history of Calgary and the individual biographies, give a useful picture of the district's social evolution.

## 7. Biographies

In a neighbourhood like Mount Royal, there is no shortage of people worthy of a biography. As the study is an attempt of document the social milieu of Mount Royal, it was important to examine as great a variety and number of people as possible. The biographies are therefore relatively short sketches or profiles. There were three guiding principles in choosing individuals for biographical treatments. The first was their general historical significance, the second was the degree and quality of the historical record they left behind, and the third was how well and what way they represented the neighbourhood. There is always a tendency, especially when dealing with a district like Mount Royal, for a collection of biographies to become "Lifestyles of the rich and famous." To some extent this is inevitable, but every effort was made to represent as wide a mix of residents as possible.

The term "historically significant" is itself vague and not easy to define. It is a matter of judgement for historians and there is no universally accepted set of criteria. Traditionally, individuals have been deemed historically important because they had prominent public lives, played a role in public affairs, or were leaders in business, religious, scientific or cultural fields. Many of the individuals profiled in these pages fit this definition. For this study, the definition was expanded to allow for people who may not have been opinion makers, but were simply interesting in one way or another.

One reason it is difficult to get away from this definition is the availability of information. The kind of historical record left behind by people is often determined by their public prominence, whether in the press or in archival repositories. Given the number of people who lived in the area, the likelihood that information would be available was necessarily an important factor in choosing whom to research. It had to be of sufficient quality and quantity to allow a reasonably complete biography to be composed.

Beyond this, efforts were made to choose people who came from a variety of backgrounds and reflected the character of the area. Research was also limited to individuals who resided in the area for two or more years. A number of notable figures are listed in Mount Royal for only a year, but only a few of these have been profiled, for two reasons. As is explained in the study, Mount Royal did not tend to have a large amount of transient residents, and therefore such residents were deemed to be unrepresentative of the neighbourhood. The likelihood of error in the Henderson's Directory also rises considerably for individuals listed at an address for only one year.

The three criteria produced some interesting results. For example, the reader may notice that certain groups of occupations, like lawyers, are heavily represented in the biographies. On one hand, only so many prominent lawyers need to be included to get the point across that prominent lawyers lived in Mount Royal. But at the same time, lawyers are easy to profile. They have a fairly public profession, and therefore tend to leave more of a record. The law was also a springboard for careers on the bench, in business and in politics, and thus lawyers often had an additional claim to fame. This one group fulfilled two of our three criteria quite well, but there was some danger of misrepresenting the prevalence of lawyers in Mount Royal. Many other occupations simply did not contribute as much to the historical record. At the same time, it is also true that proportionately more lawyers lived in Mount Royal than any other district in the city, and the large number of successful barristers and solicitors was definitely part of the character of the neighbourhood.

One last note. Readers will notice that women are very much under-represented in this study. This is not intentional, but largely due to the status of women in the first decades of this century and the bias of the sources. Married women residents were not generally listed in the city directories except as widows, and women were not particularly well-covered in contemporary sources. Although there were many exceptions, far fewer women had independent careers before World War Two. The main outlet for women was in volunteer work, and some examples are included in these pages. However, even prominent women were often eclipsed in the historical record by their husbands. Discovering more about the women of Mount Royal required a depth of research that was unfortunately, beyond the resources of this study. Whenever possible, the accomplishments of the community's women were noted within the profiles if there was not enough information for a separate biography

## 8. Sources

The city directories were an important source for the biographical section. They were the starting point for identifying subjects. The directories were surveyed systematically year by year, and a large number of relatively well-known figures were found this way. Individual with surnames that suggested connections to prominent families or occupations that were indicative of a public career or just interesting and unusual were followed up. Obviously this process was often a matter of intuition and trial and error, and it is unlikely that every individual worth further study was uncovered.

The biographies draw upon the vast resources of the Glenbow-Alberta Institute Archives and Library and the holdings of the Calgary Public Library. The sources range from personal and business correspondence, interviews and family histories, to newspaper articles and obituaries to books and published articles. Contemporary newspapers, especially obituaries, were the most fruitful sources and provided the majority of the information for the biographies. News articles often included interviews or profiles. The heavy reliance on newspaper accounts, does however, introduce certain biases. Especially in obituaries, most journalists shied away from controversial aspects and peoples' private lives and concentrated on records of accomplishments. The end effect is that many of the

biographies in this study could be called "public" or "official" histories. Not all the biographies presented here are that limited, but as this is a broad survey, it seemed acceptable.

The best tool for the biographer is the interview or oral history. It has one major drawback, however: they are time consuming. For this work, which looks at a broad spectrum of residents of Mount Royal (and which has limited resources), this was a barrier. Oral history is undeniably useful or even vital. Interviews with family and friends can introduce one to the personality behind the name, and fill in gaps in the official record. But in a survey such as this work, they perhaps provide more detail about one individual than can be used. Many of the people profiled in this work also lived for the most part outside living memory, their descendants two or three generations removed. Memories are fallible and family history can become family legend, and interviews cannot always be taken at face value. It seemed wiser to leave the oral history to a future researcher and a properly designed oral history project. This study complements, but does not replace, personal testimony.

Almost five hundred individuals were selected for further research. From this sample, one hundred and fifty biographies are included in this study. While perhaps two dozen of the individuals profiled are well-known historical characters, many have never before been studied, and the vast majority have never been associated with Mount Royal.

## 9. A Brief History of Mount Royal

## **Prehistory**

Calgary's location at the confluence of the Bow and Elbow is no accident. The spot had seen human traffic for hundreds of years. The Blackfoot Trail is not just an expressway, but the name given by fur traders and explorers to the traditional route of the Blackfoot Confederacy between the Oldman River and Fort Edmonton. The future site of Calgary was a good place to ford the Bow River, and the trail passed right through the area and up along Nose Creek. The promontory known as Nose Hill got its name from a Siksika or Blackfoot legend, and ancient campsites have been found throughout modern Calgary. In 1968, an extensive butchering site was discovered when the foundation of the building that houses Mona Lisa Art Supply on 7th Street SW near 17th Avenue was being excavated. Buffalo bones and primitive stone implements were found. Archaeologists believe that it was a popular and well-used area for the bison hunting. This conjecture creates the romantic spectacle of a herd of buffalo being stampeded to their doom down the north slopes of Mount Royal. In actuality, researchers concluded that the buffalo were more likely ambushed as they moved through a shallow draw or stream course at the base of the hill. But it is clear that humans have had a presence in the area for hundreds, even thousands of years.

Within historic memory, natives camped in the lee of Mount Royal, continuing an age-old practice, moving up the Elbow valley each season. <sup>11</sup> Up to three hundred years ago, the area around Calgary was controlled by the Blood Band of the Blackfoot Confederacy, then passed under control of the Blackfoot themselves. <sup>12</sup> The base of the hill and the coulees on

the hillside made good campsites, with brush for cover and for fires and plentiful small game. When the Oblate Fathers, a missionary order of the Catholic Church, established a log mission in 1875 along the Elbow near the site of the Holy Cross Hospital, natives would come to the Elbow Valley to visit. They would camp nearby, and some old-timers claimed they could remember tepees set up where the Glencoe Club now stands on Elbow Drive. We can imagine the prow of the hill would have served as a fine overlook for bands travelling through the area. Blackfoot braves on horseback may have stood there, surveying the valley beneath them as they approached the confluence of the Bow and Elbow Rivers.

The Oblates were followed by the Northwest Mounted Police in 1875, who built their fort beside the Bow and Elbow. The arrival of the Mounties did not change the area much at first. A small hamlet of tents and shacks sprang up east of the Elbow River by the fort, and a handful of settlers like Sam Livingston and John Glenn squatted on land nearby. It was the arrival of the Canadian Pacific Railway that altered the landscape forever. The immense undertaking of building a transcontinental railroad was partially funded by a generous land grant in the Northwest Territories, which at that time included all of Alberta, Saskatchewan and most of Manitoba. The railway was assigned the odd numbered sections of land in each township north and south of the rail line as it snaked across the prairie. The corporation could then recoup its outlay by selling their property to prospective homesteaders or exploiting any natural resources it might find. The land grant gave the CPR unprecedented power over the urban development of the west. 13 By placing stations and divisional points on its sections of land, the company essentially dictated where towns would be placed along the line. The CPR would survey a town site and then make a handsome profit selling lots. The course of history for Regina, Medicine Hat, Calgary and innumerable smaller centres was determined by the railway. In the case of Calgary, the CPR bypassed the small hamlet east of the Elbow by announcing in early 1884 that the station would be on the west side of the river in Section Fifteen of Town Site Twenty Four. Literally overnight, Calgary was moved by the railroad's dictate. Offered a rebate on lot purchases if buildings were erected by March, the residents of Calgary spent the winter of 1884 skidding most of their shacks and modest frame buildings across the Elbow and near the station.

As cities like Calgary expanded, they eventually encroached on other sections held by the CPR. Although the railway sold off much of their land to homesteaders, it cannily held on to sections near growing towns, banking on their much greater value as commercial or residential lots. Section Nine, which encompassed Mount Royal, Lower Mount Royal, Cliff-Bungalow and a small part of Elbow Park, sat empty as the southern limits of Calgary crept closer around the turn of the century. The CPR was patient. For fifteen years after Calgary incorporated in 1884, the city had grown very slowly and only had about 4,000 people in 1901, only a few hundred more than ten years previously. Not long afterward, the Liberal government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier brought in new immigration policies, actively soliciting farmers from Europe and the United States to come fill Canada's empty interior. This effort soon bore fruit, and as homesteaders poured onto the prairies, Calgary began an amazing ten year boom, its population growing tenfold from just over 4,000 to over 44,000 in the 1911 census. 14 The city fathers firmly believed the latter number was too low; their own census claimed over 60,000 residents for the city! Calgary –like every other town on the prairies – was going to be the next Chicago of the West, or at least the next Winnipeg. In any case, the city was growing by leaps and bounds. Real estate prices, fuelled by speculation, spiralled

upwards, and the section of land lying south-west of the city - in CPR hands - became very valuable. As it turned out, the company had special plans for the area, Calgary's first elite residential community, Mount Royal.

Shortly before the boom picked up steam, a young doctor from England approached the Canadian Pacific in search of some property. Dr. Ernest Wills was a specialist in tuberculosis and other lung diseases, and he was interested in setting up a sanatorium in Calgary. 15 According to medical wisdom of the day, a cool, dry climate such as found in vicinity of the foothills of Alberta was ideal for sufferers of lung ailments. More than a few of the city's early residents came west at the behest of their doctors. Wills arrived in Alberta in 1903, coming up from Colorado where he had practised for several years. He persuaded the CPR to sell him ten acres in the middle of section nine, set back from the brow of the hillside. Well removed from the little city, which still had not reached 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, the acreage was for all intents and purposes in the countryside. A substantial manse was built as a sanatorium and also a home for Wills and his family, with special canvass tents serving as summertime "chalets". Part of the cure included sleeping in these breezy quarters, sometimes from spring to fall. Unfortunately the young doctor met an untimely end soon after opening his new facility. In the habit of riding his bicycle to and from his downtown office, Wills had a terrific crash on the morning of September 21st, 1904. 16 Found later that evening by a worker at the sanatorium, Wills did not recover from his massive head injuries, dying the next day.

Mrs. Wills, left a widow, sold the sanatorium to another doctor, Richard Morrison, eponymous with the street in today's Mount Royal. Mrs Wills had tried to sell off her ten acres as lots, but had little luck.<sup>17</sup> In 1909, Morrison, his property now in the middle of the CPR's new subdivision of Mount Royal, subdivided the sanatorium grounds as Plan 304V and sold it off. The sanatorium itself remained at 2305 Morrison Street as the Calgary Convalescent Home until 1932, when it moved down to the old Honens home on Royal Avenue. The lots of Plan 304V remained an interesting anomaly in the precincts of Mount Royal, not conforming to the design of the rest of the neighbourhood, with a simple grid of lots on either side of Morrison Street.

By 1906, only two short years after giving Wills his acreage, the Canadian Pacific took serious look at the potential of Section Nine as a residential area. At some point, CPR management decided not just to subdivide the area into lots but also make it an upscale neighbourhood, catering to a well to do clientele. Although we don't know who exactly decided on this course of action, it was likely done on the recommendation of J. Lonsdale Doupe. As the chief surveyor for the CPR western region, Doupe was a major figure in the development of Mount Royal. Doupe had spent a number of years in the west surveying and administering CPR land, including laying out town sites and subdivisions. He was something of a visionary. Until the twentieth century, towns on the prairies were surveyed in unimaginative grids and as they grew, the grids grew. New ideas of town planning, however, were coming to the fore, derived from the musings of European architects and town planners. One concept that left its stamp on Calgary and Mount Royal was the Garden Suburb.

The Garden Suburb was part of the larger City Beautiful movement. Born in the Chicago Exposition of 1896, the City Beautiful was the expression of several trends in the new

discipline of city planning. <sup>19</sup> Towards the end of the nineteenth century, civic officials and also private developers sought to use urban land in more rational ways. Modern land use zoning was one product. Exponents of the City Beautiful wanted planners to lay out cities based on aesthetic principles. Cities were to be designed around parks and boulevards, with public squares lined by monumental government and commercial architecture, an eye towards cleanliness and beauty, and incorporating modern ideas on infrastructure. Unlike other contemporary schools of thought, City Beautiful was concerned more with the aesthetics of the urban environment than with rational city planning. The City of Calgary itself became sufficiently enamoured enough with this new trend to invite English architect and engineer Thomas Mawson to come in 1912 and consult with them on a civic makeover. <sup>20</sup> He was leading proponent of the principles of the City Beautiful. Mawson's elaborate plans, more illustrative than schematic, showed a Calgary of canals, waterways, fountains and grand public plazas, somewhat to the bemusement of the city council of the day.

The Garden Suburb was a natural outgrowth of the ideals of the new breed of city planner. Instead of an efficient but staid grid of streets and standardised lots, Garden Suburbs featured wending avenues and curving streets and ample space left for parks and landscaping. The streets and lots worked with the contours of the land rather than subduing it. Although not intended in theory solely for the upper classes, in practice the Garden Suburb was a natural style for a community intended for an elite clientele. In such neighbourhoods, lots were spacious and caveats on the land titles enforced setbacks and governed house sizes to ensure that only those with money, old and new, would build there. The original Mount Royal in Montreal was one of the first and best examples of an elite community built along the lines of a Garden Suburb in Canada. It was developed by the CPR and housed many of the railway company's own executives.<sup>21</sup> As the first decade of the twentieth century drew to a close, the time had come for the concept to be applied in other parts of the country. Cities in western Canada had become worthy of the name and were attracting a growing class of successful businessmen, investors, and professionals, and the CPR saw a market for exclusive residential districts. The CPR's Shaughnessey in Vancouver, started in 1908, was the finest neighbourhood in western Canada, the home of business tycoons, judges and politicians. Mount Royal was to be Calgary's counterpart.

In 1905, what would be Calgary's Mount Royal was bare hillside and bald prairie, without a name. When the company began selling residential lots in Section Nine, it was known simply as the CPR subdivision. And the company did not start out with anything inventive. Initially only certain portions of the section were subdivided, which comprised the areas now known as Lower Mount Royal, Cliff Bungalow and Royal Avenue along the foot of the hill. The first plan was registered in 1905 as 4453L. Blocks eight and nine along what would become Royal Avenue and Hope Street were subdivided, and 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Prospect Avenue at the top of hill was surveyed. While the lots were on the flats towards 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue were on a typical grid, Royal Avenue, 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Hope Street all curved with contours of the hill. The area was still outside the city limits and lacked any services such as water, sewer or electricity.

Despite this, a number of luxury homes were soon built along Royal Avenue, taking advantage of the large hillside lots. Louis Strong, grain dealer, E.G. Hall, sand and gravel

merchant, A.J. Sayre and Harold Honens, real estate brokers, were three of the seven who built houses around 1906.<sup>23</sup> All were Americans who had recently come to Calgary to take advantage of the business opportunities in the fast growing little city. At the time, the first generation of Calgary's nouveau riche – Sir James Lougheed, William R. Hull, Senator Pat Burns and others – lived along 13<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, on "Millionaires Row".<sup>24</sup> For the newcomers, the hillside in Section Nine gave them the breathing space to build their own mansions. But there was a cost to living in the countryside. Mrs. Hall was killed when a gasoline engine, powering the water pump for the house, exploded as she attempted to start it.<sup>25</sup> Badly burned, she died a day later in hospital.

The tragedy did not discourage other buyers. In 1907, the City of Calgary annexed large amounts of land in the south-west, including Section Nine, and started building water mains and sewage lines. The CPR moved to fill demand by opening up the entire area from Royal Avenue and Colborne Crescent south past the crest of the hill, registered as subdivision plan 179R. Doupe decided to take a different approach for this land. Using the contours of the hill, he designed "curvilinear" roads upwards and along the sides. The lots were very large, sometimes with 175-foot frontages, irregular, and many extended the full depth of the block, thus eliminating back lanes. The building lots were intended for large homes, and ranged up to \$6000 in price, a sum that could easily buy a good-sized house and lot in other parts of the city. Although the lots sold well, home construction remained concentrated around Hope Street and in Lower Mount Royal, probably due to availability of utilities. Over the next couple of years, Doupe fiddled with the design of the subdivision, eliminating many of the through lots and reorienting the streets on the west side, registered as plan 2112AC in 1910.

By this time the CPR subdivision was officially named Mount Royal, replacing the unofficial moniker of American Hill. Although there were only a handful of actual Americans living in the district, the name had become common usage and by the end of the decade most Calgarians called the area American Hill: even the city directories listed it as such.<sup>27</sup> Doupe was forced to take matters in hand when the Yankee residents on the hill began naming the streets after Revolutionary War heroes, and for his 1907 subdivision plans chose names reflecting Canada's British heritage, such as Durham, Colborne, Carleton and Dorchester. That was not the end of it. Even the oft-used name American Hill did not sit well with many leading residents of Calgary, who allegedly approached Doupe and petitioned him give the subdivision a name to something more fitting with Canada's imperial allegiance. William Toole, head of Toole Peet and the agent for the CPR in Mount Royal, and future Prime Minister R.B. Bennett led the movement. Mount Royal was chosen in honour of William Van Horne, CPR president, who made his home in Montreal's district of the same name.

Encouraged by good sales and the rapid construction of homes, the CPR decided to put the remaining land in Section Nine on the market.<sup>28</sup> Registered as plan 7080AJ, the lots were put on sale by realtors Toole Peet in late 1911. For the new subdivision, Doupe felt a need for some expert advice and called in the Olmstead Brothers, a landscape architecture firm from Brookline, Massachusetts.<sup>29</sup> The company was run by the two sons of F.L.Olmstead, the designer of New York's Central Park and a progenitor of the City Beautiful movement. J.C. Olmstead visited Mount Royal upon accepting the contract to consult on the design of its southern precincts. It was a challenge for the veteran landscape architect. Later, working

from maps back in the United States, he remarked: "it's a tougher topo than I remember." Doupe and his American advisors continued the formula used in the earlier plans: curved streets, taking advantage of the lay of the land, with large lots, some specially landscaped for building. The lot sizes were not as large as in the older section: many only had a 50 foot frontage, and back lanes had to be incorporated due to new city bylaws. A new variant on the patriotic theme was used for naming streets. The streets were named after French and French-Canadian explorers and military leaders, and so Laval, Levi, Champlain and Frontenac joined Carleton, Dorchester and Durham, while Quebec and Montreal complemented Amherst and Royal.

Throughout the subdivision, Doupe instructed his agents to put strict caveats on the properties. These applied to the older plans as well, and were to ensure that Mount Royal would develop into a high-class residential area. The caveats forbade any subdivisions, any commercial buildings, allowed only one house per lot, enforced a 25 foot setback from the street, and set a minimum value of \$2500 for any house built in the district. Most importantly the caveats would remain through any resale of the lots. Some areas remained outside the CPR restrictions. The Wills acreage along Morrison Street had been sold before any planning for Mount Royal had been carried out, and the area between Royal Avenue and Seventeenth also lacked restrictions, including many of the first homes along Royal and Hope Street. The effect of the caveats is obvious to anyone who visits the area today. Lowrise apartments from the fifties and sixties crowd the streets of lower Mount Royal, and the remaining old homes are jostled by upscale condominium developments. The precincts to the south, by contrast, remain single family homes. And perhaps most importantly, no businesses appeared in the neighbourhood, not even a corner store, to disturb the genteel ambience.

The CPR was not the only ones concerned with keeping a certain character for Mount Royal. The new residents themselves banded together as the Mount Royal Improvement Association to keep an eye on developments in the neighbourhood. One of the first fights was over the streetcar. In 1912, the City of Calgary was petitioned by some residents of the hill for a new line to serve the community, which would run up 8th Street from 17th Avenue and connect up with the 14th Street line somewhere around 34th Avenue. It sparked an ungodly row, with a counter petition and threats of lawsuits on the part of the residents, and no doubt some very unneighbourly words over hedges and back fences. It was a classic neighbourhood brouhaha: some residents liked the idea of having the convenience of the streetcar right at their front door and felt, as the city's best suburb, it was Mount Royal's due to have a connection. Others feared the noise and unsightliness of the line, and the easy access it would give non-residents to the neighbourhood. The city, not surprisingly, backed away from the controversy and shelved the proposed line. Twenty years later, perhaps due to the Depression, attitudes had softened. Somewhat ironically, the first gasoline powered buses in the city were introduced to provide transit service to Mount Royal!

By 1913, Mount Royal was established as a community. Over a hundred homes had sprouted up on the hillside above Royal Avenue and on Prospect Avenue, and even a few to the south. The first school for the neighbourhood was built in 1910 along 14<sup>th</sup> Street.<sup>33</sup> The Mount Royal School was one of the large sandstone schools that served as landmarks throughout Calgary and in some areas still do. The Mount Royal School looked after

children from both sides of 14<sup>th</sup> Street – both sides of the tracks, so to speak. As Mount Royal and the other nearby neighbourhoods grew, the Calgary school board decided that the area needed an additional elementary school, and in 1911 paid a phenomenal \$18,000 for two lots on Hillcrest Avenue.<sup>34</sup> A six room sandstone school was built for grades one to eight and christened Earl Grey after the serving Governor General of Canada. Initially, the school was not restricted to the children of Mount Royal, but also took kids from Elbow Park and Mission. Consequently, the school was soon bulging at the seams, a situation not relieved until the twenties when more institutions were built, including Cliff Bungalow Elementary, Elbow Park Elementary, and finally Rideau Junior High. Not every child in Mount Royal went to the neighbourhood's public schools. Catholic children had to walk over to St. Mary's in Mission. We know from anecdotal evidence that some neighbourhood kids attended Calgary's private schools, Western Canada College and St. Hilda's Girl's School, while others went to academies in British Columbia or eastern Canada.

Mount Royal lacked a neighbourhood church, making it something of an anomaly in early Calgary. Almost every neighbourhood in the city had a church from at least one of the major denominations, and some districts had several. In nearby Elbow Park, real estate developer Freddy Lowes had donated land and Christ Church was started there in 1911. But Mount Royal was expensive, and then there were the restrictive caveats. Unless the CPR wished to donate property, it was unlikely any congregation would try to build a church. The community was also too small, ironically. In 1913, there were just over a hundred households in the area, not really enough to support a church. And many congregations could be found nearby, whether Christ Church Anglican in Elbow Park or St. Stephen's in Connaught, St. Mary's in Mission or Sacred Heart on 14<sup>th</sup> Street, or First Baptist on 4<sup>th</sup> Street. The residents of Mount Royal were also probably the most mobile in the city, and many attended the older and more prestigious congregations in the downtown core such as Knox Presbyterian, Central Methodist, or the Cathedral Church of the Redeemer.

The war and the end of the boom brought the development of Mount Royal to a halt. The real estate market had crested in 1912, and even before war clouds gathered on the horizon, immigration began to drop off and the local economy went into a slump. The discovery of petroleum at Turner Valley in May 1914 helped disguise the reality of the recession, especially in Mount Royal. Calgarians were seized with oil fever. Everyone, it seemed, rich or poor, couldn't invest fast enough in oil stocks and brokers suddenly appeared to let them do just that – some four hundred companies were registered in just a couple of months, the vast majority of which never drilled a well. Many of the real estate and financial brokers suddenly became specialists in oil, selling stocks or leases for drilling in the valley. This was definitely the case in Mount Royal, and not only did many of the real estate salesmen who lived there suddenly become petroleum promoters, there was a proliferation of oil company presidents and vice presidents. Within six months it was over, and with the war drying up all sources of investment, the boom that had started almost ten years before was bust.

The end of the boom meant a change of direction for Mount Royal. Up to 1914, the homes built on the hill tended towards the massive. Not every house was a mansion, but they were large by Calgary standards and there were many estate homes. Most of the existing development was concentrated in Upper Mount Royal. After the war, construction picked up, but the new homes changed in character. Many of the houses built in the twenties,

thirties and forties were smaller, sometimes quite small. The bungalow made its first appearance in the community. Along streets like Prospect, which had not been completely built up before the war, a three-story brick mansion might have a simple bungalow placed right beside it. South Mount Royal had seen little development before the war. Although the lots had been smaller and less expensive, sales had been slow when it went on the market. The demand for estate homes apparently had limits, even in boomtown Calgary. Only a few houses were built in that part of the neighbourhood before World War One. By the forties, this area was more built up, but with a greater mix of houses. Some lot owners clearly ignored or circumvented the restrictions on home value, but the minimum requirements the CPR had put in place ensured that most of the domiciles built in the area were substantial.

Between the wars, Mount Royal put the garden into garden suburb. The thousands of trees planted in the area by the CPR, the City of Calgary, and by homeowners started to reach maturity. Many residents started gardens, which could be quite elaborate. John Burns, president of meatpacking giant Burns and Company, created a Japanese garden in the empty lot adjoining his house, while Campbell Snowdon had a rose garden that people came from all over the city to see. The city also started work on the small park spaces that dotted the neighbourhood. The Parks Department under William Reader did an amazing amount of work over the course of two decades, transforming Calgary from bald prairie to a city of trees. In the Mount Royal, a number of small parks were properly landscaped with grass lawns, shrubs and flowerbeds and even rustic pathways.<sup>38</sup>

Mount Royal also became the proud possessor of a golf course! Major Duncan Stuart of Hillcrest Avenue was a great golfing enthusiast, and although Calgary already had a golf and country club, he decided it would be handy to have one right outside his front door. In 1919, Stuart and some other enthusiasts leased enough land from the CPR beside Earl Grey School for a little five-hole course on the prairie grass, with three holes sharing fairways with the school playground! Three years later the Earl Grey Golf Club had nine holes and eighty-five members. Mixing golf and houses was, however, a little ahead of its time. Not all residents were happy to have the course there, mostly due to stray balls. Towards the end of the twenties, the club moved to Premier Way when the sales of lots picked up and the CPR cancelled the lease, and in 1932 it was relocated permanently to the shores of the Glenmore reservoir.

The end of the World War One had brought a brief resurgence to Calgary's economy. A spate of home construction took place throughout the city, but was soon ended by another severe recession as Canada, like many nations struggled to adjust to the post war world. Several bad years of drought didn't help matters any, causing great distress to local farmers. By the mid-twenties, prosperity returned and by the end of the decade, the good times had arrived again, the fabled "Roaring Twenties". In Calgary, there was another resurgence of the oil industry as people once again had money to spare for investing. A number of new oil millionaires moved into Mount Royal, while other established residents became rich on investments in Turner Valley. Cars became a familiar sight on city streets, and families in Mount Royal got rid of their horses and carriages. More homes, including a number of mansions, were built: over a hundred between 1928 and 1930 alone!<sup>41</sup> It looked like the good times were back to stay, but in October of 1929, the stock market bubble in New York

burst, sending shock waves through the economies of the world that would culminate in the Great Depression.

The Depression years were not kind to Mount Royal. The frenzy of home building, started in the last years of the roaring twenties, quickly petered out. Millions of people had lost money on the stock market crash, and the number from Mount Royal who did so was probably disproportionately high. Many vacant lots in the area not still owned by the CPR were seized by the city for non-payment of taxes, and the value of all the property dropped precipitously. 42 A number of the grandest homes also ended up in the hands of the city. Natural gas baron Eugene Coste, who had gone back to eastern Canada some years before, gave his house up to pay back taxes after trying to donate it as a museum. After the death of Thomas Skinner, real estate magnate, his magnificent home on 7<sup>th</sup> street was seized. There were suggestions that it should become the civic museum, and it was used as a barracks for the Canadian Women's' Army Corp, but after sitting vacant for a number of years, it was demolished around 1953. There is no estimate of how many homes had liens filed against them for taxes or missed mortgage payments, but there were more than a few. Just as Shaunessey in Vancouver became "Poverty Hill", Mount Royal picked up the sobriquet "Mortgage Hill." <sup>43</sup> Some old time Calgarians remembered that local merchants complained far more about trying to collect bills from the city's blue bloods in Mount Royal than from working class people in neighbouring communities. 44 Others remembered that as boys, they would go up to the neighbourhood and break into abandoned houses, wandering around the grand hallways and drawing rooms that might very well have been visited by royalty or foreign dignitaries a few short years before.<sup>45</sup>

All in all, the neighbourhood managed to weather the Depression. Although there were some spectacular bankruptcies, most of the established families remained firmly rooted in the neighbourhood. It was the largest homes, hard to heat and expensive to keep up, that suffered the most. Some houses, especially down near lower Mount Royal, were converted into suites, but not many. If a few houses stood empty most still had families sitting out the economic storm. People who grew up in the general vicinity during the Depression remember the neighbourhood as being relatively unaffected. Most families cut back on luxuries, but the residents of Mount Royal were probably much better equipped to withstand bad times than the less well off. And for anyone whose income was relatively unaffected by the Depression, Mount Royal became much more affordable as land and house prices dropped. Even during the worst years, Mount Royal continued to grow, as those who still had money moved into the area, but very slowly. The worst of the Depression was over when World War Two began in 1939, but the war ensured that the neighbourhood would remain stagnant and little changed in Mount Royal until the late forties.

At the end of World War Two, Mount Royal was still on the edge of Calgary. A short walk took residents out onto open prairie; to the south and the west a few isolated houses, relics of the many suburbs planned but never built, and some farms would have met their eye. It was not uncommon for people from Roxboro, Elbow Park and Mount Royal to keep horses tethered in the fields during the summer and to go for rides when the spirit moved them. Like many other neighbourhoods, there was still a large amount of unused land within the precincts of the community. There was also a demand for housing in Calgary that was reaching a crisis point: in 1946, there was a waiting list of over two thousand families looking

for homes. <sup>47</sup> Initially, the lack of building supplies and tight money kept this demand pent up, but as the Federal government established new programs, aimed at kick starting the construction industry and provide inexpensive housing for returning veterans, the dam burst and a frenzy of new home construction began across the country. <sup>48</sup> In Alberta, the discovery of crude oil at Leduc in 1947 was an enormous boost to the economy, and petroleum soon replaced agriculture as the mainstay of the province. The oil boom brought thousands to Alberta and to Calgary, and the city began to mushroom.

Initially the City of Calgary restricted the development of new suburbs. <sup>49</sup> In the first real estate boom, Calgary had extended its city limits far beyond what it needed; anticipating the empty prairie would be filled in short order by new suburbs. Forty years later, it was finally coming to pass! City council was not interested in trying to provide services for subdivisions springing up willy-nilly. Armed with zoning bylaws instituted in the thirties and determined to avoid past mistakes, the civic administration aimed to fill its existing limits before allowing any expansion. The city also wanted to get rid of its enormous inventory of vacant lots, most seized for tax arrears after the first boom. For about ten years after the war, Calgary stayed largely within its old limits, and the need for vacant land was high. The CPR, which still owned a great deal of property in Mount Royal, was happy to meet the demand. Most of South Mount Royal, from Premier Way to Council Way and south to 34th Avenue, was still empty of houses, but not for long. Mount Royal saw a sustained burst of construction, and by the end of the fifties, it was mostly built up. The look of the area changed, too. While the older northern parts had many stately Edwardian homes, the south section of the neighbourhood was filled with the bungalows, split-levels and ranch houses beloved of the fifties and sixties. Among the new homes were some stylish designs of the local architectural fraternity. For money had not left Mount Royal. The thriving petroleum industry brought many new oil barons to the neighbourhood.

Once neighbourhoods like Mount Royal had begun to fill up, Calgary was forced to allow suburban development to keep up with the influx of new residents. Some old subdivisions, laid out but never developed before World War One, suddenly came to life, such as Elboya and Brittania. New communities sprang up rapidly. Within a decade, Mount Royal went from the outskirts to the inner city, from slightly countrified to urban. Due to the strict rules that governed development within the neighbourhood, it retained its essential garden character, and in fact became an oasis. The genteel character of the area was a great asset, keeping it desirable to a new generation of professionals and business people. Some new suburbs tried to emulate Mount Royal. Areas like Bel-Air competed for the same sort of residents, but at the same time lacked the character of the old historic homes and landscaped streets. At the same time, people who years before might have automatically moved into Mount Royal or Scarboro now had more options. Another threat to the neighbourhood was the growing popularity of acreages on the outskirts of the city. Some well-established residents of Mount Royal left for new estate homes with a little more elbowroom.

As an inner-city neighbourhood, Mount Royal had to face some new challenges. One was redevelopment. In lower Mount Royal, many houses were demolished and replaced with inexpensive walk up apartment blocks. This sort of development crept south towards Mount Royal proper, and a few houses along Royal Avenue were replaced by apartments. This area had already witnessed the conversion of some of the fine old houses into suites, such as the

Strong house and the Taprell house. While an exaggeration to say the northern fringe of the neighbourhood was getting seedy, it was definitely losing its original character. And despite the caveats against subdividing property, there was increasing pressure to allow property owners to do just that. Applications for subdivision had begun in the thirties, and picked up steam after the war. However, the complex legalities created by the caveats and pressure from residents made subdivisions the exception rather than the rule.

Traffic was another major issue that faced Mount Royal in the sixties. As Calgary grew, the density of traffic also increased, and downtown commuters began to use the streets of American Hill as shortcuts to the city core. The community was expressly not designed for this sort of use, and there was much concern among residents over the safety of children and the potential for a serious accident. The Mount Royal Community Association eventually took their concerns to the City of Calgary. In a precedent setting decision, in 1972 the city council approved barricades on various streets and avenues leading into Mount Royal to discourage through traffic. It provoked quite a controversy, with irate motorists complaining of the inconvenience and accusations of elitism and special privilege bandied about in the media. Although most of the barricades later came down, replaced by stop signs and better expressway access to downtown, the principle remained, to the benefit of other neighbourhoods aside from Mount Royal.

Unlike many other inner-city communities in Calgary, Mount Royal never lost its essential character or its popularity as a place to live. Although the neighbourhood went through a period of change, with an ageing population and redevelopment on its outskirts, the influx of new residents in the fifties helped keep it vital. The more modest residences built from the twenties to the fifties allowed younger families to move into the area. And although some of the grand houses of Mount Royal fell into disrepair and were demolished, the arrival of new oil millionaires in the late fifties helped save others. The Coste House is one example. Built by Eugene Coste, founder of Canadian Western Natural Gas, it languished empty for a decade, then became the Allied Arts Centre, and in the seventies, as the city contemplated demolishing it, the house was saved by Bob Lamont, another natural gas czar. Many smaller houses were snapped up in the sixties by moderately comfortable families, at a time when old houses of the inner city were undervalued compared to the new suburbs. Compared to many other areas, like the Beltline, Connaught, Victoria Park or Mission, Mount Royal remained vital and desirable, its homes well kept and attractive.

Going into a new century, Mount Royal is possibly more popular than it ever has been. Even the smaller bungalows built between the wars are now too expensive for most families as property values have skyrocketed. The early mansions, some lovingly restored, have been joined by an eclectic mix of houses in every style of architecture, coming around full circle to neo-traditional designs with the verandas, dormers and gables beloved of Edwardian home builders. But most importantly, the community has successfully resisted the commercial and high density development that radically changed other historic neighbourhoods, as well as the subdivided lots and infill homes that overwhelms still others. Smaller homes are disappearing, replaced by much grander modern homes, but they fit the environs of Mount Royal quite well. As when it was founded, the district is the home to entrepreneurs, professionals, managers and executives, with the highest average income in the city. The neighbourhood remains a gracious place of winding tree line streets and lovely homes. It is

no longer a garden suburb: surrounded by hundreds of new subdivision, malls, and industrial parks, it is now an oasis.

#### The Social Evolution of Mount Royal.

This section is an analysis of the social makeup of Mount Royal through its first fifty years. The goal is to create an overview of the district's social history by means of the demographic information that can still be obtained. These generalisations provide a context against which one can read the biographies of the sundry residents that are profiled in these pages. Given that our demographic information is quite limited, there is only so much that can be said about the social makeup of Mount Royal. In one sense, it is it is not really necessary to prove Mount Royal was – or is – a well to do neighbourhood. A drive through the area makes that clear! But communities change. By digging a bit deeper, we can know if this seemingly upper crust area really lived up to appearances, and if so, if it remained that way, and just what sort of people lived in the city's leading neighbourhood. Even subtle changes can speak volumes not only about Mount Royal, but also about the history of Calgary.

#### **Boom and Bust**

In 1906, Calgary was on the verge of an extended period of unprecedented growth. Mount Royal as we know it began with just a handful of American businessmen along Royal Avenue and Hope Street. Even five years later, in 1911, Mount Royal barely existed. The half dozen houses that had made up American Hill proper had grown to about thirty. Over a third of these lined the south side of Royal Avenue. A few houses sat on Hope Street and 7th Street where they wended their way up the hill and on Prospect about five residences looked down upon the city. As the boom really exploded, the neighbourhood grew quickly, and by 1913 had about ninety households, a three-fold increase, mostly concentrated in the north end of the community. Compared the amount of subdivided land available in Mount Royal, however, the area was still mostly empty. As far as people went, it was a small community.

In 1911, the City of Calgary officially had 43,704 people.<sup>52</sup> It was a town of immigrants: there had been just over four thousand residents ten years before. Each new arrival fuelled the spiral of growth. And while many had come to the city to start businesses and there was a busy professional class, Calgary was predominantly a city of unskilled labourers, many for the CPR.<sup>53</sup> Only four percent of the city's residents described themselves as professionals in the 1911 Dominion Census, which included teachers, artists, the clergy and journalists as well as doctors, lawyers, engineers and accountants. Slightly more people made a living as merchants or businessmen of some sort. Much like any city in an imperfectly mechanised age, Calgary had a multitude of people who cleaned, washed, carried, lifted, and so on. With the massive amount of construction under way, perhaps a quarter of the residents were there to work in the building trades. In this context, Mount Royal stood head and shoulders above the other communities of Calgary.

Mount Royal had been created as a well to do community, and its first residents reflected this. The thirty people that lived there in 1911 were solidly upper middle class, quite evenly spread between businessmen, managers, and professionals. At the same time, the early residents were for the most part not yet Calgary's elite. Most of the wealthiest established

families lived on Millionaire's Row in Connaught: the Lougheed's, the Burns, the Hulls and others. The people of Mount Royal were the next wave of business owners and real estate speculators who would become wealthy from Calgary's boom. As we mentioned above, a large number were Americans, mostly involved in real estate, and indeed of the twenty seven residents who gave an occupation, six were real estate brokers. Another six ran their own businesses, in wholesale groceries, grain and seed, the liquor trade, stationery and a hotel. If four percent of Calgary's residents claimed they were professionals in 1911, over sixteen percent of Mount Royal's small population said the same thing. An engineer, a prominent lawyer and an accountant represented the professionals. Perhaps surprisingly, the largest group in the area was engaged in management. These men looked after bank and insurance company branches, and in one case, the irrigation operations of the Dominion government. Well paying jobs, with a certain amount of social cachet; not, however the domain of the truly wealthy. But the new subdivision was not just for the well-off. There was also a musician and a teacher among the new residents of the area, respectable enough occupations, but not particularly lucrative. As we shall see, there was always room in the district for people of more modest means. Even five years into its existence, the household heads of Mount Royal were overwhelming white collar and generally well off, as was clear from the homes they were building. This was to be the enduring character of the district.

By 1913, Mount Royal was beginning to take shape. There were almost a hundred households in the neighbourhood, a more representative sample of residents. We see that almost a quarter of Mount Royal residents were independent businessmen, running a diverse range of firms. They made up the largest group of residents. The number of managers, however, had dropped to under fifteen percent: many of these men worked in financial institutions. The managerial class was outnumbered slightly by the brokers, in insurance, stocks and of course, real estate. All the professions were well represented, making up the next largest group of occupations in the neighbourhood. The seven lawyers, including a judge, dominated this bunch, but there were now a number of doctors as well as engineers. A number of very prominent local business executives, such as **Eugene Coste** of Canadian Western Natural Gas, **James Davidson** of Crown Lumber and Peter Naismith, manager of the CPR Department of Natural Resources now lived there. Some of the city's wealthiest real estate dealers were there as well: men like A. Judson Sayre and Thomas Skinner. Interestingly, although many of the city's wealthiest and most powerful businessmen would live in Mount Royal over the next few decades, the number of executives tended to hover around five percent of the residents.

Noteworthy by their absence was those of more modest means. Of course, this is to be expected. Lots were expensive in pre-war Mount Royal, and even in a few short years it was clear whom the neighbourhood was intended for. Although other areas in Calgary such as Elbow Park or Mission could boast a sizeable number of professional men and businessmen, Mount Royal drew those who wanted and could afford a larger lot and a bigger home. In contrast, Mission had some substantial homes and well off families, but was characterised by relatively small lots and row housing. Elbow Park was more upscale, with some lovely houses and fifty-foot lots throughout the area, but still a far cry from the landscaped environs of the hill. It was not necessary to be rich to live in Mount Royal, but with even the smallest lots selling for around \$500 and a \$2,500 building requirement, most people could not afford it. There was no room for the labouring classes

or even many of the middle class. In the Mount Royal of 1913, only one resident fell into the category of unskilled worker: the chauffeur for Coste, who lived in a separate coach house. Outside of a few big contractors, there were none of the tradesmen that were so ubiquitous in early Calgary. In Mission in 1913, there were numerous contractors and craftsmen. And there almost none of the multitude of clerical staff or salesmen, travellers, and agents that might be found elsewhere in the city.

Elbow Park, the district just to the south of Mount Royal, provides a good contrast to its neighbour. Developed by real estate promoter Freddy Lowes in 1907, it was also intended for a well to do clientele. Lowes, however, did not go to the same lengths as the CPR. The area was laid out for the most part on a grid, and while lots were larger than average, they were not up to Mount Royal standards. Lowes also played around with the idea of building restrictions, but never enforced them. A few estate homes were built there, especially along the Elbow River, which would have looked at home in Mount Royal. But the suburb never lived up to its promise. Elbow Park evolved into a comfortable middle class district, but never challenged Mount Royal or Scarboro, another CPR neighbourhood, as the city's elite community. In the early days of Elbow Park, it was quite similar to Mount Royal with a large number of professionals, businessmen, financial brokers, and management living there. It later evolved along more modest lines. While most of its residents had some kind of white-collar occupation, there was a greater range than in Mount Royal, with clerks and salesmen, as well as lawyers and bank managers. However, in Elbow Park the unskilled workingman was also a rarity.

By the beginning of World War One in 1914, the economy in Calgary had turned sour. As is often the case with booms, the tide quite suddenly turned. The immense surge of immigration into the prairies levelled off after 1912. Investors from Great Britain and the United States found fewer opportunities in western Canada and, jittery because of the situation in Europe, and stopped sending money. Business activity had dropped noticeably by the summer of 1913. Despite a brief recovery in the spring, aided by the oil frenzy, the outbreak of war confirmed what many already knew. The boom was over.

#### The War to end all Wars.

World War One was an event of global magnitude. Canada, while not a battleground, was enormously affected by the conflict. Almost a million Canadians, a tenth of the population, served in the military, and the nation's war effort established it as an industrial power. The effects of the Great War were pervasive, but it is not easy to see what direct influence it had on a community like Mount Royal. By 1916, the district had grown to over 120 addresses: the neighbourhood was four times larger than it had been five years before. In most respects, it remained very much the same. Business proprietors and professionals made up over forty percent of the working residents. Lawyers and jurists made up over half of the professionals to be found in the area. Despite the end of the land boom on the prairies, real estate brokers were still common among area residents, and financial brokers of all types made up about sixteen percent of occupations. In nearby Elbow Park, the proportion of businessmen and financial men had plummeted, from twenty-three and sixteen percent respectively to eleven and ten percent. Mount Royal was more stable. In ten years, the neighbourhood had established a solidly upper crust character: there was only a minuscule

number – two percent – of the residents in clerical work, and literally no skilled or unskilled working class people at all!

So how did World War One affect the people of Mount Royal? Did the men of the neighbourhood leave home for the battlefields of France? Our sources don't tell us a great deal, but there are clear indications the war did not to unduly stress residents. There was little sign that the male homeowners of the area left en masse to join the military. In other areas of Calgary, such as Mission, the number of vacant homes rose dramatically as families left during the war years, presumably as the head of the household went into the military. Mission had over ten percent of its homes become vacant in 1916, while in more affluent Elbow Park, over six percent of the residences stood empty. We don't see anything similar in Mount Royal. There were only three empty residences in the community in 1916, less than two percent. Another indication Mount Royal was less troubled was the fact most of its residents stayed put. Only about fourteen percent of the houses in the area changed hands in 1916, again much less than in Mission or Elbow Park, where almost a third of the residences see new owners or renters. It is indirect evidence, but it seems clear that there was little pressure from the war on residents of Mount Royal.

Although conjecture, it was probably the case that the household heads in Mount Royal were less likely to join up to fight. For one, many residents would have been older: Mount Royal was an expensive place to live, which guarantees that a fair number of its denizens would have been well on in their careers, and past military age. Most of them had substantial business interests that would not have been easily abandoned. The residents of the hill from the United States would have been much less interested in the war than those of British or Canadian origins: the Americans did not enter the conflict until 1917. Of those Mount Royal residents that did serve in the First World War, many were officers in the medical corps and in supply and logistics, drawing upon their civilian expertise. This is not to suggest that Mount Royal did not do its part. There was the home front and many organisations like the Red Cross or war finance drives that needed volunteers. And there were the sons. Although no one knows how many of the young men of the district went to war, more than a few did not return.

# **The Roaring Twenties**

The immediate post war years were not promising ones in Calgary or the world in general. The Spanish Influenza epidemics killed millions from 1918 through 1921. The end of wartime demand sent the economy into a major slump. The real estate and immigration boom on the prairies ended with the war and never started again. And to cap matters, first over-supply brought wheat prices crashing down from wartime highs and then a severe drought destroyed crops for several years. Calgary, essentially still a service centre for the cattle ranching and wheat farming industries, was quite adversely affected by this disaster.

Even the sheltered world of Mount Royal bore witness to the state of the economy. The area grew little immediately after the war: there were only eight more houses in 1921 than there had been five years before. The neighbourhood became somewhat unsettled, with just over a fifth of the houses seeing new owners or tenants, although there were almost no vacant homes. There were changes in what people did for work as well; some of which reflected the

economic situation. The number of financial men - brokers of all sorts - dropped noticeably to about ten percent of the householders, although many were still involved in real estate. A similar drop occurred in Elbow Park, which also had a large number of men working as insurance, stock and real estate brokers. The demand for investment services faltered in the poor economy. Less successful brokers either departed for more lucrative pastures or were forced to leave the hill due to straightened circumstances.

The post war years were also bad ones for businessmen in Calgary. In Elbow Park and Mission, the number of business owners fell noticeably. Ten years before, almost a third of Elbow Park's residents had been business proprietors, and in 1913, it had been twenty three percent. In the early twenties, it dropped to only twelve percent. The number of business owners had never been as high in Mission, but there too, it fell from around eleven percent in the 'teens to half that in 1921. Mount Royal however, bucked this trend. The proportion of businessmen had actually increased and comprised over thirty percent of the residents in 1921. There are a couple of possible explanations. The contrast may be due to social mobility. Successful businessmen in Calgary likely traded their houses elsewhere for an address on Mount Royal, thus consolidating the business community into that one suburb. In the unfriendly climate of the post war recession, many firms also no doubt went under. The increase in the business community of Mount Royal may have been a case of survival of the fittest. The owners of smaller firms, less likely to live on the hill, could not deal with the business conditions. Those who survived either had a Mount Royal address, or found they could afford one!

The proliferation of business proprietors in the neighbourhood demonstrates that the recession did not greatly affect the more affluent residents found in Mount Royal. The community kept the tony character it had acquired before the war. Lawyers, now including several judges, doctors and other professionals made up just over a fifth of the household heads. The number of managers climbed slightly to about nineteen percent, still dominated those employed by banks, insurance companies, and brokerage firms. The contrast between Mount Royal and the rest of Calgary was quite marked. Only about four percent of the city's wage earners were considered professionals in 1921, and business owners and managers stood at around seven percent. More than a fifth of Calgary's post war work force was still unskilled workers. Not surprisingly, there were no unskilled labourers in Mount Royal at all, one tradesman, and a handful of householders in clerical or sales positions, making up less than ten percent of the residents.

By the middle of the decade, both the world and local economy had recovered, and the legendary "roaring twenties" were in full swing. Mount Royal began to grow by leaps and bounds: the number of houses increased from 144 in 1926 to an astounding 308 in 1931, doubling before the Depression settled in. Despite the growth, it became increasingly stable: if new houses are not considered, only about sixteen percent of the households changing residents in 1926, dropping to just eleven percent in 1931. Not all the growth involved large estate homes, however, as for the first time since its inception, we see more modest houses appear in Mount Royal. Many of these were one storey bungalows or one and a half story houses: not tiny, but a size common in the rest of Calgary. However, this does not mean there was a sudden influx of the working classes. If homes were smaller, it was more likely that individuals were moving into Mount Royal at younger ages, and not perhaps as well established. We see several cases of younger members of established and powerful Calgary

families from outside the neighbourhood, such as the Lougheeds, make an appearance, and in some cases children from Mount Royal families established their own households. Thus, although the neighbourhood continues to be dominated by professionals, managers and business owners, some were likely younger, still new to their careers, and perhaps not so well off yet, but attracted by the ambience of the neighbourhood.

It is difficult to judge a person's economic well being solely from their occupation. In the case of Mount Royal, we can say – and this is a point that we will return to – that there were likely people of more modest means among the many affluent residents. In many lines of work, there might be a wide range of income depending on the point someone is at in their career, or how successful they may be. Thus a lawyer might earn what many would call a middle class income, or earn a very substantial income and be quite wealthy. A manager or owner of a small business might not be well paid at all, or even have much status. And some types of professionals, such as teachers, earn substantially less than others – historically speaking, for many years teaching was a relatively impoverished profession. And it is interesting to note that in the late thirties and forties, a number of teachers and principals called Mount Royal home. Furthermore, as we all know, a tradesman such as a plumber might easily make a very substantial amount of money. A person's occupation and presumed income would also not show things like inherited wealth. Thus in Mount Royal we can reasonably judge that many residents would have been quite well off, but we can also guess that not everyone was. The presence on Mount Royal of a small number of residents engaged in lower status clerical and sales positions bears this out.

The changes we can observe might be considered consistent with the appearance of smaller houses. The proportion of managerial occupations increased to just shy of a quarter of households, and professionals to almost twenty six percent. The number of business proprietors dropped to twenty percent, the start of a gradual downward slide. This is a pattern seen throughout Calgary wherever large numbers of businessmen and business managers lived. A process of consolidation had begun in the twenties in local business and industry.<sup>55</sup> Many local concerns were bought up by large national and even multi-national companies. The local insurance broker or agency affiliated with larger firms, the manufacturing company became a branch plant of a national corporation. **David Black** started his own jewellery store at the turn of the century and by 1920 had built it into the most important jeweller and watch-making company in Western Canada. Birk's of Montreal bought him out. Black stayed as the regional manager and eventually became president of the company. F.L. Irving, an industrialist who lived in Elbow Park, had established Riverside Ironworks in east Calgary in 1910. By 1928 it had caught the eye of steel fabricating giant Dominion Steel, which then bought it out. It was a process that began in the twenties, but continues right up to the present day. Other firms such as Union Dairy of the Carlyle family, or the Cross family's Calgary Brewing and Malting Company, grew into large regional concerns and then were swallowed up during the sixties.

In part the change was a natural outcome of the growth and increasing complexity of the national economy. Some corporations had just grown to size that allowed them to dominate an industry, and it was usually easier to buy a local company and turn it into a branch than to start a new operation. In part, it was a natural end for the careers of some independent businessmen as they decided to retire: if no one in the company or the family wished to take the reins, it was easier to sell the company and reap the rewards of a lifetime of hard work.

And in part, it was matter of proportions. As national companies dominated the local economy more and more, the number of managerial positions rose compared to the number of independent businessmen. By the late thirties, about fifteen percent of residents were in business for themselves, and over thirty percent managed someone else's company. However, there were always a sizeable number of independent businessmen in Mount Royal and they remained a significant part of the social landscape. And as new industries sprung up in Calgary, especially oil and gas, the district was usually in the forefront.

## The Grapes of Wrath

The hard years of the thirties are now several generations behind us, and increasingly forgotten. For those who lived through those years, it was a momentous event that affected everything. It crept up on the world. There was little panic after the October 1929 stock market crash, but two years later, people began to realise it was much worse than any previous recession. Calgary was hard hit by the Depression. Even in 1931, the city was still largely an agricultural service centre; the oil industry was in its infancy, and the other main employer in the city was the CPR. The farmers of southern Alberta were particularly devastated. It was a repetition of the recession after the end of World War One, but worse. Commodity prices crashed in the wake of the stock market disaster, and then a drought began – the infamous "dustbowl years." And while central and southern Alberta was not as devastated as Saskatchewan, it was still very bad.

Lying as it did at the upper end of the income scale in Calgary, Mount Royal was perhaps less affected than many other neighbourhoods. Indeed, it continued to grow through the depression years. By 1936, there were almost 380 households: by 1941, three hundred and ninety one. While not comparable to the growth in the second half of the twenties, it was still remarkable. Of course, if one's own income was proof against a recession, it was an excellent time to buy property including houses. Although there were some bankruptcies and seizures of several prominent mansions for tax arrears, Mount Royal seemed very stable through the Depression. There did not seem to be any mass exodus from the area. The vacancy rate did increase to about two and half percent, slightly higher than usual, but it had been greater in 1926, at the beginning of a period of prosperity. And the turnover of area residents also changed little, rising from eleven percent in 1931 to about fourteen percent. In both Elbow Park and Mission figures were very similar to this. In these three communities, relatively few people were forced to move or lost their homes. People tended to hang on to what they had, and actually moved around less than in good times.

Some changes occurred in what people did for a living. The proportion of business proprietors slid lower, to just over sixteen percent by 1936. The managerial class grew to thirty-two and a half percent, a substantial jump, and broadened – we see people looking after businesses ranging from bank branches to manufacturers to retail stores and restaurants. The professionals remained at about a quarter of the working residents. Brokers and financial dealers dropped down to about six percent. As for the toiling classes, they remained only a small presence. Clerical workers headed three percent of the households, salesmen and agents four, and skilled workers only one and half percent. These small percentages changed hardly at all. Overall, there were no radical shifts in the social makeup of the district. The drop in business owners may have been a continuation of the process of

consolidation that occurred in the twenties; it was more likely caused by bankruptcies. The brokers in the financial industry were another group one would expect to be badly hurt by the shaky economy and the disaster of the Crash, and indeed their numbers dropped. This group had also been in slow decline, however, for ten years. From the evidence at hand, it does not look like the Depression savaged the residents of Mount Royal.

So can we say the Depression left Mount Royal untouched? No. Although it is hard to see the impact from our limited statistics, anecdotes of the time tell another story. Many residents of Mount Royal would have been investors in the stock market, and there is no doubt that they lost a great deal of money in the Crash. There were some spectacular examples: at 1201 Prospect Avenue, a wealthy Edmonton commodities dealer by the name of Malden began building a home around 1930; two years later, bankrupt, he was forced to sell his new house. Mount Royal got a new nickname, "mortgage hill", as residents resorted to second mortgages to pay their bills. It is also known from city taxation records that a number of houses in Mount Royal had liens against them for unpaid taxes. This was a common occurrence throughout the city, and it is not possible to say if Mount Royal was more or less afflicted than elsewhere. There were several well-known seizures of homes for non-payment, such as the Coste home and T.J.S Skinner's house. Children from the surrounding neighbourhoods would come up to Mount Royal and play in the empty mansions.<sup>56</sup> Although the large number of managers and professionals present in the community likely cushioned the blow, even these occupations were not safe from economic hardship. Both doctors and lawyers had many hard years, scrambling for clients and more importantly, scrambling to get paid for their services. 57 And as any middle manager that experienced the binge of corporate downsizing in the 1990s can relate, even a good position within an established company was no guarantee of security.

Many of those who grew up in nearby Elbow Park in the twenties and thirties do not remember the Depression as being hard years. There was a sense that times were tough and that some people were really suffering. Everyone cut back, foregoing many purchases and luxuries like vacations or new cars. For the most part, however, their neighbours and friends came through without too much damage: it was rare that a family had to leave the neighbourhood. These sentiments likely apply to Mount Royal. And for those families that had incomes proof against the depredations of the downturn, the year of the Depression were good years. Everything was cheap, and bargains abounded. While there were doubtlessly some tragic stories in Mount Royal during the worst years of the Depression, by and large most residents survived.

#### The Winds of War

It is a historical cliché that the Second World War ended the Depression and kick started the economy. A cliché, but not necessarily untrue. The war created a tremendous demand for materials and production, and the number of men in uniform created a labour shortage. Prosperity of a sort returned, but tempered with rationing and restrictions due to the war effort. A severe housing crisis arose in Calgary. The population of the city rose during the war years, but the supply of homes did not, and new construction was difficult under the circumstances. Many of the city's larger homes were subdivided into suites during these years to provide accommodation. Sometimes the homeowner themselves lived in a suite in their house, renting the rest out. It happened throughout the city, even in Mount Royal.

The neighbourhood began to grow again despite the obstacles. Over fifty houses were added between 1941 and 1946, not a large amount, but significant considering the situation in the construction industry. The community continued to attract residents willing – and able – to build in a time of high demand and high prices. The vacancy rate on the hill plummeted to almost zero. There was not, however, a large-scale conversion of houses to duplexes or suites. In Mission this had begun in the thirties, in response to the economic straits of homeowners, and accelerated with wartime demand. By the middle of the war, over fifteen percent of the houses in that district had multiple households. In Elbow Park, the figure was considerably less, around five percent, but in Mount Royal it was negligible, less than two percent. The city directories do not show, however, the number of households that took in boarders. Some residents remember that lodgers, including entire families, were common even in Mount Royal.<sup>59</sup> It was all part of the war effort: families might rent rooms to the dependants of servicemen training at nearby Sarcee or Currie Barracks or serving overseas. The city also put the Mount Royal mansions it had seized for taxes to good use. The Coste house became a temporary campus for the Provincial Institute of Technology, the Skinner house at 2307 7th Street was converted to a CWACS barracks for the duration of the war, and from 1944 to 1948, 2104 8th Street was used as a convalescent home for wounded soldiers.

As far as we can judge, very few of Mount Royal's homeowners went into uniform. In 1941, less than one percent of the residents were listed on active service, and even in 1944 it was just barely over one percent. Of the five men listed that year in the military, four were officers, three of them posted to the local military command at Harvie Barracks. This contrasts strongly to the Mission area, where at least six percent of the male householders were in uniform! Mount Royal stayed very stable through the war years as well, with little dislocation. The number of houses changing residents was only twelve percent in 1941, and eleven in 1946 at the war's end. In contrast, the turnover went up slightly in Elbow Park to about twenty percent, and in Mission, to almost half the addresses! Whatever the wartime experiences of Mount Royal's people, it did not involve upheaval. As in World War One, the residents of the community did not rush off to serve their country. Again, it is likely that most were really too old. The families of Mount Royal most likely did their part through the service of their sons and daughters. This is what happened in nearby Elbow Park, according to people who lived there during the war years. 60

Even with the war, a housing crisis, and more economic dislocation, Mount Royal remained a wonderfully stable place through the five war years. The neighbourhood carried on much as it had, and people carried on doing what they had been doing. Over half of the household heads were engaged in business. Between 1941 and 1946, the number of business owners dropped to and remained around fifteen percent, while those performing management tasks dropped slightly from a high in the Depression years of about thirty two percent to just under thirty percent. A small number of men, around five percent of the working residents, qualified as business executives, while the financial and real estate brokers, perhaps due to little demand for their services, dropped to only about four percent of the residents. Interestingly, the number of professionals rose to over twenty eight percent by 1946. Given the economic climate, the number of people in business fell off slightly, and more of the professional class filled their spots in Mount Royal. Among this group, lawyers and medical

men were still overwhelmingly preponderant, making up over half of Mount Royal's professionals.

Although we know from personal accounts that Mount Royal played host to many boarders over the war years, the less well off still had little place in the neighbourhood. A small number of people were professional salesmen, but some of these were manufacturer's agents and the like, several steps above retail clerks and travelling salesmen. About two percent were engaged in clerical positions, whereas barely one percent, or about three people, could be described as practising a skilled trade, and only one man in 1941 and two in 1946 earned a living at unskilled labouring jobs! Perhaps it is belabouring the point: whatever variations might have existed in the incomes and status of the residents of Mount Royal, it remained emphatically a white collar and relatively affluent neighbourhood. And it had kept this character through the trials and tribulations of the worst depression in modern times and the greatest conflict in mankind's history.

## **Gushers, Growth and Television**

In the fifties, one development in Calgary markedly changed Mount Royal: oil. The rise of the petroleum business had an enormous effect on the city, and was reflected in its premier neighbourhood. Many names appeared in the neighbourhood that figured large in the lore and legends of the business. Industry pioneers who had lived in Mount Royal for years became rich and influential men, while other residents changed careers, looking for a pot of black gold. Legend has it that American oilmen flooded into Mount Royal in the fifties, helping give the neighbourhood new life and stave off the decay that hit other inner city areas as Calgary exploded outwards.

The petroleum industry always had a presence in Mount Royal. In the teens, a number of oil brokers and promoters lived there, some of whom had been pushing real estate until the 1914 Dingman strike in Turner Valley gave Calgary a bad case of oil fever. The first outbreak of speculative frenzy exploited investors rather than petroleum and the bubble was soon burst by World War One. A decade later, the oil patch came back to life with the 1924 Royalite find, only to go back into hibernation with the Depression, then awake again when crude oil was discovered in 1936. In the twenties and the thirties, some of the Turner Valley pioneers, such as R.A. Brown, William Herron, Albert Mayland and F. F. Reeve moved into the neighbourhood. They were joined by a small number independent consulting geologists like Joe Irwin and Stan Slipper, and by employees of the big oil companies that had a presence in Calgary, especially Imperial Oil, McColl-Frontenac (later the Canadian arm of Texaco) and British American Oil (Gulf Canada). Imperial had a major presence in Calgary due to its refinery in Ogden, and senior company officials such Dr. Ted Link and Walker Taylor choose Mount Royal as their abode. By 1946, about nine percent of the wage earners in the neighbourhood were making their living directly from petroleum, some as employees for large companies, some as oilfield entrepreneurs, operating what we now call junior oil companies.

The Leduc find in 1947 changed all this. In 1951, four years after Imperial's well came in, at least fourteen percent of the household heads in Mount Royal were involved in the petroleum industry. Over twenty percent of the employers that residents gave for the

directories were oil companies, large and small, or supply and service companies to the oil patch. Five years later, both these figures had climbed: a sizeable twenty- percent of the household heads was employed by oil, and over thirty percent of the employers listed were oil field related. The nearby neighbourhood of Elbow Park had a similar experience during the new boom. During the fifties the proportion of residents of Elbow Park employed in the oil industry rose as it did in Mount Royal, and almost to exactly the same amount, twenty two percent. It was a very large increase, indicative of a burgeoning industry, but reflective of what was happening in Calgary. Estimates for the city of Calgary as a whole put the number of people involved in the business at about a quarter of the population in the fifties. The oil industry and the demands of the modern economy also started to transform the Calgary workforce. It became more white collar: by 1951 close to eight percent of the population was a professional, by 1961 it was climbing toward twelve percent. The managerial class similarly expanded to fifteen percent of the working population.

Mount Royal had its own unique transformation in response to the new oil economy. In Elbow Park, there was a virtual explosion in the number of residents who worked in the professions associated with the oil industry, such as geologists, geophysicists and engineers. About a guarter of the household heads in Elbow Park were professionals in 1956, a total of 228. Over a third of these professionals were directly employed in oil. Mount Royal was different. Professionals actually dropped precipitously to about seventeen percent. Of these, less a quarter were "petroleum professionals", although some lawyers and accountants likely worked for oil companies. In Mount Royal, the action was among business owners. Although this group had risen only slightly to about fifteen and a half percent of the wage earners, proportionately and in terms of absolute numbers it had become more prominent, as the professional, managerial and other categories had dropped quite noticeably. The growing number of entrepreneurs created many small oil companies and service companies. The number of business executives also climbed slightly, back to about five percent of the population, and this was largely due to a number of men coming to Calgary to head the western Canada offices of large multinational oil companies such as Shell, Imperial, California Standard or swiftly growing local companies. Thus to the roll of Mount Royal residents, we can add Bobby Brown of Home Oil, Paul Kartzke, vice-president of Shell, John Galloway, vice-president of Standard of California or John Bevel of Gulf. Among the twenty seven percent of residents engaged in management, a significant number are also employed by oil companies, many at a high level.

As was just stated, there was noticeable decline in the number of residents in almost every occupational category. The rise in the proportion of business people was slight, so although proportionately this class assumed more importance in the social makeup of the neighbourhood, it was not at the expense of other occupations. But why, after defining Mount Royal many years, were groups like professionals and managers shrink in the fifties? Professionals now only made up seventeen percent of the employed, managers twenty seven percent, but the other categories also registered drops. The number of those working directly in the financial sector diminished to barely more than one percent, hardly worth registering. But there was no influx of individuals from modest backgrounds. Fewer people were employed in sales positions (three and a half percent) or low level clerical jobs (down to one percent). Fewer residents were reporting their occupation to directory compilers: typically only three to five percent did not give an occupation or employer, but by 1956 this rose to

almost nine percent. This accounts for some of the shrinkage but another factor was even more important. Mount Royal was getting much greyer.

The ageing of Mount Royal was a significant change, one that was undergone throughout older neighbourhoods throughout Calgary. By 1956, a whopping nineteen-percent of the householders in the community were either retired or widows. Retirees had always had a presence in the neighbourhood. We have speculated that the population of the area was probably older than the city at large, as it was an expensive area which younger families would not have been able to afford entry. As people became more successful, they could afford a home on the hill, and there is anecdotal evidence to support this notion (see below for more remarks about this). In some cases, new homes were built by people who had already retired. 64 Right from the early days of the neighbourhood, the number of retired men and widowed women hovered around five percent. In the fifties the number began to rise, and rapidly. In 1951 it was just over twelve percent, and then to nineteen by 1956. It was a radical change, and one with potentially great consequences for the neighbourhood. For many other inner city communities, an ageing population contributed to their decline. In Connaught, for instance, many of the original homeowners had died or retired in the twenties and thirties. In the Depression, homes were cut up into apartments, and after the war, the area became vulnerable to high rise redevelopment. The Mission also saw many of its older families disappear from the district and houses converted more and more to rentals and suites, or demolished for walk up apartment blocks.

Mount Royal avoided this fate. Its saving grace was twofold. The original caveats helped ensure the character of the neighbourhood by keeping redevelopment at bay. Homes could not be made into rooming houses, except where the caveats did not apply. The residents of Mount Royal were also quite protective of the area. In nearby Elbow Park, the community fought hard to keep out traffic, commercial enterprises and high-density housing, and succeeded in keeping the character of the district intact. The inhabitants of Mount Royal had similar success, as is evidenced by the fate of subdivision applications starting as far back as the thirties. Ironically, the further development of the neighbourhood in the fifties also helped preserve the area. By 1956 there were 684 houses in the area, versus four hundred and forty ten years before. New residents breathed new life into the neighbourhood, in some cases bringing families and children. The lasting cachet of the district also helped. As one area resident put it, "In those years, if you were in the oil business and you didn't have a home in Mount Royal, then you really weren't in the oil business." Through the fifties and really, right up to the present day, there was sufficient prestige in having a Mount Royal address that there was always an influx of new residents.

# Keeping up with the Jones: Mount Royal and Social Mobility

The invasion of American oilmen was just one example of how Mount Royal, as Calgary's most prestigious neighbourhood, benefited from social mobility. The neighbourhood was for decades the focal point of the material ambitions of many Calgarians. It became the pinnacle of success for the local community as the older districts like Connaught lost their lustre. Until the 1960s, no other area had quite the prestige of a Mount Royal address. Not every successful businessman, lawyer or doctor lived in the district: some chose Scarboro, or Elbow Park, and a number of truly wealthy individuals eschewed Mount Royal for

accommodations elsewhere, sometimes grand, sometimes modest. But a great many did live there, as the biography section will amply demonstrate.

Of the one hundred and fifty individuals profiled in the biographies, over fifty alone lived in Mission and Elbow Park before coming to Mount Royal. Their home on the hill was an upward move, signifying success. C.C. Snowdon had an eponymous oil refinery and retail petroleum product company. He lived in Mission for several years in the 'teens, then Elbow Park in the twenties, and finally Mount Royal from the early thirties until his death. D.E. Black had a house in Mission until Mount Royal opened up, and he built a home on Wolfe Street. Other prominent businessmen who came up the hill from Mission or Elbow Park included John Burns, Thomas Carlyle, the Belzbergs, George Fay, Fred S. Mannix, and Fred Stapells, and prominent lawyers such as Leonard Brockington, Sam Helman and Arthur L. Smith. Most of the rest moved to the hill from other parts of the city. These residents were part of an internal migration within Calgary, heading for Mount Royal as they became weathier and more socially prominent. If our sample can be considered representative, clearly a great many upwardly Calgarians saw the district as something to aim for. Not everyone stayed; in the late fifties and early sixties, there was something of an out-migration, as new suburbs such as Bel-Air and Brittania opened up, and it became trendy to have a hobby ranch or country home to retreat. Although new suburbs drew off some of the people who might have otherwise of ended up Mount Royal, a steady flow of new residents continued.

One fascinating example of social mobility mirrored in Mount Royal is the rise of Calgary's Jewish community to prominence. In the fifties there was an influx of Jewish families into the neighbourhood. Up to this point, we really have not had anything to say about the ethnicity of the residents of the community. This is due to lack of information. Without census information, just about all there is to go by is surnames, which are not a reliable guide. Why? For one, surnames can be changed, and this was something done by many immigrant families of eastern European origin, to avoid prejudice in Canada. Even familiar Anglo-Saxon and Scottish names don't tell the whole story, such as how long a family may have been in North America, or what other ethnic strains may belong to a particular family. And of course, some names are misleading. A good example are French surnames that belonged to Huguenot families that had immigrated to Britain and Germany centuries ago, but who became completely assimilated. Other examples abound.

In the case of Calgary's Jewish families, however, the Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta has done a great deal of valuable work and thus we probably know more about the history of this particular ethnic group than any other in the city. A few Jews had come to Calgary before the turn of the century, generally as shopkeepers and small businessmen, and were joined by brethren coming from eastern Canada because of the boom. For many years, however, it was a very small community. This changed after World War One. Throughout Eastern Europe, anti-Semitism was on the rise and national economies in tatters. Russia was in the throes of a vast civil war. A great many Jewish families left and came to Canada. Once in Calgary, the new wave of Jewish immigrants went into all sorts of occupations, but many set themselves up in small businesses that required little capital. Accustomed to much more difficult conditions in Eastern Europe, many of these businessmen flourished, even during the Depression. In the classic pattern of immigrants in North America, parents tried to give their children good educations, and as early as the twenties and thirties, a number of Jewish

professionals appeared in Calgary. Already by the twenties, there were several Jewish families in Mount Royal. Taking advantage of the return to prosperity in the fifties and the available lots for building, more and more members of the community treated themselves to a Mount Royal address.

This can be seen quite graphically. In 1946, there were about sixteen families that were identifiably Jewish, or about three and a half percent of the residents. In 1951, this had increased about thirty-five families or almost six percent and it would rise to over six percent in 1956. And this only counts those families that are clearly Jewish: the number was probably higher.. Even in 1946, the percentage of Jewish families in Mount Royal was greater than the percentage in Calgary as a whole; by 1956, it was considerably higher! In Calgary in 1951 and 1961, less than one percent of the city's residents identified themselves as Jewish. <sup>69</sup> So what brought such a noticeable influx of families into the community? Partially it was the assimilation the city establishment of a recently arrived ethnic group. Partially it was the extra ordinary talent and hard work of this particular wave of immigrants, which brought them great economic success. And it may have also reflected easier access to community, which may well have been at its most affordable in the fifties, allowing many families, from every background, to buy a truly fine house, some old, some new, in the best neighbourhood in Calgary. It graphically illustrates, however, how a community like Mount Royal attracted the upwardly mobile.

Some of these families were also destined for great prominence in Calgary. The lawyers came first: Sam Helman was considered one of the great legal minds of his generation; Jack Barron, lawyer, businessman and theatre impresario; and Ben Ginsberg, known for his razor wit. Among the many Jewish businessmen of Mount Royal, the Cohens, the Belzbergs, and the Singers stand out, names that became well known in the city not only for their business accomplishments, but also for generous philanthropy. And there were many others, Morris Riback, Sam Libin, et al, as well as many less well known or less successful, whose children nevertheless made their own impact, large and small, on Mount Royal and Calgary.

#### Conclusion

Mount Royal was created as a place for the wealthy. Its first residents were nouveau riche in a town where old money meant twenty year old money; they were the latest wave of real estate speculators and businessmen attracted by the opportunities on the frontier. Although there were older neighbourhoods with the pretentious mansions of the Lougheeds, the Burns and the Hulls, Mount Royal was different, an area designed specifically to add a note of beauty and graciousness to the city. It swiftly attracted a rising professional class, as well as newly minted entrepreneurs and the establishment businessmen who ran the banks, insurance companies, and branch offices attracted by Calgary's phenomenal growth. As time went on it was established as the premier neighbourhood of the area, the most desirable address in the city. Most of Calgary's movers and shakers moved there.

Yet it was not only the home of the wealthy, although it was not the home of the working man. The district attracted a clientele that was strictly white collar but not necessarily well to do. Until after World War Two, the entire city of Calgary likely couldn't boast of enough truly wealthy residents to fill a neighbourhood the size of Mount Royal. Thus, Mount Royal

was also host to many middle class residents and even a few people of more modest means. But it is also clear that most of the residents were well established socially and financially. Once Mount Royal established itself as an affluent suburb, it retained this character throughout its first fifty years. As we have seen, the residents of the area were by and large businessmen of some stature, management, and professionals, and this was as true of the district in 1956 as in 1911. Mount Royal demonstrated great stability through the years as well, and if it couldn't boast the same degree of wealth and power as Shaughnessy in Vancouver, it also did not deteriorate as much as that neighbourhood did. As Calgary stood poised on the edge of another amazing boom, the appearance in the neighbourhood of leading members of the a new sector of the economy, oil and gas, showed that Mount Royal was still the best address in the city.

# 10.Biographies

It is time to turn to the people of Mount Royal. There are one hundred and – different individuals profiled in the following pages. They represent a cross section of the many thousands who lived the neighbourhood over the years. They offer a representation of the kind of people who lived in the community over its first five decades. Among our subjects are many business, political and social leaders. Others are more obscure, lost in the mists of time, but with their own stories to tell. Together, though their lives, this select group of people can tell us much about the history of both Mount Royal and Calgary.

# Barron, Jacob Bell

Originally from Winnipeg, Jacob Barron was born on January 1st, 1888 to Joseph and Elizabeth Barron, who had immigrated to Canada from Russia in 1882. The family went to the Yukon during the gold rush, and Jacob and his brother **Abraham** were the first graduates of the Dawson City High School in 1905. Barron left the north to pursue his education and graduated with a law degree from the University of Chicago. After receiving his degree, the new lawyer came to Calgary in 1911 and was admitted to the Law Society of Alberta in 1912. Although perhaps not the first Jewish lawyer in the city, he was definitely among the earliest.

Barron was a businessman as well as a lawyer and is perhaps better known for his interest in theatre. In 1923 he took over management of the Palace Theatre and operated it until 1927. This first venture was not a success financially, but Barron brought a number of internationally acclaimed artists to Calgary including Russian composer and pianist Serge Rachmaninoff. As manager of the Palace, he worked with pioneer broadcaster W.W. Grant and his CFCN Radio station, which used the theatre for live broadcasts including

William Aberhart's "Back to the Bible" hour. Barron even served briefly as business manager and solicitor for Grant, a relationship that ended acrimoniously in 1928.<sup>71</sup>

In 1936 he returned to the theatre business after purchasing the Grand Theatre in the Lougheed Building in downtown Calgary. Turning to cinema, Barron turned the Grand into a movie theatre and later acquired the Odeon Theatre and 17th Avenue Drive-In Theatre. His most grandiose movie house, however, was the Uptown Theatre. It was part of an amazing speculative venture, the Barron Building, built in 1949 on 8th Avenue SW. Designed by local architect John Cawston of Stevenson, Cawston and Stevenson, the eleven story Moderne style block was Calgary's first modern office building. Barron built it in anticipation of a shortage of office space in Alberta after the Leduc oil find in 1947 ignited an economic boom. Mobil Oil, Sun Oil and several other companies immediately took up residence in the new building, ensuring that Calgary instead of Edmonton would become headquarters of Alberta's oil industry. On the ground floor of the new building, Barron installed an art deco movie theatre, the Uptown, and lived in a stylish penthouse apartment that included an outdoor lawn and fire hydrant for his highland terrier!

Prior to this, Jacob Barron and his family lived in Mount Royal. Barron first took up residence in the area in 1924 at 2136 Hope Street. He moved down to Elbow Park for several years before returning to Mount Royal in 1934, living at 2917 8th Street, the far south-east tip of the neighbourhood. Married in 1914 to Amelia Helman, a Winnipeg schoolteacher, Barron fathered three sons, one of whom, Robert, also became a lawyer. Amelia was heavily involved in Jewish community groups, particularly Hadassah, where she served as local president for many years. She is credited with bringing a number of important women speakers to Calgary, including Israeli leader Golda Meir and Eleanor Roosevelt. She predeceased Jacob in 1959. Jacob Barron died on September 29, 1965 at the age of 77.

# Bell, George Maxwell

One of the great business successes produced by Calgary, Max Bell was not quite a rag to riches story. He did, however, turn the near bankrupt newspaper inherited from his father into a publishing empire that stretched across the country. On his death in 1972, Bell continued his munificent philanthropy with a bequest of twenty million dollars, nearly his entire estate, to the Bell Foundation for charitable work.<sup>74</sup>

Both his grandfather and father were self-made men. George Alexander Bell had been a blacksmith who came west in the 1880s, and ended up the Minister of Telephones for the first provincial government of Saskatchewan. Max's father, George Melrose Bell, had been a postal clerk in Regina who went into insurance and then into publishing. By 1924 he had four different papers in Saskatchewan including the venerable *Regina Leader Post*. Two years later he bought the *Morning Albertan*, established in Calgary in 1902 by W.M. Davidson. The elder Bell also began investing heavily in oil, becoming friends and partner with **Robert A. Brown**. Along with local lawyer Jack Moyer, the two formed Turner Valley Royalties, the company that ushered in a new age in the Alberta oil industry with the discovery of crude oil in 1936. By this time, however, the Depression

had taken a terrible toll on Bell's business interests, and he died bankrupt in March 1936. The *Albertan*, his flagship paper, was over \$500,000 dollars in debt to the Royal Bank, which soon took ownership.<sup>76</sup>

Max Bell grew up in Regina and went to McGill in Montreal for university, graduating in 1932 with a commerce degree. Returning to the west, he journeyed to British Columbia and tried his hand at gold mining. In Cranbrook, he met and married his first wife, Suzanne Staple, and played hockey with future oil millionaire Frank McMahon, who became a life-long friend and business associate. Max and Suzanne struggled to make ends meet in British Columbia during the Depression, and in 1935 relocated to Calgary where Max went to work for his father. When his father died, the Royal Bank kept Bell on as the business manager of the *Albertan* at a salary of \$35 a week.

Determined to recoup the family fortunes, Bell bided his time and scraped together money. The Turner Royalties well provided some extra income, and in 1943 he raised \$35,000 from friends, the so-called "Essex Group", as a down payment for the *Albertan*. In three years he had paid back the loans and was the sole owner of the paper. Combining a gambler's instinct with a precise, mathematical mind, Bell soon showed his talents as a businessman, borrowing large sums of money to invest in the oil industry and acquire more newspapers. He was immeasurably helped by the Leduc strike in 1947. Bell was already an investor in the many operations of Frank McMahon, including the Atlantic #3 well, which had blown out and gone wild in 1948 after tapping into immense new oil field. With partners Wilder Ripley and Vancouverite Ronald Graham, Bell was able to grab choice leases in the Redwater area, where an even larger discovery was made in 1948. Bell organised Calvan Consolidated as a public company in 1951 to carry out an aggressive exploration program. It was later sold to Petrofina of Belgium for over \$35 million. Discovery was million.

Buoyed by his oil success, Bell started buying other newspapers, starting with the *Edmonton Bulletin*. In 1955 he pooled resources with Victor Sifton, publisher of the *Winnipeg Free Press*, to form Federated Papers. The newspaper chain owned by Bell and Sifton eventually included the *Victoria Times* and *Victoria Colonist*, the *Lethbridge Herald*, and the *Toronto Globe and Mail*. At its height, the company controlled eight dailies with a circulation of almost a million papers. Bell kept an arm's length from the editorial policy of all his papers except the *Albertan*. FP Publications was eventually bought by the Thomson family for over \$164 million.

Bell's reputation for business savvy was cemented by two other coups. In 1950 he made a bid to take control of the Hudson's Bay Company, attracted by the petroleum potential in the company's vast land holdings in Western Canada. Anticipating the corporate raiding which became popular three decades later, Bell came very close to grabbing the Bay. He called off his campaign as the price mounted and he decided that he didn't have the slightest idea of how to run a department store chain!<sup>82</sup> The large block of shares Bell had acquired was sold for a substantial profit. Two years later he set his sights on the Canadian Pacific Railway. Waging a war of attrition, he slowly picked up enough shares to become the largest single shareholder in the company and join the board of directors.

Although unable to take control of the company, Bell's CPR holdings also proved a canny investment, tripling in value by 1969. Like many gamblers, Bell had his close shaves. Not long after buying the *Edmonton Bulletin* in 1948, he feared the paper, saddled with debts and old equipment, would drag him down into bankruptcy. Bell was lucky: he was saved as his oil investments began to pay off, and sold off the paper in 1951, but later said "the financial problems of the *Bulletin* were a crisis for me, and one I could see no way of solving". <sup>84</sup>

An avid follower of horse racing, Bell had the same spectacular success breeding racehorses as he had in business. Bell bought his first horse with Wilder Ripley in the thirties. Along with Frank McMahon and jockey Johnny Longden, an old family friend, Bell founded Alberta Ranches, which produced numerous winners. Joining good friend Bing Crosby, Bell and McMahon purchased Meadow Court, which won the Irish Derby and a purse of \$165,000. Through winnings and stud fees, the partners made over \$1,260,000 on a horse that they had bought for nine thousand dollars. McMahon and Bell established another ranch, Golden West, near Okotoks, to raise standards among local breeders. Bell took horses very seriously, and although generally slow to anger, once fired his secretary on the spot when the latter forgot to register the millionaire's steeds for the upcoming race season. Bell reputedly fumed for the entire year.

Bell's interest in horse racing and friendship with celebrities like Bing Crosby and hard drinking jet setters like Frank McMahon belied his intensely private and deeply religious nature. One friend, sports writer Jim Coleman, once said that Bell's idea of debauchery was to have three flavours of ice cream at the same time. A staunch Presbyterian, he attended Grace Church in Calgary regularly and kept a bible on his desk, frequently right beside his racing forms. An absolute teetotaller, Bell was a fitness and health enthusiast who watched his diet and exercised regularly. He could still run a mile in six minutes in his fifties, and played tennis, badminton, and golf avidly at Calgary's Glencoe club. Hockey was another passion. Bell would stop in at local rinks and watch games, and gave his time and money to help establish the national hockey team and Hockey Canada. He was also a patron of the Calgary Stampeders and a long serving member of the Board of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede.

A life long Liberal, Bell was an unabashed capitalist who occasionally used the *Albertan* as a pulpit to preach the gospel of free enterprise and democracy. He was a strong advocate of foreign, especially American, investment in Canada and even organised a conference in 1959 on improving relationships between Canada and the United States, attended by Prime Minister Lester Pearson and Alberta Premier Ernest Manning. Despite his enthusiasms, Bell maintained an open mind about both politics and economics, and enthusiastically participated in a 1964 trip to the Soviet Union with forty other Canadian businessmen. Bell had his whimsical side. Bored by an interminable May Day parade in Moscow and trapped by the crowds, he slipped under the barriers and marched with the workers and soldiers of the Soviet Union, the multi-millionaire capitalist ducking back out when the parade reached his hotel. Despite his display of solidarity with the workers of the world, Bell was quoted after his trip as saying 'I doubt this monolithic completely bureaucratic system can survive another two generations."

For all his wealth, Bell preferred a quiet family life. He lived in a series of houses in Mount Royal, finally settling at 1031 Durham Avenue, which he had renovated by Calgary architect Peter Rule, a personal friend. Hathough his marriage to Suzanne ended in 1949, he remarried soon after to Frank McMahon's widowed daughter in law. Already the father of two sons and two daughters, he now became the stepfather of his old friend's two grandchildren. It suited him just fine. Divesting most of his oil investments in the mid-sixties, Bell increasingly spent his time on philanthropy, eventually forming the Bell foundation.

Bell's great fortune did not last forever. Despite his healthy lifestyle, he began to lose his hearing in 1963. It was a symptom of neurological problems that led to four trips to the operating table for brain surgery. Only fifty-nine Bell succumbed to his illness in 1972 while at the Montreal Neurological Institute, which became one of the beneficiaries of his philanthropy. His son Chester also died young, predeceasing him in 1970. Max Bell has not been forgotten. His generosity to Calgary and Calgarians has been recognised in the Max Bell theatre at the Centre for Performing Arts and the Max Bell Arena, which benefits minor league hockey and other sports.

#### Bell, J. Leslie

A well-known and respected Calgary businessman, J. Leslie Bell was in the plumbing and construction supply trade with partner Charles E. Morris for over twenty-seven years. <sup>95</sup> Originally from Cheshire, England, Bell followed an exotic route to Calgary. He began his business career with the Manchester and Liverpool Bank in England and then joined the Bank of Nova Scotia in Halifax in 1905. The company sent him to the West Indies a year later as a branch manager. Once in the Caribbean, Bell abandoned banking and in 1908 became manager of the Jamaica Public Utilities Company. It was one of the many utilities and streetcar companies, including Calgary Power, owned by Lord Beaverbrook's Montreal Engineering Company. In Jamaica, Bell met a Canadian engineer, Max Fyshe, fresh from Calgary Power's 1911 Horseshoe Dam project. Fyshe sang the praises of western Canada and recommended that Bell journey there and take advantage of the business opportunities.

Once in Calgary, Bell joined the Canadian Equipment Supply Company. He became an active local sportsman, playing soccer and cricket, and was a member of the Alberta provincial cricket team. Bell was also an avid golfer and an early member of the Calgary Golf and Country Club. In 1917, he became a partner in the building supply firm of McAulay, Bell and Morris, which became Bell and Morris in 1924. A year after his wife Margaret died, Bell decided to retire to Victoria, British Columbia, and left Calgary on December 3rd, 1944. Bell lived at 2104 8<sup>th</sup> Street from 1938 to 1944.

### Belzberg, Abraham

The Belzberg name became prominent in North American financial and realty circles due to the success of Abraham's sons, Hyman, Samuel and William, who built a real estate

empire worth over two billion dollars in the early eighties. Their spectacular rise to wealth and fame was made possible by their father's remarkable success in establishing a new life in a new country.

Abraham Belzberg came to Canada in 1919 from newly independent Poland, where he had been a fishmonger. He worked as a farmhand, probably at the Rumsey Jewish settlement near Drumheller, and then in Calgary at the Burns meat packing plant for two years, trying to save enough money to bring his wife and infant daughter to Canada. After his family joined him, he opened his own business, the Calgary Brokerage Exchange, an auction house and second hand furniture store. It was one of several furniture stores operated in Calgary at that time by immigrant Jews. Belzberg was quite successful. Eventually the furniture business became Cristy's Arcade, which at one time had five outlets in Calgary. Like most businessmen, Belzberg also invested in real estate, and once again, he was quite successful. Partners with **Jack Singer**, the two made a great deal of money by ferreting out good deals. Belzberg was a prominent member of the Jewish community, belonging to B'nai Brith, the Polish Jewish Loan Society, the Calgary *Chevra Kadisha*, and both the Beth Israel and Shaarey Tzedec congregations. The Belzbergs moved up to Mount Royal in 1953, building a new house at 905 Ridge Road

Abraham's success was the foundation on which his sons built their fortunes. Hyman joined the family furniture business after serving in the military during World War II, while Sam and William went to university. Although Hyman inherited Cristy's when his father died in 1976, it was Sam who took the Belzbergs into big money circles. With financial support and advice from Hyman, Sam brokered big real estate deals and established First City Financial Corporation, a financial services, real estate and insurance conglomerate. Sam led a glamorous life in Vancouver, and William in Toronto, but Hyman lived quietly in Calgary running Cristy's, where he would sometimes sweep the store out himself after hours. His other passion, shared with his wife Jennie, was philanthropy, and they were generous patrons of the arts and the Jewish community. Jennie Belzberg was awarded the Order of Canada in recognition of her many contributions to the community, including her support of the Banff Centre for the Arts. The couple also moved into Mount Royal, buying a house at 1403 Joliet Avenue in 1950.

His unassuming lifestyle made Hyman's spectacular kidnapping in 1982 a complete shock to his family and the city. It could have been right out of a bad crime novel. Three Alberta men, Gregory Hedch, Avrom Raber and Michael Nobleman, grabbed Hyman outside Christy's on December 9th and forced him at gunpoint into a waiting van. A bomb was strapped to his chest, and he was taken to Nobleman's home. The kidnappers demanded a ransom of almost two million dollars be placed in a Swiss bank account. The family readily paid, and Hyman was released within a day. Police immediately apprehended the three kidnappers, having traced phone calls to Nobleman's house. An accomplice was later arrested in Switzerland when he attempted to pick up the ransom. <sup>98</sup>

Although Hyman survived his ordeal well enough, First City fell victim to the real estate crash of the late nineteen eighties. By 1991, First City and its subsidiaries had all been sold or placed in receivership, although the three brothers emerged relatively unscathed.

In 1993, after deciding to retire, Hyman reluctantly shut down Cristy's Arcade, now consolidated in one downtown Calgary store. The next generation of Belzbergs had moved on to other things, and was not interested in running the enterprise that had been the cornerstone of the family's success.

#### Bennett, Joseph Garnet

Bennett & White was a contracting firm founded by J.G. Bennett and William White in 1913.<sup>99</sup> The Glenmore Dam was one of many projects the company undertook in Calgary. Bennett himself was English, born in Dursley on September 14, 1882. After his initial education at the local school, Bennett was apprenticed to W.S. Sisson and Company, a marine engineering firm in Gloucester. He learned structural engineering from the ground up over his five years with the firm. Like many Englishmen of his generation, Bennett immigrated to North America to make his fortune. In 1903 he went to New York and found employment with the Long Island Railway Company, and from there moved to Philadelphia and later Providence, Rhode Island. Bennett arrived in Calgary in 1910, and worked as an estimator for the contracting firm of Jones and Little. Three years later he formed his own construction company during the building boom. He survived the bust and Bennett and White went on to be one of the city's largest contracting firms.

Married in 1906, Bennett had a large family of four sons and one daughter. Two of his sons, John and Andrew, joined the family firm. He moved in to Mount Royal in 1931, into a new house at 2102 10<sup>th</sup> Street, where he remained until retiring to Vancouver in 1938. John and Andrew, vice presidents of Bennett and White, also took up residence in Mount Royal. Their father died in Vancouver in 1940 of a heart attack.

# **Beveridge, Thomas**

The Beveridge family was early homesteaders in the Calgary area. Thomas was born in Collingwood, Ontario, in 1856. His parents were Scottish immigrants, who followed their sons to Calgary in 1890 and homesteaded in Springbank, just west of the city. Thomas joined a railroad survey crew after finishing school in 1871, working in the Nipigon area on what would be the route for the Canadian Pacific Railway. Beveridge spent the next ten years surveying and contracting on the transcontinental rail line. In 1885 he came west and homesteaded east of Calgary in what is now Forest Lawn. He farmed there for twenty-two years. Selling out in 1907, he started a real estate business in Calgary with his brother, F.D. Beveridge. Like many real estate speculators, the Beveridges prospered in the great boom before World War One. Along with Judge Jeremiah Travis, they built a large business block downtown, the Beveridge-Travis Building, a landmark on 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue for many years until its controversial demolition. Thomas emulated other successful realtors and moved into Mount Royal in 1909. He took up residence at 707 Durham Avenue, where he and his wife remained until 1924. Beveridge died in 1928.

#### Black, David E.

Dave Black was perhaps the model of the eastern migrant who made good in pioneer Calgary. Born in Westport, Ontario in 1880, he apprenticed as a watchmaker and jeweller right out of high school, and worked as a watch repairer for several years in his hometown. Restless and looking for opportunities for advancement, the adventurous youth came to Calgary in 1903, debarking from the train with only seventy-five cents in his pocket. He quickly found work with L.H. Doll, Calgary's largest jeweller and builder of the Doll Block, still standing on Stephen Avenue.

An ambitious man, within a year Black went out on his own and opened a watch repair shop. His business grew as rapidly as Calgary itself. The first shop was at 133 8th Avenue SE. In 1906, with one apprentice, he moved to 130 8th Avenue SE, then in 1910 moved into the building of his former boss, the Doll Block. In 1912, Black started a joint stock company with his senior employees, D.E. Black and Company, and moved to the new Herald Building the following year. By 1920, the firm employed over sixty-five people, and was reputed to be the largest watch and jewellery firm in Western Canada. Henry Birks & Sons from Montreal bought out Black but kept him as their Calgary manager. He quickly rose within the company to become president of Birks & Sons Western.

It was not always smooth sailing for Black. In December of 1912, during the holiday season, he was the victim of a heist in which thieves made off with somewhere between eight to twelve thousand dollars in gems. While the take was spectacular for 1912, the crime itself was very pedestrian. A man came in during the Christmas rush, with a parcel he insisted on leaving with the owner. Harried staff allowed him to place it in Black's office, forgetting that a large number of gem stones, taken out earlier for a customer, had been left on a table in an adjoining storeroom. An alarm was raised soon afterward, but the thief was long away. Staff tentatively identified the man who left the parcel, which contained a Christmas calendar, as R.D. Mason. A piano player who made a living playing in various bars and hotels, Mason and his wife were described as having dubious character. Despite the best efforts of police to turn vague suspicions into certainties, charges were never brought against the Masons. Even with the help of the Pinkerton's detective agency, the gems were not recovered. They appeared over a year later on the market in Vancouver.

It was a spark of excitement in a life spent as a prosperous and public-spirited businessman. David Black epitomised the solid citizen, and aside from his successful business had a full public life as well. Black was elected as a city alderman for 1923 and 1924, with a record number of votes. He served on the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede Board and was made a lifetime honorary director in 1952, and was a member of the Calgary Zoological Society, the YMCA, and the Rotary Club. He also had the club memberships expected of a prominent business man, such as the Ranchmen's and the Men's Canadian Club, and served in the militia with the King's Own Calgary Regiment. Heavily involved in the Conservative Party, Black was a life long supporter and friend of R.B. Bennett.

His wife Mae Lillian Black, formerly Sinclair, was also very much active. The two married in 1908. She had come to Calgary in 1902 from Markville, Ontario and attended nursing school at the General Hospital, graduating in 1905. After her marriage she remained interested in public health, helping to organise and serving as president of the Alberta Tuberculosis Association, which played an important role in fighting that all too prevalent disease. She was also a leader in other women's organisations such as the Ladies Conservative Association and the Women's Canadian Club.

Black was generous to his family back in Ontario; he wrote often and sent money to his ailing parents and gifts to his nieces and nephews. Yet he rarely visited; his father wrote surprised and disappointed when Black told him of his marriage, hoping the family might soon see his son's bride. Mae's family was also surprised by her marriage, although they were cautiously optimistic about the match. No doubt Black's busy life in Calgary made the long trip to Ontario difficult, yet it also seems that he turned his back on the east. One must wonder how common this was among eastern expatriates, absorbed in a new life on the prairies. Later, as a successful businessman, Black developed an interest in travel, touring about the Pacific Northwest, visiting Montreal and New York, and taking a month long cruise to the Caribbean. Even then, his old home in Ontario was not a destination.

Aside from work and travel, Black's great passion was sports.<sup>111</sup> He was an inveterate sportsman, and as a young man had played lacrosse himself. Later he established the Black Cup for local soccer competitions, the Black Shield for intermediate hockey, and another cup for curling. He also volunteered untold hours of his time as a timekeeper for all manner of sporting events, and became a much loved local figure. Black served as the timekeeper at the notorious 1913 boxing match in the Manchester suburb of Calgary when former heavyweight champion Luther McCarthy was killed.

Mount Royal was the home of the Black family for many years. They lived at 2707 Wolfe Street from 1918 to 1972. 112

#### **Black, Francis Mollison**

Calgary businessman Francis Mollison Black became the Provincial Treasurer and Minister of Telephones in Saskatchewan from 1922 to 1926. He was originally from Kilmarnock, Scotland, born there on July 17, 1870 and began his business career as a bank clerk in London. Immigrating to Vancouver in 1891 at the age of twenty, he worked for a short time for Bank of British Columbia. Leaving the city for the interior, Black opened the Kootenay Belle mine and was involved in the orchard industry as a director of the British Columbia Fruit Marketing Board. He came to Calgary in 1901 to join Pat Burns and Company. Becoming treasurer for the giant meat packing concern in 1914, Black was Senator Burn's right hand man. He left the company to sit on the Public Utilities Commission for Alberta and then left for Winnipeg to act as treasurer for the United Grain Growers Association and also begin his political career, which took him to

Saskatchewan. He died in Vancouver in 1941 at the age of 70. In Mount Royal, Black lived at 1128 Prospect Avenue from 1913 to 1918. 115

#### **Blow, Thomas Henry**

Pioneer physician T.H. Blow did not restrict his energies to the practice of medicine. Real estate investor and politician as well as Calgary's first ear, nose and throat specialist, he was the grandfather of higher education in Calgary.

Blow was born in South Mountain, Ontario on January 22, 1862. 116 Coming from a poor family, as a youth he worked as a carriage builder before finishing his education. 117 He put himself through university, attending McGill in Montreal, where he earned a degree in medicine. 118 After a year working in Denver, Colorado, Blow went to London to specialise in ear, nose and throat ailments. Married in 1895 and with two sons and two daughters, Blow came to Calgary from Ottawa to help treat his son's asthma. Pleased not only with the latter's recovery but impressed by the booming little town, Blow opened a practice in April 1903. The only local doctor with his speciality, Blow flourished and also began investing in Calgary real estate, taking advantage of the boom. 119 His real estate activities included construction, and the good doctor put up a number of houses, a warehouse and several commercial blocks; an eponymous example survives today. Blow became a foremost booster of Calgary.

His particular obsession was the establishment of a proper university in Calgary. It had been widely assumed that Calgary would receive the provincial university when Edmonton was declared the provincial capital in 1906. However, aggressive lobbying and the intervention of Premier A.C. Rutherford saw that plum go to Strathcona, at that time a separate town adjoining Edmonton. Inspired examples he saw in California, Blow came up with a plan to start a university in Calgary using private investors. Putting up \$40,000 of his own money, he persuaded other leading citizens, mostly real estate brokers such as T.J.S. Skinner to donate money and land for an endowment. Another realtor, W.J. Tregillus offered a quarter section of land in present day Strathcona Heights. Blow and his fellow investors planned to reap a return on the increased value of property they owned adjacent to the new university grounds. Calgary City Council put a bylaw for \$150,000 to fund the institution before the electorate, which was passed. Aided by R.B. Bennett, then a member of the provincial legislature, Blow and his colleagues obtained a charter for Calgary College from the provincial government.

The charter, however, was essentially worthless. The province did not give the new college the crucial power to grant degrees, retaining that privilege for the university. It hampered the new institution from the outset, but its eager supporters forged ahead. Classes began in 1912 in the Calgary Public Library in Central Park. An English landscape architect was engaged to draw up plans for a grand campus in "University Heights" in the south-west. Lobbying continued to get the new college full status as a university. The end of the boom in 1913 and the beginning of the war spelled the end of the fledgling institution. The government appointed a commission in 1914 to decide its educational priorities, and it recommended that the University of Alberta should remain

the sole degree granting institution for the province. As a concession to Calgary and to Blow, the province did agree to establish a technical college in the city, which later became the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology. With the start of the war, enrolment in Calgary College plummeted, and the school closed in 1915.

Although the university came to nothing, Blow continued to support higher education in the city. He ran for office himself and was elected as a Conservative MLA for Calgary, serving until 1923. His sons Donald and Harry took over the family real estate interests, establishing an insurance and real estate brokerage business, Blow Brothers. His daughter Marion married Norman Lougheed, son of Senator James Lougheed. Blow was attending his daughter in his professional capacity in Vancouver when he had a fatal heart attack. An early resident of Mount Royal, Blow had built his distinctive residence at 2104 8th Street in 1913 and remained there right up to his death in 1932. 125

#### **Bouck, Charles E**

On the occasion of his death in 1944, hundreds attended the funeral of Dr. Charlie Bouck. 126 Many were his patients, as Bouck had one of the largest surgical practices in the city, and was known for his skill as far away as the world famous Mayo clinic. 127 But more importantly, they came because of his tireless house calls, his countless trips to farms and small towns in southern Alberta, and his refusal to send a bill or accept payment from many of his patients.

Born in Iroquois, Ontario in 1886, Bouck came west with his parents in 1903. His father was a building contractor. After finishing high school in Calgary, Bouck returned east to attend the University of Toronto, where he earned his medical degree in 1911. He came back to Calgary to begin his practice. After three years in uniform with the Canadian Army Medical Corps, Bouck took a post graduate course in Scotland before coming home, and was made a fellow in the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons. Returning to Calgary in 1920, he resumed his practice in the Underwood Block. He soon established a reputation as an excellent surgeon, but perhaps more importantly, Bouck became known for his generosity and genuine concern for his patients. It was not uncommon for Bouck to leave formal dinners to respond to a call, or interrupt his bridge games, the busy doctor's only hobby. In the age before state medical care, Bouck was loved and respected his willingness to treat the sick irrespective of their ability to pay.

His dedication may have proved his undoing. Bouck's health was undermined by his work, and he died of a heart attack at the age of 58. He passed away at his home in Mount Royal. Bouck had moved into 1014 Prospect Avenue in 1932. His widow Phyllis remained there until 1959 before moving to Wolfe Street.

# **Brockington, Leonard**

Leonard Brockington was one of several residents of Mount Royal who went on to achieve national fame. He was born in 1888 in Cardiff, Wales. <sup>131</sup> An outstanding scholar, he studied Classics at the University of Wales and had a lifelong love of literature and

drama. Immigrating to Canada in 1912 after a brief stint as a teacher, Brockington settled in Edmonton, working as the editor for a small paper and then as a city bureaucrat. He came to Calgary in 1915, and took a position as a clerk in the land titles office while studying law at nights. Articling with Lougheed Bennett, Brockington showed his scholarly mettle by setting record scores on all his bar exams. For his admission to the bar in 1919, he was presented to the honourable Justice Walsh by future Prime Minister R.B. Bennett. 132

Brockington left Lougheed Bennett soon afterward to become the Assistant City Solicitor and in 1922 was promoted to City Solicitor, a position he held for the next fourteen years. He moved into 912 Durham Avenue in 1930, living here with his wife Agnes and family until 1934. Brockington's tenure as solicitor took place during some very difficult years for the city. One contentious issue he had to handle was the municipal government's decision during the Depression not to pay interest on several bond issues. Renowned for both his sporadic working hours and his amazing output, Brockington was a decided eccentric, coming late into the office but staying to all hours, and around his desk chair one could find numerous burn marks from carelessly dropped cigarette butts.

Perhaps his odd work habits were a part of his artistic temperament. Despite the demands of his career, Brockington was a pillar of the local performing arts community. A stalwart supporter of the Calgary Symphony Orchestra, the predecessor of the Calgary Philharmonic, he served as its president for several years, and was also involved in the city's Little Theatre movement. He wrote music reviews and even conducted the symphony on one occasion. Brockington also established a reputation as a supreme wit and raconteur, and was a popular after-dinner speaker. His command of English poetry was so complete that he could allegedly identify any fragment of verse, and quote the entire passage, and supposedly his friends despaired of ever stumping him. One of these friends was Bob Edwards, bon vivant, famous satirist and publisher of the *Eye Opener*, a Calgary tabloid.

Brockington's background in the arts and his reputation as a speaker served him well in his later career. Leaving Calgary in 1935, he took a position as chief counsel for the North West Grain Dealers Association in Winnipeg. Soon after, in 1936, he was made chairman of the first Board of Governors of the newly formed Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. His tenure firmly established the CBC as an independent and non-commercial entity, allowed to broadcast views and commentary without government interference. He resigned late in 1938, but with the beginning of World War II became a special advisor to Prime Minister Mackenzie King. As the "Recorder of Canada's War Effort" Brockington became a household name as he took to the airwaves to explain government war policy to Canadians. There was a severe personality clash with King, however, and Brockington quit 1941. Becoming an advisor to the British Ministry of Information, he spent most of the war in England, and had the distinction of being allowed to take part in the invasion of D-Day as an observer.

After the war his accomplishments continued to mount. Despite being crippled by arthritis – a condition that plagued him most of his adult life - and no longer able to stand,

Brockington established himself as a skilled arbitrator, mediating several high profile labour disputes such as one between the U.S. Government and employees of the United Nations. In 1947, he became Rector of Queens University in Kingston, Ontario, and was also a charter member of the Canada Council, established after the war by the Federal Government to fund Canada's cultural institutions. He himself received a medal from the Council in recognition for being the "greatest Canadian exponent of rhetoric in our time." Brockington remained a popular and vigorous speaker right up to his death in Toronto in 1966. In a tribute published in the *Globe and Mail*, his friend Lord Tweedsmuir said "all the poetry of his Welsh background was set on fire by Canada. He was a man whose eloquence could reach down to every man and every age." 135

#### Brown, Robert A. Senior

R.A. "Streetcar" Brown was one of the true visionaries of the Alberta oil industry. A gambler who risked everything on one wildcat well - his home, his car, his reputation - he became a genius when Turner Valley Royalties struck it big on June 16, 1936. It was the first crude oil discovery in Alberta, which gave new life to its flagging petroleum industry and led indirectly to the sensational strikes at Leduc and Redwater in the years after World War Two. Brown's discovery also marked a new chapter in the saga of the Home Oil Company. It was a close thing, however, and Brown could just as easily have faded into obscurity, another unfortunate who had thrown everything away in the pursuit of black gold.

Born in 1886 in Point Levis, Quebec, there was nothing in Brown's early background to explain his later obsession with oil. He came from a large family of seven brothers and four sisters, and Robert went to work at the age of fourteen to help support them. As his father was a pioneer electrician, Brown went into the industry. It was a wise choice; the electrification of North America was proceeding apace and there were many opportunities for an ambitious young man. Brown went to work for the Quebec Light Heat and Power Company, spending his spare time devouring all he could read on electricity and taking electrical engineering classes at McGill. He joined Westinghouse Electric in Pittsburgh and spent four years with the company, and for a time was assistant to Dr. Charles Steimetz, a leading researcher. Brown was sent back to Canada to install a water powered plant in Winnipeg, and in 1906 came to Calgary to take a position as superintendent of the North West Electric Company at the ripe age of twenty. Within a year he was married to local girl Christina McLaughlin and had relocated to Nelson, British Columbia as the town's electrical superintendent. While there he supervised the building of the dam and generating station at Bonnington Falls. Four years later, Brown was back in Calgary, having been offered the job of superintendent of the city's electrical system.

Brown soon proved himself an excellent administrator with a bent for innovation. One of his more imaginative efforts was the purchase of seven battery powered electric trucks for the department, which Brown insisted would be more economical than conventional trucks. The municipal streetcar system was added to his responsibilities in 1912, and the superintendent, known as the "Chief" in the department, became "Streetcar" Brown to

the public. He oversaw a rapid expansion the city's electrical system during the last years of the pre-war boom. The infrastructure his department put in place proved adequate until the fifties. But Brown was threatened with personal stagnation, both mentally and also financially. Already in 1915, an economising civic administration had cut his salary by twenty percent. In the years between the wars, maintaining the electric system and the street railway presented little challenge.

Perhaps it was the need for a new venture that drew Brown to the search for oil. He had been among the notables at the Dingman well after it struck oil in Turner Valley on May 14, 1914, creating Alberta's nascent oil industry. Brown studied the science of petroleum as obsessively as he had studied electrical engineering. By the mid-twenties he had joined the board of a small company, United Oil, and was actively investing in drilling leases. Money for these ventures were raised from a chain of utility companies Brown had started in the small towns around Calgary, which he later sold to Calgary Power. In 1929, Brown, representing United, also initiated his family's association with Home Oil, negotiating to sell Home leases for the unheard of sum of one million dollars. The deal generated a great deal of publicity for United, Home and Brown, giving him a reputation as a crafty dealer.

Brown soon struck out on his own. He had become convinced, in the face of received opinion, that Turner Valley harboured a supply of crude oil. Up to that point, all the petroleum discoveries in the area had been a light condensate, also known as naphtha gas, and natural gas rather than much more valuable crude oil. A small minority of geologists and drill operators felt that crude would be found deep in the limestone formations in the north west of the valley, in the foothills of the Rockies, deeper than any one had yet drilled. Brown began his search with evangelical zeal, but the Depression greatly complicated matters. Like many other oil investors, Brown probably lost a great deal of money as stock prices quickly slid downward. More crucially, funds from investors dried up, as many either went bankrupt or became rather adverse to risk.

In 1934 Brown teamed up with George M. Bell, publisher of the *Albertan* and a perennial oil speculator, who was also a director on the board of Home Oil. The duo leased sixty acres on the west slope of Turner Valley. To raise money to drill, they cooked up a new method of financing, selling royalties on the hoped for revenue from a successful well. It carried less risk for the investors than buying common shares, and Turner Valley Royalties was born, with Brown and Bell holding 47.5 percent of the shares each, and John W. Moyer, a local lawyer and friend, taking the other 5% and looking after the legal affairs of the company. With enough money to start drilling, the well was begun on April 16, 1934. The partners were forced to suspend drilling four times as the money ran out and they would have to scramble for new investors. Legend has it that Brown mortgaged everything of value he had and borrowed money on his life insurance, while Bell ended up over half a million dollars in debt. In the end, British American (later Gulf) and Imperial Oil, along with Spooner Oil and Calmont Oil, provided cash, equipment and men to complete the well.

The gamble on the west slopes paid off on June 16, 1936 when oil was struck at 6,828 feet. It was the deepest well in the British Empire. Brown, his son Bobbie and Jack Moyer watched as crude suddenly spewed from the well over the drill site and adjacent fields. George Bell did not see the historic day: he had died in March, but the gusher helped his son Max Bell recoup the family fortunes. For the Browns, it was the start of great things. Joined by his son Bobbie, Brown and legal advisor Moyer established one company after another, each to drill a new well, raising money with his royalty system. Brown senior resigned his position with the city at the end of 1936 to look after his oil business. When the trio brought in another gusher in 1937, they found backers in Toronto and formed the Brown Oil Company, a more traditional vehicle for oil exploration. They also formed Brown, Moyer, Brown as a holding company to manage their little drilling companies, more than thirty plus, which had become an administrative nightmare.

With the war, drilling activity in Turner Valley was supported by the Government but also heavily regulated to meet wartime needs. Bobbie Brown went into the navy in 1943, spending two years in Ottawa as a supply officer making invaluable contacts for his future. The Turner Valley field was also already showing signs of age, and production began to fall off. The senior Brown, although not exceptionally wealthy, was comfortably well off and lost some of his fire. He was increasingly under the spell of alcohol. His benders were legendary, sometimes lasting for days at a time, and seriously undermined his health. Although no longer on the forefront of the industry, Brown had given it new life, providing the impetus that kept major companies such as Imperial Oil looking for crude in Alberta. Brown, however, did not join the scramble for leases after the 1947 strike at Leduc. In May 1948, after a year of deteriorating health, he died suddenly at his home at 1216 Prospect Avenue.

Brown had lived in the neighbourhood since 1928. He and his wife Christina had three sons and a daughter. Their eldest son died of a heart condition at the age of sixteen. The hunt for oil was very much a family affair; Christina, a trained bookkeeper, did the accounting for Brown's many interests, both boys worked for their father and forged careers of their own in the oil patch, and his daughter Lois helped with clerical work as a teenager. Although oil was his great obsession, Brown did have other interests; he served for many years on the Senate and board of Governors of the University of Alberta, was a charter member of the Association of Professional Engineers of Alberta and the YMCA, a twenty five year member of the Board of Trade and belonged to the Rotary Club and the Calgary Golf and Country Club. He will be remembered first and foremost, however, as one of the fathers of Alberta's oil industry.

### **Brownie, Frank Austin**

Frank Brownie came to Mount Royal in 1948 as a successful young executive in the natural gas industry. Born in Montreal in 1909, he had grown up in Calgary and went to the University of Alberta, where he graduated in 1932 with both an arts degree and a degree in civil engineering. The Depression made for scarce job prospects, but Brownie was lucky and managed to get a position in 1935 with Northwestern Utilities in Edmonton, a subsidiary of Canadian Western Natural Gas. Perhaps someone had merely

noted his potential, for the young engineer began a meteoric rise in the company. Four years later he was in Calgary as assistant to the general manager at Canadian Western, and by 1948 Brownie had become general manager himself. Within a year he was named president of both Canadian Western and Northwestern. He added Canadian Utilities to his corporate roster in 1954. Only 45 years old, it looked like a long career at the top of his industry was waiting for Brownie.

The business community was shocked when Brownie died suddenly in 1956, at the age of 47. Universal regret was expressed at the loss of the well-liked executive. Brownie had been president of the Canadian Gas Association, the Association of Professional Engineers Alberta, a director of the American Gas Association and a member of the Engineering Institute of Canada. Outside of the gas industry, Brownie had been involved with the Chamber of Commerce, the Calgary Kiwanis Club and the Red Cross. He left a wife and two sons. The family had lived in Mount Royal at 2704 Montcalm from 1948 to 1977. 138

#### Burns, John

Chairman of the board and president of Burns and Company, nephew and protégé of Senator Patrick Burns, John Burns was one of Calgary's most prominent citizens. His public service during World War Two was recognised in 1945 when he was made a Member of the British Empire. <sup>139</sup>

Burns was born in Kirkfield, Ontario, on August 23, 1883. He attended a Catholic school, St. Boniface College, in Manitoba. His uncle, Patrick Burns, brought him out to Calgary when he was seventeen and put him to work as an office boy. Learning the ranching and meat packing business from the elder Burns, he became his uncle's executive assistant and in 1918 the general manager of P. Burns and Company. By that time it was one of Canada's largest meat packing companies, a giant vertically integrated concern owning vast ranches, slaughterhouses, and wholesale and retail outlets across Canada. Under the management of John Burns, the company expanded into the dairy industry with a subsidiary, Palm Dairies, into the produce trade through the Consolidated Fruit Company and developed a sizeable overseas meatpacking business. Burns stayed with the company after the senator sold it in 1928, and in 1934 became the president. During World War Two, the company was a crucial supplier of foodstuffs for the war effort and Burns contributed personally as the Alberta Chairman of the War Savings Committee. His volunteer work was recognised with his induction as a Member of the British Empire, and the King's Own Calgary Regiment made Burns an honorary colonel.

As befitted a prominent Canadian executive, Burns had an impressive list of corporate directorships. His name was on the boards of the Royal Bank, the Dominion Bridge Company, Metals Ltd. and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. He had a large number of club memberships, including the Ranchmen's Club, the Petroleum Club, the Glencoe, the Calgary Golf and Country Club, the Manitoba Club, the Vancouver Club, and the Newcomen Society, to name the most prominent. Burns and his family lived in Mount Royal at 930 Prospect Avenue from 1928 to 1945. <sup>140</sup> A great lover of gardening, he

purchased a vacant lot adjacent to his house and turned it into an elaborate Japanese garden. <sup>141</sup> John Burns died June 24, 1953, at the age of 69. He was survived by his wife Alma, a native Calgarian, and two sons, Richard and Patrick.

#### Calvert, George Reginald

Anglican bishop of Calgary from 1952 to 1967, George Calvert presided over the last major expansion of the church in the diocese. His elevation as bishop was the pinnacle in an ecclesiastical career and spiritual odyssey that lasted 43 years.

Born in Kingston, Ontario in 1900, the son of a tinsmith, Calvert attended the University of Toronto, where he also met his wife to be, Kate. After graduating he studied for the priesthood and was made a deacon in 1924 and ordained the following year. Soon afterward he and his new bride found themselves in the hamlet of Snowflake, Manitoba, where Calvert was curate of the local parish. The village had no running water and electricity, but the Calverts enjoyed their frontier lifestyle. He couple spent the next two and a half decades in Manitoba, moving from Snowflake to the town of Holland in 1926, from there to Killarney in 1928, and finally to Winnipeg in 1932. Calvert was rector of St. Anne's and later St. Matthew's church, and in 1945 became Archdeacon of Winnipeg. Appointed Dean and Rector of the Anglican Cathedral in Victoria, British Columbia, in 1949, Calvert rose quickly in the church hierarchy to become the fourth Bishop of Calgary in 1952. By the time he and his wife arrived in the city, they had moved their household eleven times over the course of twenty-five years!

Calvert was very successful as Bishop. Within seven months of taking the job, he had successfully completed a drive to make the diocese financially self-supporting. <sup>145</sup> Taking advantage of the booming economy, he began a program of expansion for the diocese. Churches, rectories and parish halls were built not only to serve Calgary's burgeoning population, but many rural centres such as Bashaw and Coutts. Ten years into his tenure, Calvert had dedicated thirty-two new churches and nineteen parish halls. <sup>146</sup> The Bishop was not merely an excellent administrator. He fretted that the spiritual aspect of the church might be lost among the preoccupation with its physical expansion. Although modern in outlook, Calvert worried about decline of spirituality in an age of increasing materialism, especially the breakdown in the sanctity of marriage. The tall, bespectacled and energetic clergyman was a leading advocate of the ecumenical movement, enthusiastically promoting closer relationships between different Christian faiths. <sup>147</sup> He was cautiously optimistic about the possibility of a union between the Anglican and the United Church, although he did not expect to see it in his lifetime.

After fifteen years at the helm of the diocese, Calvert decided to retire in 1967. Citing poor health, he wished to step down to "make room for the vigorous leadership the diocese demands." Important decisions were pending about the reorganisation of the diocese, and Calvert decided fresh blood was best for the church. After stepping down on September 1st, 1967, the Bishop and his wife went to Victoria, leaving behind forty-three years of work with the faithful. He died in 1976.

While head of the diocese, Calvert lived at Bishop's Court, 1029 Hillcrest Avenue, in Mount Royal. He was one of four bishops who resided there before the official residence was moved in 1982.

#### Cameron, Holland

Holland Cameron and his family lived at 1201 Prospect Avenue from 1951 to 1970. Originally from Manchester, England, where he was born on July 15, 1913, Cameron immigrated with his parents to Toronto in 1922. An employee of Birks Jewellers, the company sent him to Calgary in 1949 as a department manager for their Calgary store. He became store manager and rose rapidly in the company, becoming vice president for Birks and Sons West before being promoted to president and managing director of Birks in British Columbia in 1970. Before his retirement in 1974, Cameron was made a director of the parent company of Henry Birks and Sons. Over the course of his career in Calgary, he was involved in several business groups, serving as the president for the Calgary Chamber of Commerce in 1961, president of the Calgary Rotary Club, and president of the Better Business Bureau. Cameron was also strongly community minded and was the associate chairman for the first United Way Fund campaign, a director of the YMCA and Mount Royal College, president of the Calgary Foundation in 1977, as well as a lifetime director of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede Board. Although Cameron and his wife Bernice sold 1201 Prospect when they moved to Vancouver in 1970, they returned to Calgary after Holland retired in 1974. The Camerons had three daughters, Suzanne, Mary and Elizabeth. Holland Cameron died in Calgary on April 3, 1990.

### Cameron, J. McKinley

Although he often acted as a crown prosecutor, J. McKinley Cameron was renowned as one of Alberta's premier defence lawyers. A Nova Scotian by birth, Cameron had attended the Pictou Academy before attending Dalhousie University, where he was a classmate of several other prominent early Calgary lawyers, such as A.A McGillivray, father of Chief Justice of Alberta **William McGillivray**. Cameron was the solicitor for the United Mineworkers of America in the Gaspé area before coming west to Calgary in 1909. He joined the firm of Stewart, Tweedie & Charman and was made a partner, but left to set up his own practice in 1914.

Cameron became known as one of Alberta's experts on criminal law and had a formidable reputation as a defence counsel. Most local lawyers of that era had general practices: almost no one specialised as a criminal lawyer, mostly because it was hard to make a living at it. Cameron made it his niche. Prohibition, declared in 1916, helped a great deal. Cameron said later that it brought a new kind of criminal to the courts – ones with money! His most famous case was the defence of Emilio "Pic" Picariello and Mrs. Florence Lassandro on charges of murdering Alberta Provincial Police Constable Steven Lawson in the Crowsnest Pass area in 1922. Picariello, a notorious bootlegger, shot the police officer in revenge for the wounding of his son, who had been in a shootout with Lawson when he was apprehended with a load of booze. Unfortunately, the trial was not a professional success for Cameron. He allowed the two to be tried together; hoping

that Lassandro's gender would appeal to the jury. Instead he lost the case: both defendants were hanged despite pleas for clemency for Lassandro. However, Cameron recouped his reputation as assistant prosecutor in the trial of I.W.C. Solloway and Harvey Mills, who carried out a massive oil stock fraud in 1928 and 1929. They were found guilty and sent to jail.

Cameron, his wife Ethel and two sons Stewart and Jack lived in Mount Royal for many years, at 855 Prospect from 1920 to 1943. He died on April 13th, 1943. Cameron's son Stewart was known as an editorial cartoonist for the *Calgary Herald*.

#### **Cameron, Stewart**

His father was one of the leading criminal lawyers of Calgary before World War Two. Stewart Cameron followed a rather different path, commenting on the foibles of human nature on his drawing table rather than in accounting for them in front of a judge. Cameron was a well-known cartoonist and caricaturist for the *Calgary Herald*.

Born in Calgary around 1912, Cameron discovered his talents while still in elementary school. <sup>154</sup> We don't know what his teachers thought of his artistic proclivities, but by the time he was attending high school, Cameron was submitting his sketches to the *Herald*. After two years at Mount Royal College, Cameron took a shot at the big time of the cartoon world, going to work for Walt Disney. <sup>155</sup> He was only at Disney for a few months before returning to Calgary. Cameron joined the *Herald* full-time in 1936. He made a name for himself with his merciless lampooning of the Social Credit government of William Aberhart, eventually publishing a collection titled *No Matter How Thin You Slice It*. It provoked a storm of protest and was derided as "tasteless" and "diabolical" by Social Credit supporters, music to the ears of an editorial cartoonist! <sup>156</sup>

After serving in the Army during World War Two, Cameron returned to the *Herald* briefly before accepting a job with the *Vancouver Daily Province*. He was only at the coast for two years when deteriorating health forced him to return to Calgary. Becoming a freelancer, Cameron continued to contribute his wit to the local papers and published several collections of cartoons. One dealt with the Calgary Stampede, another with life in the army. An ardent mountain trail rider in his youth, Cameron took great pleasure in providing illustrations for the book *Pack Horse in the Rockies*. He also provided a series of cartoons depicting the Rocky Mountains for the *Canadian Geographical Journal*. Known for his wit and self-deprecatory humour, Cameron was loved by many in the newspaper trade for his "priceless stories." <sup>157</sup>

Cameron suffered from chronic health problems and dropped from sight for several years before his death in 1970. He was only fifty-eight. The cartoonist had lived in Mount Royal at 2715 Cartier from 1951 to 1954. <sup>158</sup>

# **Carlyle, James Weldon and Thomas Morton**

Brothers James and Thomas Carlyle built one of Calgary's early entrepreneurial success stories, the Union Milk Company. Elder brother James was born in 1874 and Thomas in 1880 in Dunbar, Ontario, sons of farmer Matthew Carlyle. The latter had come out to Calgary briefly in 1893 and raised Clydesdales, but returned east four years later, settling in Lachine, Quebec. There he was a dairy farmer and retailer, and introduced his sons to the business. James attended Guelph agricultural college and went to Minnesota to study the science of dairy. Thomas had got a position with the Elmhurst Dairy of Montreal as superintendent, and James joined him there.

The brothers came west to Calgary in 1909, looking for opportunities. Although southern Alberta was thought to be "impossible dairy country", the brothers soon established the Carlyle Dairy Company. <sup>161</sup> Using the latest technology, the company produced the first pasteurised milk in the city. The Carlyles grew along with Calgary, and soon established branches in Lethbridge and Medicine Hat, branching out from milk to butter, cream and ice cream products. <sup>162</sup> Supplying the war effort further expanded the company and the brothers took advantage of a government mandated consolidation of the industry to absorb four competing dairies. <sup>163</sup> In the post war period, they changed the name to the Union Milk Company in 1928 with James as president and managing director and Thomas as vice-president. By the end of the decade, the Carlyles' holding company, United Dairies, controlled over twenty creameries in Alberta. The brothers began aggressively expanding into British Columbia. James was in Vancouver organising a new subsidiary called Jersey Farms when he died of a sudden heart attack in 1932. <sup>164</sup>

Carlyle had been heavily involved in the industry outside of his own company, serving as president of the Alberta Dairymen's Association, the Western Canada Ice Cream Manufacturer's Association and was an active member of the Calgary Board of Trade. He also found time for community service, and was a director for the YMCA, Riverside branch, acting as a board member for seven years and helping plan Camp Chief Hector in the Rocky Mountains. James was also a wheel in the Rotary Club and at Knox United Church. James, his wife and four daughters lived in Mount Royal at 1356 Montreal Avenue from 1915 to 1935, with his widow remaining in the family home for three years after his death. <sup>165</sup>

Thomas took over the company as president and general manager. Although the Depression years saw the company's fortunes fluctuate, it emerged intact and again flourished. It continued to be a family owned company, with the Carlyles controlling the majority of shares. Thomas's son Grant joined the company in 1934, and became president and manager in his father's stead. Although Thomas died suddenly on April 10th, 1945, the company remained under Carlyle management until 1966, when Grant sold it to Silverwood Dairies of Ontario. Ontario.

Like James, Thomas Carlyle took a prominent role in the industry, serving as president of the Alberta Dairymen's Association in 1936 and sitting on the executive of the National Dairy Council of Canada for twelve years. (162) Carlyle was president of the Calgary Board of Trade in 1928 and chairman of the Calgary and Alberta branches of the Canadian Manufacturer's Association. He also dedicated time to community service as a

charter member and past president of the Kiwanis Club. Thomas Carlyle and his wife Stella moved into Mount Royal in 1923, and lived at 1116 Sydenham until 1941. 168

#### **Chambers, Everett James**

E.J. Chambers was one of many impecunious young lawyers from New Brunswick when he arrived in Calgary in 1922, armed with a letter of introduction to fellow maritimer R.B. Bennett. He had come to Calgary because of the reports of other lawyers from the east that had done well there – as Chambers himself put it, "the Maritimes had been doing a brisk export trade in lawyers to the west." His reception was less than warm. A cordial but cool Bennett told him that he had chosen a terrible time to come, as the local economy was in tatters due to the post war slump. Fortunately for Chambers, Bennett had a soft spot for neophyte lawyers, and after failing to find him a position anywhere else, took him on as an extremely junior member of his own firm, with a princely salary of \$50 a month, barely enough to pay room and board.

Young Everett, however, was used to adversity. Born in Cornhill, New Brunswick in 1896, his father was a carpenter who died in 1907, leaving his mother with three children to raise. <sup>170</sup> She took in boarders to support the family and would not let Chambers quit school. Although he wanted to become a lawyer, there was no money for university and Chambers instead attended the provincial normal school and became a teacher. <sup>171</sup> Put in charge of the school in Havelock, New Brunswick, Chambers remembered a great deal of hard work and poor pay. He was able to save enough to attend King's College in Windsor, Nova Scotia and earn his degree. Supporting himself by house painting, Chambers also completed a year of post-graduate work at Harvard and joined the New Brunswick Bar in 1921.

Convinced there would be more opportunity in the west, Chambers came out to Calgary and was fortunate to join the largest and most prosperous firm in Calgary, Lougheed Bennett. A great admirer of the future prime minister, Chambers stayed loyally by him when the firm acrimoniously split up later that year. The two became close friends as well as partners. Chambers remembered Bennett imparting good advice, once telling him "remember that when you walk into court you have as much right there as the judge. Have respect, of course, but don't take everything. Your being there is a right, not a privilege."

Chambers' long association with Bennett certainly did not hurt his career, and he was recognised as one of Calgary's leading solicitors. His partners and clients marvelled at his vast output of work, the product of long evenings in his law library at home. Among a roster of corporate clients was Calgary Power (now Transalta). Everett was their solicitor for so long other lawyers called him the company nursemaid! In 1947, he took a case to the Privy Council in England, on behalf of the Alberta Banker's Association against the Social Credit government of Alberta. The Privy Council was originally the highest court of appeal for Canadians, having precedence over even the Supreme Court of Canada, and it was always considered a mark of honour for a lawyer if the council agreed to hear a case. Made a Queen's Counsel, Chambers was a Bencher and a past president of the Law Society of Alberta. In 1965 his alma mater, King's College, awarded him an

honorary doctorate. Chambers also collected a number of corporate directorships, including Royalite Oil and Calgary Power. As befitted a prominent lawyer, he belonged to the Ranchmen's, the Calgary Golf and Country Club, and the Petroleum Club.

His success masked long-standing health problems. Suffering from severe ulcers, Chambers endured several surgeries and was condemned to a exceedingly severe diet, including a proscription on alcohol. This was not a terrible trial to the strict Baptist. According to his long time partner J.J. Saucier, however, a successful gastrectomy in 1956 freed him from most dietary restrictions, and he discovered a weakness for strong drink that was a source of some embarrassment in his later years.

In Mount Royal, Chambers lived at 2708 Montcalm Crescent from 1929 to 1975. His widow Georgie remained there until 1986. 176

#### Chambers, William J.

Partner of **Dr. T.H. Blow**, William Chambers was a prominent Calgary physician. The well-respected surgeon had joined Blow in 1913, and was an ear, nose and throat specialist. With his wife and family, the doctor had come to Mount Royal in 1915, living at 2106 Hope Street and then moving to 1030 Hillcrest Avenue in 1919. 178

A spectacular train wreck cut short what should have been a long and prosperous career. Returning from a business trip in New York, Chambers was in the rear car of the CPR transcontinental when it was hit by another train on January 25, 1920, by North Bay, Ontario. The passenger train had been split into two sections to negotiate a difficult line of track. Chambers' train had stalled on the tracks, as the severe cold interfered with the engine's ability to build sufficient steam. The crew, knowing the second section of the train was following them closely, set off explosive warnings and sent a flagman back along the track. The second engine crew did not hear or see the warnings, and plowed into the first train, destroying the rear car. Chambers was one of the eight killed and thirteen severely injured in the accident. Nearly all the victims were from western Canada.

# Chapin, Oris Sidney

Businessman O.S. Chapin contributed materially to the modernisation of the west. Coming to Calgary in 1898 as a salesman for International Harvester, Chapin opened his own tractor and automotive dealership several years later. He was an American, born in Wisconsin. Initially he handled Hart Parr gasoline tractors, at a time when many homesteaders still relied on old-fashioned horsepower. By 1911 he was also dealing Packard and Overland autos from his show room and garage on 5th Avenue. His son, Sid, claimed that his father owned the third car in Calgary. Eventually Chapin sold the business to the Motor Car Supply Company, and after serving as president of the parent corporation, went into the oil business. He was a friend of A.W. Dingman, discoverer of petroleum in Turner Valley, and acted as vice president of Dingman's company, Calgary Petroleum Products.

founder of Mount Royal College, and was vice president of the institution's board of directors. <sup>184</sup> The Chapins lived at 1103 Colborne Crescent from 1914 to 1948, the same year Oris died. <sup>185</sup>

### Clarke, Alfred Henry

One of many judges to make his home in Mount Royal, Clarke was elevated to the appellate division of the Alberta Supreme Court in 1921. Originally from Ontario, he was born in Manila on October 25, 1860.<sup>186</sup> After public school in Oakwood, Ontario, Clarke studied law at Toronto's prestigious Osgoode Hall law school. Joining the bar in 1880 he practised in Windsor from 1883 to 1912, when he came to Alberta.<sup>187</sup> While in Windsor, he became involved in politics, and was elected as the Liberal Member of Parliament in 1904, 1908 and 1911. After coming west, he was a partner in the firm of Clarke, Carson and Macleod until going to the bench. Named a King's Counsel in 1913, Clarke also served as a Bencher of the Law Society. He was an active judge, writing many of the judgements of the appeal court including a series that helped define judicial procedures in the twenties and thirties. On January 30, 1942, he complained of chest pains shortly after noon.<sup>188</sup> Two of his colleagues, Judge Shepherd and Judge Tweedie, took him home to 863 Prospect Avenue, where he had lived since 1915.<sup>189</sup> The justice died two hours later, leaving his wife, two sons and two daughters. His widow remained in the family home until 1944.

### Cohen, Harry and Martha

The Cohens had the unusual distinction of the first couple named to the Order of Canada and both receiving honorary doctorates. The pair was leading lights among Calgary's volunteers and philanthropists. Harry received his order in 1975 and his doctorate in 1973. Originally from Winnipeg, where he was born in 1912, Cohen came from a poor immigrant family. He quit school at fifteen to get a job to help support them. Working first as a doorman at a theatre in Winnipeg, he got a job with Warner Brothers as a film inspector just as the Depression was beginning to take hold. Cohen saw his starting wage of \$14 a week trimmed to barely \$11 mere months after starting. In 1932 Warner sent him to Calgary to take over as manager of their distribution office. Taking a liking to the city, he persuaded his whole family to come west, which they did in 1934, travelling in an old truck and arriving flat broke. It was, however, the beginning of an entrepreneurial success story.

Harry's father Alex took over management of the Palace Theatre, while his five brothers found jobs and set up a small retail store. In 1939, the family scraped together enough money to start General Distributors. It was a wholesale import firm, bringing in all sorts of products to be sold to local department stores. While his brothers went off to war, Harry, disqualified from service because of ulcers, nursed the business along while still working for Warner Brothers. In1942, he managed almost \$100,000 in sales, and by 1950 it had grown to almost a million. The company got the exclusive Canadian rights for Paper-mate brand pens in the early fifties, which became a huge money-maker. Harry later credited his brother Albert with an uncanny knack for finding great products to

distribute. It was Albert that hooked General up with Sony in 1955, a deal which guaranteed the family's fortune. At that time a little known Japanese manufacturer of transistors, the future electronics giant was looking for distributors for their new portable radios, and struck a deal with the Cohens. The brothers expanded into real estate and retailing, establishing the SAAN and Metropolitan department store chains. Harry and partner Ted Riback built the Petro-Chemical building on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, one of the city's early skyscrapers, in 1954. <sup>193</sup> In 1983, the family company had become an enormous corporation named Gendis, and the Cohen brothers had scattered across the country to look after the business.

By that point, Harry Cohen had made a name for himself as a philanthropist. He volunteered for numerous organisations - over thirty at one point in the sixties, including the boy scouts! It was a facet of a warm and generous personality. His old friend Hyman Belzberg remembered: "Anyone who came to him for help never went away empty handed – and that's unusual". Cohen himself ascribed his impulse to aid others to his roots, growing up poor in Winnipeg. Like many self-made men turned philanthropist, Cohen saw himself as lucky. Having been there once himself, he felt a responsibility to help the less fortunate. It was a family trait: all Harry's brothers contributed time and money to charitable causes. <sup>195</sup>

Harry's partner in philanthropy was his wife, Martha Cohen. Or perhaps it was the other way around, as she is possibly even better known than her husband was due to her community work. She was born Martha Block in Calgary in 1921. Although her family was much better off than the Cohens were, the Blocks also tasted the bitterness of poverty during the Depression, almost losing their house. A superb student, Martha finished high school early and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Alberta by the time she was eighteen. Martha met Harry while going out with one of his younger brothers – she had dated all of them! Harry got her a stenographer's job until she turned twenty-one, when she was eligible to go to the University of Toronto for their social work program. After she graduated in 1945 with a master's degree, the couple was married. Unlike many women in her generation, marriage did not mean the end of Martha's career. She went to work at the Calgary Family Bureau as one of the few trained social workers in the city. She immediately involved her husband, who found jobs in his own or his friends' companies for many of her older charges from the Bureau. When she started her own family, Martha quit working, but this merely changed her focus to volunteerism.

And she rapidly became a force to reckon with. Martha was involved in everything from the United Way to the Liberal Party. She founded the Jewish Family Services and served on the board of the Hull Home. Along with Jewish groups and social causes, she was a great supporter of the arts in Calgary. Along with five other prominent Calgary women, Cohen was instrumental in providing Calgary with a proper performing arts centre. It had started in 1974, when Theatre Calgary asked Cohen, a long time arts patron, to chair a building committee for a new performing venue. The Calgary Philharmonic and Alberta Theatre Projects were also in need of space, and the concept of a performing arts centre was born. Cohen and her cohorts, in the face of much scepticism, set about raising the fifteen million dollars of private funding required for the envisioned centre. It took them

five years, but they were successful, and construction of the centre began in 1981. As a special surprise for his wife, Harry Cohen donated a million dollars towards the facility in 1983 and got one of the theatres named after her. The centre was one of her great triumphs, but Cohen was also instrumental in the construction of the Mount Royal College campus. She was made chairwoman of the board of Governors, the first woman to head a higher educational institution in Alberta. The new campus planned for Lincoln Park came under fire as too large and predictions were made that it would never be fully utilised. Cohen and the board persevered with their plans, and were vindicated years later when the college had to expand its facility, and build a new downtown campus! 197

Martha was inducted into the Order of Canada at the same time as Harry, and received her own honorary doctorate from the University of Calgary. Among her other awards was the Negev Award from the Jewish National fund, the State of Israel's Prime Minister's medal, the Alberta Achievement Award and numerous other honours. <sup>198</sup> In a nice twist, in 1985 Martha's four children established the Harry and Martha Cohen award for individuals contributing to the arts in Calgary. Martha did not end her involvement with the arts after the Centre was finished, serving on the ATP board and founding Calgary Pro Musica. The Cohens had moved into Mount Royal in 1951, in a new house at 1311 Cabot Street. They lived there for forty years, until Harry's death in 1990. Martha later moved to a condo in a nearby area.

#### **Coste, Eugene Marius**

Father of the natural gas industry in Alberta and founder of Canadian Western Natural Gas also built one of the most distinctive houses in Mount Royal. The Coste House on Amherst Road has been synonymous with the neighbourhood for decades, and its varied fortunes reflect nicely the history of the community.

Eugene Coste was born July 8, 1859 in the Windsor, Ontario. <sup>199</sup> His family had a fascinating story. His father, Napoleon Alexander Coste had come from Marseilles, France. Although trained as an engineer, Napoleon's father had sent his son to sea as a midshipman, determined that he should see the world. <sup>200</sup> Misfortune waited, and Napoleon found himself on a Great Lakes schooner, exploited and abused by an unscrupulous captain. The young man jumped ship and swam ashore near Malden, Ontario. A Francophone farmer by the name of Robidoux took the young man in, and Coste was soon working as the local schoolmaster. Within a short time he became the surveyor for Essex County, and was elected to the local village council and became Reeve of Malden. Napoleon married Mathilde Robidoux, daughter of his benefactor. In 1863, he returned with his young family to France and from there went to Egypt to work as a construction engineer on the Suez Canal. Napoleon piloted the first vessel to make its way down the completed waterway in 1869. <sup>201</sup> The elder Coste spent another decade in Egypt, and his children were sent back to France for their education. Eugene and his brother Louis attended the University of Paris. After a sojourn in England in 1881, the Coste family returned to Amherstburg near Windsor, Ontario.

Eugene had trained in Paris as a mining engineer, graduating from the University of Paris in 1876 and the Ecole National Superieure des Mines in 1883, joining the Geological Survey of Canada immediately afterward. Fascinated by petroleum and natural gas, Coste was a firm believer in the volcanic, inorganic theory of petroleum formation then in vogue in France. He stuck with the idea his whole life, and was spectacularly successful at finding natural gas despite the fact it was entirely wrong. He started looking for gas in southern Ontario in 1888. With the financial backing of his father, he brought in a well right in Essex County in 1889 that proved a major discovery. Soon he had more producing wells, and began supplying local markets. Coste was not alone in finding and selling gas in Ontario, but he was the most successful, and in 1911 his Volcanic Oil and Gas merged with several other firms to create the Union Gas Company, which supplied almost seventy municipalities with natural gas.

Coste did not restrict his activities to Ontario. In 1909 the CPR retained him to search for viable reserves of oil and gas in their vast western landholdings. In February, assisted by talented driller W.R. "Frosty" Martin, Coste brought in the Old Glory well at Bow Island on the South Saskatchewan River, discovering a vast gas field. 205 Convinced of the potential for commercial natural gas in the fast growing Prairie Provinces, Coste set about exploiting the discovery. The major difficulty was getting the gas to market, and Coste began planning a two hundred kilometre long pipeline to Calgary, the nearest major city. He was able to lease the gas rights on the field from the CPR and got the support of Sir Clifford Sifton, former Minister of the Interior in the Laurier government, and Sir William Mackenzie, president of the Canadian Northern Railway. <sup>206</sup> Organising the Prairie Natural Gas Company in 1910, Coste tried to interest British investors in his scheme. Unsuccessful at first, he changed the name to the Canadian Western Natural Gas, Light, Heat and Power Company, incorporating the new company on July 19, 1911. Coste and his associates took over two franchises that had already been granted by the City of Calgary to the Calgary Gas Company and the Calgary Natural Gas Company. British money was found to the tune of four and a half million dollars.

Construction of the pipeline commenced on April 22nd, 1912 and took eighty-six days. It was an engineering marvel of the day, often referred to as the longest pipeline in world, and was in actual fact the third longest in North America. 207 The gas was turned on in Calgary on July 17, 1912 in a dramatic flare lighting ceremony. A 'roaring' success, the company never looked back. Coste himself did not return to the field to search for more gas, but the company exploited further discoveries in Turner Valley and organised a syndicate that eventually brought in the gas fields at Viking to supply Edmonton. The company assiduously expanded its pipeline system and eventually became the major supplier of natural gas in Alberta. Coste built his magnificent residence in Mount Royal at 2208 Amherst Road in 1913, and lived there until 1922. 208 He later returned to Toronto, leaving the house empty. It subsequently had an interesting history. Coste wished to donate it to the City of Calgary as a children's hospital, an offer the city refused.<sup>209</sup> Eventually he gave it to the city in lieu of paying the back taxes owed on the property. During the Second World War, it became home to the art department of the Provincial Institute of Technology, and afterwards local artists persuaded the city to turn it into an arts facility. As the Allied Arts Centre, it played a central role in Calgary's

burgeoning cultural scene in the post war years. Ultimately, the Coste mansion was sold by the city and became a private residence, presently owned by another natural gas industry executive.

Coste himself died Toronto in 1940. His wife Louise Catherine, with whom Coste had two daughters and a son, predeceased him. Eugene jr. later joined his father's company and also lived briefly in Mount Royal.

# Craig, George Eric Gwynne

In 1945, Calgary's municipal airport was not much more than a field and a hanger in the north-east district of Renfrew. Fourteen years later, it was one of the busiest and most modern in Canada, largely thanks to ability of George Eric Gwynn Craig.

Craig's life was itself worthy of an adventure novel. He was born in Queenstown, South Africa, in 1892. His Irish father was head of the South African Railways. The family sent him back to Ireland for his education, and Craig attended the University of Dublin, studying engineering. In 1913 he came to Canada to join the Canadian Pacific Railway as a construction engineer. With outbreak of war, he enlisted with the Canadian Expeditionary Force and was sent to France. Surviving two years in the infantry before he transferred to the Royal Flying Corps, which was even more dangerous but much more glamorous. After six months of training, he was promptly shot down over the Somme in 1917and found himself back in Canada, recuperating from serious injuries.

His doctors recommended spending time outdoors, and Craig took up ranching in the Peace River region of northern Alberta, with indifferent success. <sup>211</sup> When oil was discovered at Fort Norman in the Northwest Territories, Craig went back to work as an engineer, arriving in 1923. He spent several years exploring the North Country, looking for more oil, before joining the Can-Alaska Trading Company, who hired him to scout locations for trading posts. While with the company, he came up with idea of flying out furs to get a jump on the market. Craig became a bush pilot, one of the legendary fraternity of early aviators in Canada's arctic north. After six years in the Territories, during which he learned Inuit, Craig longed for "civilisation" and went to Europe for a year.

He returned to Canada to work for the Blue Diamond Mine near Jasper National Park. He married a Vancouver girl soon afterward. Although too old for the air force, Craig took a position with Northwest Industries when the Second World War began. The company was involved in the Commonwealth Air Training Program, and Craig was back in the aviation industry for good. In 1943 he joined the Federal Department of Transportation as inspector of airport development. Two years later, the department sent him to Calgary to manage the municipal airport. It was not an auspicious beginning; Craig's first thought upon seeing the nearly non-existent facilities was to quit! Deciding that the city's northeast had the potential for a first class airfield, he stayed on, becoming an employee of the City of Calgary when the latter took over the airfield in 1949. He persuaded the City to move the airfield, named McCall Field after World War One ace **Freddy McCall**, to its

present location. There he set about building a modern, all-weather airport. Once the oil boom began, Calgary's airport was suddenly overrun with executive aircraft belonging to oil companies. In 1956, a new terminal building was opened, with a modern control tower, bringing Craig's dream to reality.

Craig and his family lived in Mount Royal for ten years during his tenure at the airport. They had the house at 2224 Amherst. <sup>212</sup> In 1959, Craig decided to retire, and moved to the sunny climes of Mexico a year later. He died there in March of 1968.

### Crawford-Frost, William A

Nanton rancher William A. Crawford-Frost helped change the cattle industry in Alberta forever. Starting out as a young rancher in 1921, he bought three Hereford cattle along with a number of the usual shorthorns. Impressed with their hardiness and ability to look after themselves during the bitter Alberta winters, he decided to build up a registered pure-bred herd and became one of the top Hereford breeders in Canada and helped establish them as the premier cattle of Alberta. In the thirties, one of his bulls once fetched \$32,000, a phenomenal amount of money at the time.

Crawford-Frost came from an interesting background. His father, the Reverend William A. Crawford-Frost, was an exceptionally eccentric Anglican clergyman, widely known as an inventor. Born in Owen Sound, Ontario, in 1863, the reverend graduated from the University of Toronto with a master's of arts in 1886.<sup>213</sup> He became a minister in 1888 and went to the United States, serving churches in Long Island, Baltimore and Emmorton, Maryland. His agile mind led him to the Baltimore medical college in 1898. A sufferer of asthma, Crawford-Frost experimented with ether as a treatment. He was also an advocate of its mind-altering qualities: ether had a brief vogue as conscious altering substance among a number of leading psychologists and philosophers in the early twentieth century. The minister fervently believed his ether use had "modified his brain cells so as to make them abnormally quick at receiving new ideas."214 Crawford-Frost commented in papers upon astronomy, physics, economics, and politics, and claimed that many of his ideas had been adopted by leading statesmen in the twenties and thirties. Among the patents he held were inventions for energy motors, different types of aircraft, and for a respirator system that was allegedly adopted, without recognition, by the combatant nations in World War One. Crawford-Frost and his wife retired to Calgary in 1932, joining their son.

Bill Crawford-Frost was born in Baltimore in 1899.<sup>215</sup> He first came to Calgary in 1911 with his mother, visiting a family friend, Walter Ings of the OH ranch near High River, and attending Western Canada College.<sup>216</sup> After a brief spell in the Royal Air Force near the end of World War One, Crawford-Frost returned to Alberta for health reasons, having developed lung problems during the war.<sup>217</sup> He joined his uncle, Fred Ings, on his ranch at Nanton.<sup>218</sup> The young man struck out on his own after a couple of years, and immediately became involved in breeding Herefords. He became a convert to the breed and started to build up an award-winning herd. His cattle won first prizes at shows in Toronto, Chicago, Denver and San Francisco. The Crawford-Frost ranch near Nanton

was known as Carleon, named by his mother after the court of King Arthur. Bill married Majorie Ings, a daughter of Walter Ings, in 1930. The Crawford-Frosts raised cattle for over thirty years, as well as two daughters. In 1953 they sold the ranch and moved into Calgary, settling at 1004 Prospect Avenue.

Although retired from ranching, Crawford-Frost was not done with cattle. He was named president of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede Board and served for three years. Naturally he also belonged to numerous stock-raising organisations, and had been president of the Alberta and the Canadian Hereford Association, and a director of the Alberta Cattle Breeder's Association and the Western Stock Growers Association. Crawford-Frost died unexpectedly in 1957 at his cabin in the Ghost River area, only fifty-seven years old. <sup>219</sup>

#### Cross, Clifton C

Ironically, one of the biggest boosters of the Calgary Stampede, responsible for the many now venerable traditions of the "Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth", was originally from Ottawa and didn't come to Calgary until 1937, when he was already 42 years old. Clifton C. Cross made up for lost time, and became the city's leading "drugstore cowboy"

It was oil that brought Cross to Calgary. Born in Ottawa in 1895, Cross grew up in Toronto and went into the brokerage business with W.L. Mckinnon and Company immediately upon finishing high school. Starting out as an office boy, he rose quickly in the firm and was sent to Regina to manage the company's western office. Eventually Cross went out on his own, buying the branch and renaming it C.C. Cross and Company, and in the stock frenzy of the late twenties he prospered. By 1929, he was making millions on paper, but Black Monday in October changed that overnight. C.C. Cross and Co. survived the crash and struggled through the lean years that followed. The stockbroker's destiny changed during a stopover in Calgary in 1936 while travelling by train to Vancouver. It was Stampede week: as Cross waited, a cowboy rode his horse up onto the platform and lassoed a bystander. Intrigued by all the fun, he stopped for the last day of the Stampede on the way back to Regina. He was an instant convert to Calgary, and decided to relocate.

There were good business reasons behind the decision. Cross also had a small interest in the Turner Valley Royalties well of R.A. Brown and George M. Bell. When they struck the proverbial gusher in 1936, Cross was impressed by the return on his investment, and decided oil was the place to be. He opened an office of C.C. Cross and Co. in Calgary in 1937, specialising in oil stocks. Business boomed and by 1942 Cross had over thirteen offices across Canada to satisfy the appetite for Alberta oil investments. The war slowed down the stock market and the federal government put a cap on speculative profits, so Cross went into the oil industry directly by forming Globe Oil. The first independent oil firm to strike crude in the Leduc field, Globe was a successful wildcatter. The company later became Trans-Empire Oils and then West Canadian Oil. Cross's career as an oil baron was nearly cut short in 1948 when he was in a plane crash. Seriously injured, he made an astounding recovery and was soon back at work.

Shortly after first moving to Calgary, Cross bought the Buckhorn Ranch near Pincher Creek. By doing so, he established a long-lived tradition of successful Calgary businessmen, especially oilmen, buying ranches. Cross, who never had any illusions about his status as a real cowboy, created a dude ranch that for many years served as his summer home. Through the Stampede, however, Cross contributed immensely to Calgary's cow town image. In 1946, he had the bright idea of getting his own office girls to put on western garb and dance in the halls of the Lancaster building. Up to that point, dressing western had been generally left to the real cowboys. It caught on, and the group ended up holding full-blown square dances in front of the Lancaster. The next year, Cross got a chuck wagon and musicians and held a dance in front of the Palliser Hotel. The local cops were not amused, but Calgarians began to get into the spirit. In 1948, now a director with the Exhibition and Stampede board, Cross got permission to rope off several blocks of 8th Avenue and served pancake breakfasts from chuck wagons. In no time at all, street events were a firm part of the Stampede, a tradition that continues.

Cross was a prominent part of the Stampede party, up to all hours every night with his ever-present cigar jutting from under his cowboy hat. He sponsored a chuck wagon in the rodeo for several years. Not surprisingly, Cross was one of the ringleaders behind the famous train to Toronto to cheer Calgary on in the 1948 Grey Cup. He made a career out of being colourful. Many stories about Cross really can't be repeated, such as the Christmas Eve bet he made with a friend over the completion of the Elboya Bridge on Elbow Drive. It ended with public nudity in front the main Calgary post office and a trip to the police station for his friend, but it was all in good fun!<sup>224</sup>

Aside from his work for the Stampede, Cross was active in the Baptist Church and the Shriners, and served as chairman of the Calgary Horse Show and was also made honorary colonel of the 19<sup>th</sup> Medium Regiment. A friend to the Sarcee and Peigan Indians, Cross was made an honorary chief of both bands. He had the usual roster of club memberships, the Ranchmen's, the Petroleum Club, the Glencoe, and the Calgary Golf and Country Club. Cross was also proud of his large family. Married twice, first to Ruth Naomi Wood of Toronto in 1915 and then Helen Fox in 1938, he had six children, three daughters with Ruth and two daughters and a son with Helen. Cross lived with his second wife and family at 1425 Premier Way from 1941 through 1947.

#### Cross, James Braehead

James Braehead Cross was as close as any man to being Calgary aristocracy. He had an impeccable frontier pedigree – his maternal grandfather was Colonel James F. Macleod of the Northwest Mounted Police, and his father was Alfred Ernest Cross, rancher, brew master, politician and one of "Big Four" who fronted the money for the first Calgary Stampede. Though born to a life of privilege, Cross showed his mettle not only as a businessman but as one of the most public-spirited men Calgary has ever seen.

In many ways Cross was a study in contrasts, the dutiful son and conservative business executive and a romantic who still dreamed of riding the open range, brought into the

world a hundred years *after* his time. He was born in east Calgary in 1903, not far from the family brewery. As a boy, Cross attended schools in Victoria and later in Oakville, Ontario. His summers were spent on his father's ranch, the A-7, one of the largest on the continent. The ranch became Jim Cross's first love; ironically, he had very little to do with his father's brewery, the Calgary Brewing and Malting Company. Established in 1892, it was one of the oldest breweries in western Canada and the foundation of the business empire of A.E. Cross. The elder Cross was from a prominent Montreal family, and after receiving a veterinary degree from McGill University, had come west in 1884 to manage the British American ranch near Cochrane. He soon had his own ranch. A riding accident ended his days on the range, and Cross started up his brewery with the backing of his ranching friends. A founding member of the Ranchmen's Club, Cross expanded his business interests into oil, mining, meatpacking, ranching and many other enterprises.

James went to Guelph Agricultural College, preparing to manage the family ranch. His father had other ideas, and told J.B. that as the oldest he was to look after the brewery. He dutifully went to Birmingham, England for two years training as a brew master, followed by a year in Copenhagen. Already noted for his love of polo, Cross showed his wilder side in England, taking up boxing, sometimes participating in "pub brawls", bare fisted fights without referees in the local bars, just for the thrill. Although he followed his father's dictate and came back to join the brewery as secretary and assistant brew master in 1926, he competed in rodeos across Alberta as well as playing polo.

Although he had never worked in the brewery as a boy, Cross went into the family business with modern training. He was appalled at the state of disarray his father's flagship business. His ageing father was an entrepreneur, not an administrator, and the long years of prohibition had encouraged very lax bookkeeping. Cross made some enemies, firing the brew master and several other long-term employees, tightening up the company's accounting, cracking down on theft and employee drinking, and taking a harder line with the union. His instant entry into the top echelons of the company may have been difficult for some of the staff to swallow.

The younger Cross soon proved his ability as the Depression took hold in 1930. The family lost considerable money in the stock market crash, but the pinch really began as the economy worsened and beer consumption drastically dropped. It was the biggest crisis the company had faced since prohibition in 1916. A.E Cross died in 1932, and Jim Cross took over as president. Although he had to tighten his belt, he was determined not to fire any employees. Cross sold his stock holdings in companies such as Royalite Petroleum to raise cash for the brewery. Everyone from senior management down took a cut in pay and single men had their hours reduced to the bare minimum, but Cross looked after his own. To keep morale up and keep his workers busy, Cross emulated a European tradition and began constructing an elaborate garden for the brewery, cleaning up the grounds and creating an oasis of beauty in industrial east Calgary.

The brewery survived the Depression intact. Cross had taken over many bankrupt hotels in southern Alberta, leasing them back to their former owners or bringing in new managers, providing himself with a ready market for the brewery's product. After the

Second World War, the brewery started a program of expansion and modernisation, anticipating a return to prosperity and a boom in demand. The Calgary Brewing and Malting Company became the dominant regional brewer, and even began to acquire other companies. It already owned another Calgary brewery, the Big Horn Brewing Company, and in the fifties beat out eastern giant Canadian Breweries to buy the Northwest Brewing and Malting Company in Edmonton. However, the Calgary company suddenly found itself overwhelmed by changes in the industry. Consolidation on a national scale was taking place. Canadian Breweries had been eyeing the Calgary Brewing and Malting for almost a decade and made several offers for the still privately owned company. Changes in provincial regulations in 1957 suddenly made the operation's hotel chain an albatross, when the Liquor Control Board forbade breweries to own hotels. The company was facing a large loss on the properties in a glutted market, and this may have influenced Cross's decision to accept a new offer from his eastern rivals. He sold the Calgary Brewing and Malting Company for a reported eighteen million dollars in 1960. Surprisingly, given his independent streak, Cross agreed to stay on as president.

This decision was probably motivated by some unfinished business. By the fifties, the brewery gardens had become a major local attraction. An avid sportsman, Cross had built a trout hatchery at the brewery in the thirties and the garden soon incorporated fish ponds and a stream. Jim Cross had even greater ambitions. In the fifties he had begun planning an aquarium and a museum of western history. Part of his arrangement with Canadian Breweries was to continue with the museum. The Aquarium opened in 1960, and the Horseman Hall of Fame in 1964. They made the Brewery a major tourist destination and helped preserve many historic artefacts of the Canadian west. The gardens, aquarium, and museum were the most obvious demonstration of Cross's dedication to his community. Years before in 1944, he had founded the Buffalo Athletic Association, funding all manner of junior league sports in Calgary, especially hockey, and even contributing an indoor stadium. Aside from providing money for many charitable causes, Cross sat on the boards for numerous groups and was always an active participant; the Canadian Institute for the Blind and the Calgary Zoological Society were two particular favourites. Cross also carried on the family tradition with the Calgary Stampede and Exhibition. Made a director in 1932, he became president in 1948 and remained on the board when his term ended in 1951.

Cross retired in 1963 at the age of 60. He continued to play polo and raise cattle on his own ranch in Okotoks, and helped his brothers run the A-7. Much of his time was given to volunteer work. The family moved out of Mount Royal and to the country in 1952. They had lived at 1027 Sydenham Road since 1932. Sadly, despite their popularity, Canadian management closed down the museum and aquarium in the early seventies. Their creator died in 1990 at the age of 86.

### Cunnington, Douglas G.L.

Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Cunnington, MC, VD, CD, OBE, had several claims to distinction. He visited his own grave on the battlefields of France, and had the shortest career of any parliamentarian on record - three hours. The old soldier also gave

generously of his time and energy to the YMCA, the Salvation Army and over thirty years to the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, serving as its Southern Alberta chairman for a decade.

Like so many early Calgarians, Cunnington was born in England, at Shropshire in 1885. He was the son of G.H. Cunnington, headmaster of the Blue Coat School. After a troublesome education under his father's eye, Cunnington left school at the age of sixteen to work as a farm hand. Several years later, he was hired as an overseer for a sugar plantation in British Guiana. The Anglican Bishop of Demerra was a friend of the family, and an indulgent employer allowed young Cunnington to accompany the prelate on his journeys into the interior. After several years as plantation manager, Cunnington returned to England in 1909. Flush with several years pay, Cunnington by his own account spent the better part of a year loafing, drinking and fighting with his father. In 1910 he embarked for Canada, going to the Mission area of British Columbia. From there he came to Calgary to run a dairy farm for Arthur Layzell.

Cunnington farmed on the outskirts of Calgary, near the present Chinook Centre shopping mall, for four years. He remembered grazing cattle by the Elboya Bridge. Looking across the river, there were only a half a dozen houses in Elbow Park. In 1913, he married his wife Elsie May at the ProCathedral of the Redeemer; she had come over from England.

Like many Englishmen in Canada, Cunnington enlisted at the start of the First World War to fight for his homeland. Starting as a private, he was soon regimental sergeant major and then received a commission as lieutenant. He went overseas with the famous 50th Battalion, one of Alberta's most decorated fighting units. In an action by Hallu, France in August 1918, Cunnington was awarded a Military Cross for gallantry - posthumously. Leading his men into heavy fire from German lines, Cunnington fearlessly charged a machine gun and took its crew prisoner single-handed, and got his unit to its objective. The next day, during a counterattack, Cunnington was shot through the chest. His men were sure he was dead and were forced to abandon his body. Several days later they retook the ground, only to find a marker by a grave with Cunnington's uniform and gear. It was inscribed "Canadian officer".

His men replaced the stake with a makeshift cross. Cunnington's widow was notified of her husband's death soon afterwards. She redeemed his life insurance and began collecting a pension, and made plans to return to England. Elsie received an enormous shock several weeks later. Her husband was alive, and had written to her father from a German hospital. The enemy had come upon the severely wounded Canadian after his unit retreated; finding him alive, stretcher-bearers had taken him off the battlefield. Why they left his kit on the grave, and whom they actually buried, remains a mystery. Cunnington was repatriated shortly after the war ended in 1918 and spent most of a year in a British hospital, returning to Calgary in September 1919. His "widow" had to return the insurance money, but she likely didn't complain! Cunnington visited France in 1958, and made a special pilgrimage to his "final" resting-place.

Back in Calgary, Cunnington was offered a job in the advertising department of the *Calgary Herald*. After seven years with the paper, he went into the insurance business, opening his own agency, which prospered. The old soldier took an interest in politics, and entered the municipal arena in 1933 as an alderman. It was during the difficult years of the Depression, when council had to make painful decisions about relief for the unemployed. Cunnington once went to intercede when trouble broke out with a group of relief workers. Always the soldier, he tried to face them down. As he later related, "One time I almost got stoned on Mission Hill when the workers went on strike and I gave them the business." He was popular as an alderman, elected three times. In 1939 he decided to run in the federal by-election called when R.B. Bennett resigned his Calgary seat. After the liberal candidate withdrew, he won by acclamation. Selling his car and packing up his household, Cunnington went to Ottawa to take up his new duties. He was introduced to the Parliament the morning of January 25, 1940: over the lunch break Prime Minister Mackenzie King dissolved the house and called an election.

Cunnington returned home and gamely fought the election, but lost to Liberal Manley Edwards. With the war in full swing, however, Cunnington did not rue his defeat long, rejoining the regular forces. Between the wars he had been an enthusiastic militia supporter, joining the reserves as a major with the Calgary Regiment, which he helped organise. He later became commander of the 24th Infantry Brigade with the rank of Colonel. A founder of the Alberta Military Institute, he had served as a director from 1923 to 1925, and as vice president in 1926 and president in 1927. The Institute was a club for officers and civilian both interested in current military developments and history. When reactivated as a regular, Cunnington was given the rank of major and acted as a staff officer for Military District 13, headquartered in Calgary. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, the rank he held when he retired just before the end of the war in Europe. The Order of the British Empire was given to Cunnington for his work in the militia and his staff work in World War Two. After the conflict Cunnington returned to the insurance business but remained associated with the militia. His son Douglas continued the military tradition. Joining the army in the war, he remained in the peacetime military, eventually reaching the rank of brigadier general. Cunnington and Elsie also had a daughter, Betty, who married E.H. Parsons. The Cunningtons lived at 3207 Alfege Street from 1944 to 1973. The colonel died in 1973.

### Daniels, Carl U.

Part of the American invasion of the fifties, Carl "Danny" Daniels came to Calgary in 1949 as the president of the Albercan Oil Corporation, eager to get a stake in the fast growing Alberta oil patch. He was born in Kellerton, Iowa, around 1894, and started out in the oil industry as a roughneck with the Gulf Pipeline Company of Texas in 1912. Working his way up to "tool push", after five years with the company Daniels was put in charge of building a gas plant in North Texas, and later supervised a pipeline between Texas and Oklahoma. Daniels was only in Alberta for a year before he went to the Royalite Oil Company as its president and managing director. Royalite, a subsidiary of Imperial Oil, had been drilling for oil in Alberta since the twenties, one of the few major companies to show interest in the province's petroleum potential before the 1947 Leduc

find. Daniels took over as chairman of the board in 1955. He played an active role in Calgary outside of the oil industry, serving as the first American born president of the local chamber of commerce and supporting the Calgary Highlander's Regiment, which made him an honorary member. Chairman of the board for the Canadian Petroleum Association in 1953, Daniels was also a director of the Calgary Petroleum Club and helped plan and finance the club's downtown building on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. He died in Fort Worth, Texas in 1969, at the age of seventy-five. The Daniels family lived at 3022 10<sup>th</sup> Street from 1954 to 1958.<sup>228</sup>

#### **Davidson, James Wheiler**

A man's life can take strange turns. What brought world traveller Jim Davidson to Calgary, a small provincial city in the Canadian west, where he entered a most prosaic business, the lumber trade? It seems an odd choice for a man who had been an arctic explorer, war correspondent in the Sino-Japanese war and diplomatic consul in the Far East. Coming to Calgary in 1907, he was one of the most colourful residents of "American Hill"

Davidson was himself an American, born in Austin, Minnesota on June 14, 1872.<sup>229</sup> He attended a military school, the Northwestern Military Academy of Illinois. As a young man of twenty-two, he joined famed Arctic explorer Admiral Peary on his unsuccessful expeditions to the North Pole in 1893 and 1894. 230 Although Davidson did not reach the pole, he wandered over great expanses of the polar icecap with Peary, before being pinned down in a five-day storm and freezing his left foot. After this adventure, Davidson became a journalist, and was sent to the Far East by the New York Herald to cover the war between China and Japan. He spent a year with the Chinese Army and then 1896 with the Japanese, and was even decorated by the Emperor of Japan. <sup>231</sup> From the Orient he went to the Caribbean, signing up for an expedition to explore the island of Tobago. 232 The Far East was in his blood, however, and after joining the United States Consular Service, Davidson returned to China in 1897, stationed in Formosa, now known as Taiwan. He spent almost ten years as a consul in various postings, spending time in Shanghai, Nanking, and Antung, Manchuria. Now an "old china hand", Davidson was also fluent in Japanese and a recognised authority on Formosa. A member of the Royal Geographical Society, the American Geographical Society and the Japan Society of London, he published a number of respected articles on Japan and Formosa, and even authored a book about the island. <sup>233</sup> During the Russian-Japanese war of 1904-05. Davidson was the eyes and ears of the U.S. State Department in Japan.

Abruptly, in 1906, Davidson resigned. He married Lillian Dow of San Francisco in that October, and this may have convinced him to settle down. Why he chose Calgary is a mystery, but after coming to the city in 1907 he joined Staples and Company, a growing lumber firm established just two years earlier. Taking over the management of the firm, he rapidly transformed it into the Crown Lumber Company, with over fifty-two yards in Alberta, more than 200 employees and Jim Davidson as president. He had real estate dealings as well, and was involved in the founding of the town of Beiseker with its namesake, John Beiseker. In 1916, Davidson left Crown to act as a financial agent. 235

The arctic explorer had joined the local chapter of the Rotary Club in 1914, and through this organisation continued to satisfy his appetite for travel. He served as the local president in 1914, and later was director and vice president of Rotary International and Governor for Canada West, comprising the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia. Along with Colonel W.A. Ralston, Davidson took the Rotarian message to Australia and New Zealand, and served as an ambassador for the movement in such far-flung locals as Greece, Hong Kong and Egypt. Over a two and half year period in the late twenties, Davidson helped organise twenty-three Rotary Clubs in twelve different countries. It was all volunteer work.

Davidson and his family returned to Calgary in 1931, but his health took a turn for the worse. Within the year, he went to the coast to recuperate, but died there in July of 1933, only 61 years old. The Davidson family lived at 801 Royal Avenue until 1932.<sup>238</sup> He was survived by his wife and daughter Marjorie.

#### **Davies, Stanley James**

Lieutenant Colonel Stanley J. Davies was a pioneer of the Alberta oil industry. Born in Sydney, Manitoba in 1893, he grew up in Portage La Prairie, where he developed a strong curiosity about the workings of the earth. After high school, Davies at first became a teacher; attending the Calgary Normal School and becoming vice principal of the Cardston school in 1912. As with many of his generation, teaching public school was just a step to university, a way to earn the money necessary for tuition. Davies enrolled in the University of Alberta mining engineering course in 1913, teaching part time in Edmonton to support himself.

He was not far into his education when the First World War began. Davies joined the 51st Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary force in 1915 and went overseas. As a company commander with the 49th Battalion, Davies earned a Military Cross for bravery in battle and a promotion to captain. He also earned a severe reprimand. Detailed to escort the Prince of Wales on an inspection tour of the unit, Davies took the impetuous young Edward up to the front lines, where he experienced a real enemy artillery attack. Although the Prince had insisted and appreciated the chance to see conditions in the trenches, Davies received a severe dressing down from his superiors. Davies survived the war intact, and even brought a bride back to Canada. His wife Alice was a fellow Canadian, who had been studying at the Royal Academy of Music in London.

His military service made Davies eligible for scholarships for veterans at British universities. Attending the Royal School of Mines, he graduated with an honours degree in Geology and plunged into the oil industry. His first stop was California, where he took a job with the Kern Oil Fields Company. With Kern he went to Trinidad, Texas and Rumania before a falling out with his employer in 1924. Returning to Canada, Davies was hired as a petroleum engineer by the Department of the Interior. He struck out as a consultant soon afterwards. One of his first high profile jobs was as gas consultant for the City of Calgary. It was perhaps not the best way to get established in the oil industry:

Davies appeared on behalf of the city as an expert witness, arguing for a guaranteed supply and cheaper rates for the consumers of Calgary! It became a long-standing relationship, and Davies did not seem to mind if it cost him other clients. As he put it: "You are on one side or another...I consider gas questions from the viewpoint of the fellow with the weekly paycheque who has to foot the bills." 240

Davies' regard for the little guy didn't stop him from becoming a gas supplier himself. With the encouragement of Imperial Oil, Davies started the Valley Gas Company in 1939 to distribute gas, much of it produced by Imperial, from Turner Valley. <sup>241</sup> It was a small, family run company, mostly serving the towns and hamlets around Turner Valley. Davies continued to consult, and was known throughout the industry for his advocacy of gas conservation. Among his industry affiliations were the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, Engineering Institute of Canada, the Alberta Association of Petroleum Geologists, and the Association of Professional Engineers of Alberta. He continued as the City of Calgary's consultant on gas rates until shortly before his death.

During the Second World War Davies returned to active service. He had remained active in the Militia between the wars. As a lieutenant colonel in the Royal Canadian Engineers, he spent two years overseas as a staff officer, before a motorcycle accident sent him home. After recovering, Davies was put in charge of building and then running the Royal Military School for Engineers, in Chilliwack, British Columbia. His military career ended when he was diagnosed with cancer in 1944. The tough geologist beat the disease; he did not die until 1967, at the age of sixty-four. 242

Davies and his family lived at 1128 Prospect Avenue from 1930 to 1967. A family man, he and Alice had six sons and a daughter. Three sons, Malvern, Quentin and Stanley jr. later took over Valley Gas.

## Deane, Reginald Burton

One of the first orthopaedic surgeons in Calgary was the dashing young Reginald B. Deane. He had an impeccable frontier pedigree. Born in Yeoville, Somerset, England in 1871, he was the son of Captain Richard Burton Deane of the Royal Marines and the Northwest Mounted Police. His father, dissatisfied with the slow promotion within the marines, had joined the NWMP as an inspector in 1883. Promoted to superintendent in 1885, he had charge of the notorious Louise Riel after the abortive 1885 Rebellion. As a child, Reginald witnessed the hanging of the Metis patriot and rebel. From Regina the family went to Lethbridge, where the captain was superintendent of the local division of the Mounties.

Reginald Deane went east to McGill in Montreal for his education. His early schooling had been somewhat erratic, and he started university relatively late after a stint at St. John's College in Winnipeg. <sup>246</sup> Deciding to study medicine, he received his degree in 1898. Deane began his practice in Maple Creek, where he was the surgeon for the Mounted Police post. After nine years in Maple Creek he went back to Lethbridge, going into a partnership with Dr. F.H. Mewburn, another pioneer physician. <sup>247</sup> Shortly

thereafter he came to Calgary, joining his father who was now the commander at the Calgary Barracks. For many years Deane had a general practice in the city, but became interested in orthopaedics. He returned to England to specialise, coming back to Calgary in 1921 as the city's first trained orthopaedic surgeon. Almost immediately after hanging up his new shingle Deane became involved with the Red Cross and their new hospital for crippled children. The institution was itself in Mount Royal from many years, installed in the home at 1009 Royal Avenue. Prom its founding in 1922 until his own retirement in 1939, Deane served as its orthopaedic surgeon and as the medical superintendent for many years, entirely unpaid. The Hospital for Crippled Children eventually transformed into today's Calgary's Children's Hospital.

Deane hid his kindly spirit behind a gruff exterior. His good friend Dr. E.P. Scarlett described him as "an individual and gloriously so. He suffered [no] fools, scorned the standards and cheap ideals of the crowd, made no concessions to the world and went on his own way, somewhat of a solitary way, in observance to his own right and those things which he regarded as being worthwhile." He was "a gentleman of the old school." Deane himself took ill in 1939 with emphysema and was forced to retire. In an example of his extraordinary generosity, he turned over his practice to Dr. Gordon Townsend, Calgary's fourth orthopaedic surgeon. The young doctor was to pay him a nominal sum of \$25 bimonthly, and the elder surgeon made sure all his patients and associates knew that Townsend was his successor. Deane died shortly afterward, on June 23, 1941.

In Mount Royal, the Deane family lived at 2740 Wolfe Street from 1931 to 1949.<sup>253</sup>

### Dick, Albert Adrian

In many ways, Bert Dick and his wife Vera were typical of those who moved to Mount Royal in the early part of the century. Albert Adrian Dick had been born in Manitoba in 1880. <sup>254</sup> He came to Calgary in 1884 with his parents. After finishing school, Dick went to work for his older brother who owned a sawmill in Ponoka. Shortly thereafter, in 1904, Dick went into the real estate and insurance business. It was a propitious time to do so, and the young man was quite successful. After making a sizeable amount of money on real estate speculation, he financed several commercial buildings, including the Alexandria Hotel and the Dick Block, and later invested in early Turner Valley oil prospects. <sup>255</sup> In 1914, he and his young bride, Vera Gillespie, moved into a Tudor style mansion at 2211 7<sup>th</sup> Street, joining the real estate brokers and other newly wealthy businessmen then opening up Mount Royal. <sup>256</sup> To all outward appearances, Dick was a typical, if somewhat precocious, prairie capitalist.

That changed on April 14, 1912. The Dicks had been on a delayed honeymoon, touring Europe and the Middle East and spending time in England purchasing furniture for their new house. Returning to Canada, they chose to travel first class by the most prestigious liner then afloat, the White Star's Titanic, on its maiden voyage. The two young Calgarians were awed by both the grand flagship and by the company they kept, including Benjamin Guggenheim, John Jacob Astor and White Star managing director Bruce Ismay. They were even taken on a tour of the ship by its designer, Thomas

Andrews, and told about its safety devices and the sixteen watertight compartments that made it unsinkable.<sup>259</sup>

Late that night, Vera asleep, Albert Dick felt a tremor while reading. Uneasy despite the assurances of the crew that nothing was wrong, Bert dressed and took a tour on deck, even seeing bits of ice on the promenade before returning to his cabin. Soon afterward, the couple was ushered on deck and told to put on life preservers. The Dicks later recalled little panic, just confusion. They found themselves directed to a lifeboat, and Bert handed Vera aboard. As the crew prepared to lower the boat, Vera insisted her husband join her. The lifeboat was only partially full; one of the tragedies of the night was the many boats that were launched without a full complement of survivors. Bert Dick would, however, always have to justify his survival. Gentlemen were expected to put "woman and children first", although Dick was hardly the only man to leave the doomed vessel in the boats.

At first the world believed the worst of the tragedy had been avoided - early reports had all the passengers rescued and the crippled liner in tow. Within several days the awful truth was known, but the Dicks wired to Calgary from their rescue ship, the liner Carpathia, to let everyone know they had survived. The memory never left them, and although the Dicks graciously gave interviews many years later about the fateful night, they did their best to put it behind them.

Bert Dick's business dealings were badly affected by the crash preceding the First World War, and then by the Depression. In later years he worked for different insurance companies as an agent or a manager, and even managed a small business that produced memorials for funerals. The family remained in Mount Royal for many years, living in their house at 2211 7th Street until 1956. Bert lived until 1970, and Vera joined him in Union Cemetery three years later.

## Dinning, Robert John

The Dinning name is familiar to anyone who follows the news in Alberta. Jim Dinning is well known for his controversial tenure as Alberta's provincial treasurer and as chairman of the Calgary Region Health Authority. Previous generations of Albertan knew another Dinning equally well. Jim's grandfather, Robert John Dinning, was one of the province's most prominent businessmen, as president and chairman of the board of Burns & Company, and one of its most powerful bureaucrats, as the Commissioner of the Alberta Liquor Control Board from 1923 to 1942.

The elder Dinning was originally from Strathroy, Ontario, where he was born on May 9, 1884, the son of a farmer. After leaving school at the age of sixteen, he joined the Merchants Bank of Canada. Dinning worked his way up through the bank from the bottom. After two years in Alviston, Ontario, he was sent to Edmonton, arriving in 1902 to be greeted by eighteen inches of mud, into which his belongings slid on the democrat ride from the station to his hotel. For the next few years, as he advanced in the bank, he was sent around to different branches in Alberta. After a stint in Wetaskiwin, he opened a

branch as manager in Daysland. Dinning later recalled in good humour that: "the customers thought I was a wonderful fellow. They could get all the money they wanted." He opened a number of other branches, enjoying the frontier lifestyle. Hunting was a way of life, and Dinning remembered carrying his rifle or shotgun everywhere for some impromptu shooting.

The bank sent him to Saskatchewan and then to Lethbridge, where he remained for six years. Dinning was not destined to put down roots quite yet, however: in 1923 he was approached by the Provincial Government to take the helm of the new Liquor Control Board. Since 1916, Alberta had been under Prohibition, but the manifest difficulties of enforcement prompted the authorities to switch to government run liquor sales. Dinning was the sole commissioner, and held unprecedented power over hoteliers, the only other licensed vendors of booze in the province. His agents made sure bar owners banned problem drinkers and Dinning would not allow treaty Indian and women into hotel bars (although he eventually relented on the latter). His iron hand garnered great respect. After almost twenty years, Dinning easily made the transition from bureaucrat to businessman, and joined Burns & Company as executive vice-president. He had been planning to go into semi-retirement, but an urgent call from Calgary summoned him to the headquarters of Burns, and he returned to Edmonton as a senior executive. In 1945 he became president. After ten years, he resigned, but only to become chairman of the board. A number of other prestigious corporate directorships came his way, and he was on the board of the Bank of Montreal, the CPR, and Calgary Power.

Outside of his two careers, Dinning served as president of the Calgary Board of Trade and gave time to several community groups, including the Salvation Army and the Red Cross. During the Second World War, he acted on the War Finance Committee and the National Selected Service Board. Like so many other prominent Calgary businessmen, Dinning was on the board of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede and served as its vice president. He belonged to the usual clubs in Calgary and Edmonton, but his great passion was for sports. As president of Burns, he happily supported amateur sports in Calgary.

Dinning moved into Mount Royal with his wife in 1946, taking 930 Prospect Avenue, formerly the house of John Burns. They had a family of three: son John went into business, while one daughter, Dorothy, was a practising lawyer before her marriage.

#### **Dutton, Norman Alexander "Red"**

Born Norman Alexander Dutton, he was an ex NHL defence man always known as either Red or Merv, two nicknames given to him over a long and varied career. Hockey star, coach, president of the Calgary Stampeders football club and the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede, and millionaire contractor, Red Dutton left his mark in many fields. Although he ended his life at the age of 89 phenomenally successful, Dutton also had his share of struggles and misfortune.

Dutton was born in Russell, Manitoba on January 3rd, 1898, one of nine children. His father, William A. Dutton, was a railway contractor who founded one of the largest

earthmoving concerns in western Canada and was for many years the partner of Fred S. Mannix, patriarch of the Mannix Empire. 266 As a boy, Red worked for his father as a labourer and surveyor but firmly declared in later years that he was not given any preferential treatment. During World War One the fourteen year old lied about his age and enlisted in the army. In April of 1917, Sergeant Dutton was severely wounded in the leg by shrapnel and almost had it amputated when infection set in and doctors feared gangrene. Dutton insisted on keeping his limb. Returned to Canada an invalid, he turned to skating to strengthen the damaged limb, spending up to seven hours a day on the ice and learning the game of hockey inside and out. He also started up a contracting business of his own after the war with his military pension, but went bankrupt in 1920 when the economy entered a prolonged recession.

Too proud to ask his father for work, Dutton found himself in Winnipeg, where he bumped into Pete Egan, who owned a semi-professional hockey team, the Calgary Indians. Pete was delighted to find Dutton and asked him to join the team, offering him a \$1,500 yearly salary. When the Indians became a professional team in the new Western League, Dutton became a pro hockey player. In 1925 the league folded, but Eddie Gerard, manager of the Montreal Maroons of the National Hockey League, offered Red a contract at \$5,000 a year and a \$5,000 signing bonus. The generous offer completely flabbergasted Dutton; so much so that Gerard misread his reaction and thought Dutton was unhappy with the amount. So he added another \$1,000 dollars to salary and bonus. It was a substantial amount of money: the bungalow Dutton wished to buy for himself and his wife Phyllis in Calgary only cost \$5,000.

Dutton had a very successful hockey career. Playing defence, he was no gentleman, but a loud and aggressive bruiser who led the league in penalty minutes for two seasons. Back in Calgary in the off-season, he poured his salary back into a new contracting business. When the Depression claimed this second business, hockey continued to support him. In 1933 he was traded to the New York Americans and in 1935 became manager and coach of the team, retiring as a player the next year. Dutton rescued the Americans from bankruptcy, and after leaving coaching in 1942 he was asked to serve as president of the NHL. He was later inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame. Among Dutton firsts was the use of an aircraft for team travel in 1938.

In 1946, Red turned down the offer of a ten-year term as president of the league. Although he had been bankrupted by the Depression, Dutton had rebuilt his contracting business during the off-season with a partner, Reg Jennings. By World War Two they owned one of the largest earthmoving businesses in western Canada, built on a seven day a week work ethic and by paying their employees top dollar for the industry. During the war, the partners had major contracts for airfield, road and pipeline construction. Dutton decided that his construction business needed him more than the NHL. As aggressive in business as he was in hockey, Dutton was complemented by the more affable Jennings. Their construction company, Standard Holdings, had contracts of about 100 million dollars annually in its peak years. Dutton and Jennings built the Chinook Centre shopping mall and professional centre, and won a \$1000 bet with oilman **George McMahon** by building McMahon stadium in four months in 1960.

Dutton was close friends with the McMahons, as he had been president of the Calgary Stampeders from 1956 to 1958 and had saved the club from bankruptcy with a restructuring plan, and George McMahon succeeded him as head of the board.<sup>271</sup> Soon after leaving the football club, Dutton brought his drive to the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede, becoming president in 1960 and leading a charge to break attendance records in 1961. 272 By 1968, however, Dutton was starting to show his age, and while still active with the Stampeders, the Stampede and also the Shriners, he retired from business with a substantial personal fortune, including a yacht in Mexico and a thoroughbred horse ranch near Calgary. Dutton had lived in Mount Royal from 1933 to 1946 at 1102 Prospect Avenue. As he became more successful, he and his wife actually moved to a less ostentatious neighbourhood, buying a large home in Elbow Park in 1947. 273 The couple had four children, three sons and a daughter. Two sons, Joseph and Alexander, had been killed in action in World War Two, which prompted Red to pull his son Norman, who had lied about his age like his dad, out of the navy. Dutton was especially proud of Norman, who followed him into the contracting business, and keenly felt the loss when his son died in 1973. The tough old defence man himself passed away in 1987 at the respectable age of 89.<sup>274</sup>

### **Edmanson, Roy Manning**

Although not particularly distinguished, Judge Roy Edmanson deserves recognition for his long career with the District Court of Southern Alberta, which lasted from 1944 to 1960, and active public life. Edmanson was born in Brantford, Ontario and graduated in 1912 from the University of Toronto with a degree in economics and political science. He came immediately to Calgary and articled without a law degree with Clark, Carson and Macleod. Aside from the Alberta Law Society and the Canadian Bar Association, Edmanson belonged to many clubs, including the Ranchmen's, the Glencoe, the Calgary Golf and Country Club, and the Kiwanis Club. He became the president of the Liberal Association of Alberta in 1934 and was elected to the Calgary Public School Board in 1935. During the war he served on the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, and the Calgary Police Commission during the fifties. Edmanson lived in Mount Royal at 2118 Hope Street from 1936 to 1938 with his wife and daughter. His wife predeceased him in 1964, with Edmanson dying in 1966.

## **Edwards, Manley Justin**

District Court Judge Manley J. Edwards, KC, had been a prominent Calgary Liberal and a Member of Parliament before his elevation to the bench in 1951. From Ontario, he was born in Caisterville in 1892 and came to Calgary in 1910, finishing school at Central High. After graduation, Manley went on to the Calgary Normal School for teacher training, following a common career path for future lawyers at that time. Many promising young men became teachers in order to save the money necessary for university. Manley was made vice principal at the Connaught School in 1913 and then principal at the Stanley Jones and Alexandra schools. Although a member of the militia, he was rejected for service in the First World War. Deciding to go into law, Manley enrolled at the

University of Alberta and graduated in 1922, joining the bar and becoming partners with C.F. Adams. In 1927, he began a new partnership with W.B. Cromarty that lasted until his appointment as a judge.

Politics was Edward's main interest outside of the law and he was very active in the Liberal party, leading up to his own nomination to run in a by-election in Calgary West in 1939. Edwards had been president of the Calgary Liberal Association and a member of the provincial executive, as well as campaign manager for previous candidates. He withdrew from the 1939 by-election because of the war. In 1940, he decided to contest the seat, and beat out war hero Lt. Colonel **Douglas Cunnington**, making the latter one of shortest serving MPs on record. Edwards himself only sat in the house for one term, deciding not to run again in 1945. He turned to municipal politics, and was an alderman in 1948 and 1949. His Liberal connections may have helped garner his appointment to the bench.

Edwards died in 1962. In Mount Royal, he lived with his wife at 1408 Premier Way.<sup>277</sup>

### Fay, George B.

As a young man, George Fay was interested in aviation and wanted to design aircraft.<sup>278</sup> He had demonstrated mechanical aptitude at a young age, but after only a short time in the aerospace industry his life took a different turn. As the founder of Canadian Greyhound lines, Fay was the father of commercial bus travel in Western Canada.

Fay was born on October 17th, 1897 in Austin, Illinois, where his father was a printer. At nineteen he enlisted in the military and with his interest in aviation was posted to the 12th Aero Squadron as a master electrician. After the war, he worked for the Curtis Aeroplane Company, but left to become a salesman for General Motors. Fay's speciality was taxies and buses. After working in the south-western United States, he became the sales manager for Texas. GM's main product was the Yellow Coach, which found a ready market. During the early twenties, bus companies were springing up all over North America. The majority had only one or two buses that operated on one short route. In Alberta, bus lines generally had to obtain a license for each route between cities, granted as exclusive franchises by the provincial government. These small lines often used the Yellow Coach, one of the first mass-produced buses. Fay was later transferred to Seattle and handled sales for Alberta and British Columbia. Fay was later transferred to Seattle and handled sales for Alberta and British Columbia. Fay was later transferred to Seattle and handled sales for Alberta and British Columbia. Fay was later transferred to Seattle and handled sales for Alberta and British Columbia. Fay was later transferred to Seattle and handled sales for Alberta and British Columbia. Fay was later transferred to Seattle and handled sales for Alberta and British Columbia.

With his knowledge of Western Canada, Fay felt that there were good opportunities in the bus industry and teamed up with the Olsons. They bought and resold a bus line in Idaho and then moved into British Columbia. Speed Olson bought the Kootenay Valley Transportation Company and Fay became his partner. The company was reincorporated as Canadian Greyhound Coaches. The two soon made a move into Alberta, getting the franchise for Calgary to Fort Macleod and Lethbridge. In 1930 Fay and the Olsons incorporated Canadian Greyhound Coaches in Alberta, headquartered in

Calgary. 282 They also started another small company to do a run to Edmonton, taking the franchise from the Brewsters of Banff. This touched off a long running rivalry with the Banff family. The Brewsters had parlayed a guiding and outfitting business in the National Parks into a tour bus business with designs on commercial bus service in other parts of Alberta. Canadian Greyhound grew rapidly, adding bus routes in BC and Alberta and establishing links with other companies in Western Canada and the United States. The company operated out of a permanent depot and company headquarters in the Southam Building in Calgary.

Running a regular bus service in Alberta was quite a challenge in the thirties. Roads, even between Calgary and Edmonton, were inadequate, usually just compacted dirt. Heavy rain would often make travel impossible, sometimes for several days. In winter, the bus companies had to plow the roads themselves, as the government had not yet taken on this responsibility. Competing with rail service was difficult in these conditions. The roads also took a fearful toll on equipment. Finding existing mass-produced vehicles inadequate, Fay began designing and manufacturing buses. The earliest designs were built by the firm of Hay and Harding in Calgary, establishing a Greyhound tradition. Despite the obstacles, Canadian Greyhound was quite successful, buying out smaller bus lines and expanding eastward into Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Part of the company's success was due to its personnel. Fay and the Olsons worked constantly, but also hired talented staff, often keeping the owners of bus lines they had absorbed. They had high standards for their drivers and ran the operation with almost military discipline, but it paid off with an excellent reputation for efficiency and courtesy.

Early in 1931, however, Canadian Greyhound was challenged in court by an American bus company, also called Greyhound, over the use of the name. The American firm had been begun by Carl Wickham and Orville S. Caesaer and had grown steadily through the twenties into one of the largest US bus companies. In 1930 it began a company, Canadian Greyhound Lines, in Ontario, by coincidence incorporated on the same day as Fay's company in Alberta. The greyhound name and symbol was commonly used by small bus companies throughout North America, but Greyhound USA had adopted it as their trademark and aggressively pursued their legal rights. In the end, the American company conceded defeat, giving Fay a perpetual license to use the name in Canada as well as agreements to hook their service up to Fay's at the border with Canada, in return for Fay recognising their copyright on the name. Fay became familiar with the U.S. company and its management, which became important towards the end of the decade. In 1940, he parted ways with the Olsons and sold the company to its American namesake, which was happy to acquire Fay's extensive operation.

Canadian Greyhound continued to operate as a separate entity with George Fay as president, but it now had the resources of its new parent company to draw upon. Fay was able to acquire the rights to the Calgary to Banff line and the Banff to Golden run from the Brewster family. He threatened to enter the tour bus business in the National Parks, the family's main business, and they were persuaded to hand over the routes. <sup>290</sup> This gave the company a vital link to its British Columbia operations. During the Second World War, Greyhound provided bus service for the military along the Alaska Highway, giving

it control of the area. By the end of the war, it dominated commercial bus service in Western Canada. In 1948 it built the Eau Claire Bus Barns in Calgary, and bought the Southam Building as its headquarters. <sup>291</sup> The company continued to expand eastward and become a public company in 1957 after acquiring a bus line in Eastern Canada and establishing coast to coast bus service. Fay had started building Greyhound's own buses again in the early forties, and eventually established a subsidiary, Motor Coach Industries, which continues to build state of the art buses for the line.

By 1956, Fay had reached the end of his career, retiring as president of the company. By this time he had moved to Vancouver. He and his family had lived in Calgary during the first years of the company, residing in Mount Royal from 1943 through 1948 at 1116 Sydenham Road. <sup>292</sup> In his retirement Fay continued to consult for Greyhound while pursuing his hobby, the restoration of a seventy-foot rescue boat. In 1973 he died in Vancouver, his role in the Canadian transportation industry forgotten. The company he founded, however, remains synonymous with bus travel in Canada.

#### Ford, Clinton J.

Born near Corinth, Ontario, in 1882, Clinton J. Ford was another farmer's son who made good as a western lawyer. His father was politically minded and served as a reeve and a township and county councillor. After public school, his son chose to abandon farming for school teaching, attending Normal School in St. Thomas, Ontario and working as a teacher for three years. It was a common way among his contemporaries to raise money for university. Ford was able to go the University of Toronto, earning a bachelor's of arts degree in 1907 and the Prince of Wales Medal, then spending two years at Osgoode Hall law school. He finished his legal studies while in articles in Calgary. Joining the bar of Alberta in 1910, he was admitted by chief justice Horace Harvey, another native of Elgin County, Ontario.

Once a full-fledged lawyer, Ford joined his articling firm, Reilly and McLean. <sup>295</sup> In 1913, Ford was made the city solicitor, handling Calgary's legal affairs and became recognised as an authority on municipal charters. <sup>296</sup> Ford remained there until 1922, then returned full time to private practice, this time with Eric Harvie and Leo Miller. <sup>297</sup> Harvie, founder of the Glenbow Museum, later became one of Canada's richest men through astute investments in the oil industry. The three partners had a solid roster of corporate clients. Ford was successful enough to build a home in Mount Royal, at 1412 Joliet Avenue, in 1914. <sup>298</sup> He did not forget his rural roots, and raised chickens in his backyard for many years, and even served as the president of the Alberta Poultry Federation. <sup>299</sup> (We don't know what his neighbours thought of his hobby!) Ford also took an interest in politics, and at one time was President of the Alberta Liberal Association. <sup>300</sup> He ran unsuccessfully for the provincial legislature in the 1921 general election and in a byelection two years later. Ford's political career was most noteworthy for the radio speech he gave over the *Calgary Herald's* radio station during the by-election, which may be one of the earliest examples of a politician using this medium in Alberta. <sup>301</sup>

Ford, made a King's Counsel in 1921, eventually parted ways with Harvie but continued on with Miller. He was active in the community, sitting on the board of the YMCA since 1916, joining the Mount Royal College Board of Governors in 1932(sitting as chairman from 1955 to 1961), and was an active member of the Board of Trade. In 1942, he was asked to go to the bench as a District Court judge. After a three-year apprenticeship on the junior court, Ford went to the Supreme Court, trial division in 1945. He was a very active judge, and his decisions featured prominently in the law reports. Ford wrote opinions on almost every area of the law, but his special concerns were rules of evidence, estates, and torts and of course, municipal affairs. His legal acumen earned him promotion to the highest judicial post in the province. After moving to the Appellate division in 1950, he became Chief Justice of the Alberta Supreme Court on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 1957. Unfortunately for Ford, the Federal government in 1961 made seventy-five the mandatory age of retirement for judges and he only served as chief justice for four years.

Ford was greatly disappointed. He loved the law and believed deeply that the bench was the highest order of public service. The judge only outlived his retirement by three years, dying in 1964. An elementary school in the Altadore area of Calgary was named after Ford in recognition of his contribution to the province. He was survived by his second wife, Phyllis Chapman Clark, a well-known local music teacher. They had married in 1959. Ford's first wife, Kitty, a high school sweetheart whom he married in 1912, had predeceased him in 1955. She had been very active as a volunteer with numerous organisations, including the YWCA, the Calgary General Hospital, and the Central United Church. They had three children; one daughter, Helen Perkins, became a barrister in Vancouver. A granddaughter, Catherine Ford, is a well-known Calgary journalist, who even lived for a short time in the Joliet Avenue House.

#### Frank Freeze

Insurance mogul Frank Freeze never retired and right up to his death in 1974 at the age of 90 he walked almost ever work day from his Mount Royal home to his office on 8th Avenue in downtown Calgary. Treeze was one of several modest millionaires produced by neighbourhood, whose lack of ostentation contrasted with his net worth! His company, Western Union, was one of the biggest independent insurance firms in western Canada. Its headquarters was a landmark twelve-story office tower that still stands today.

Freeze was born on October 22nd, 1883, in Penobsquis, King's County, New Brunswick. The son of a farmer, he was orphaned as a teenager and attended business college in St. John's. After finishing his education in Toronto, he returned to New Brunswick and worked for several different companies, including the Sussex Mercantile Company at Penobsquis. Freeze also became involved in politics and was elected as Member of the Provincial Parliament for King's county in 1907. Four years later, he moved to Missoula, Montana with members of his family. He had visited Calgary in 1906 and decided to after a couple of years in Montana to relocate there, arriving in the city in 1912. There were other Freezes in the city; Frank's Uncle Issac had been the first grocer and a pioneer alderman. Finding a position with the Canadian Credit Mens Trust Association, he began his career in insurance. Freeze remained with the firm for twenty-two years, becoming

the Alberta manager and western superintendent. In 1934, rather than leave Calgary when Canadian Credit was going to promote him to head office in Montreal, Freeze quit and formed his own agency, Frank Freeze Ltd. In 1940 he founded Western Union, which remained in the Freeze family until 1987.

During the First World War, Freeze participated in the war loan campaign. This led to municipal politics. A number of business people involved in the loan drive decided to form an association, the Citizen's Committee, and run candidates in the 1916 civic election. Freeze was one of the Committee candidates and was elected as an alderman. Between 1916 and 1947 he spent a total of twenty-one years as an alderman, although not concurrently. Freeze was the second longest serving alderman in Calgary history. In 1945, he ran unsuccessfully for mayor. As an alderman, Freeze was a fiscal conservative and supported business and development. He was interested in encouraging tourism in Calgary and was a founder of the Alberta Development Board in 1929. Freeze was a past president of the Board of Trade and a member of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede Board. His community service also included the Rotarian club, where he served as president. As a Rotarian delegate he travelled extensively and in 1931 visited the Soviet Union.

Freeze moved to 2136 Hope Street in 1926 and lived there until 1974.<sup>312</sup> He belonged to a number of clubs, including the Renfrew Club, the Canadian Club, and the Calgary Golf and Country Club, but was most heavily involved in the Glencoe Club, serving as a director.

### Galbraith, Peter C.

Pete Galbraith was a soft spoken journalist who cut his teeth in the trade on several different prairie newspapers, including seven years in Les Pas in Manitoba, reporting on events north of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Parallel. His career began as a carrier boy in Saskatoon, and ended as publisher of the *Vancouver Province*.

He was born in Charlo, New Brunswick in 1899, but moved to Saskatoon as a boy. After service in the military during World War One, he attended the University of Saskatchewan. Galbraith went into journalism after graduating, becoming a reporter for the *Saskatoon Star-Phoenix*. After a stint at the *Regina Leader-Post*, he was the legislative reporter for the *Winnipeg Tribune* before heading up to Les Pas as a correspondent. His time up north did not slow down his career: coming to Calgary in 1936 he was hired as general manager for the *Albertan* and four years later moved to the *Calgary Herald* as managing editor. A year later he was made publisher. Galbraith directed the *Herald* for five years before following his predecessor, O.L. Leigh-Spencer, to Vancouver and the *Province*. He became publisher in 1948, but was forced to retire after three years due to poor health. Galbraith died in 1954, at the age of only 55. While in Calgary, he lived at 1150 Prospect Avenue from 1942 to 1943, and at 2310 8<sup>th</sup> Street from 1944 to 1947.<sup>314</sup>

#### Geddes, Malcolm D.

Malcolm Geddes was something of a western Renaissance man. Born in Scotland on August 10, 1867, he immigrated with his parents to Ontario in 1877. 315 A graduate of the Ontario Agricultural College in Guelph, he came to Calgary in 1903. Along with C.W. Peterson and E.L. Richardson, manager of the Calgary Exhibition and later the Stampede, he founded a respected agricultural journal, the Farm and Ranch Review. This magazine was the voice of western farmers for several decades. Geddes served at times as editor, and was also vice president and business manager. Along with Peterson, he took over the Calgary Herald's printing company, forming the Western Printing and Lithographing Company, for many years the city's largest printers. Taking advantage of the great pre-war boom in Calgary, Geddes decided to enter the real estate business, and struck up a partnership with Herbert T. Sheffield, a Nova Scotian, in 1909. 316 The firm of Geddes and Sheffield also handled insurance and investments. The partnership had big ambitions, and in 1910 took the step of becoming real estate developers as well as brokers, opening up the subdivision of Elboya. It was still a little too far from city centre, and only a few houses had been constructed when the bottom fell out of the real estate market. The crash of 1913 caused Geddes severe financial distress, and he ceased his real estate activities, although he remained involved in the *Review* and the printing business.

Perhaps a slower pace gave Geddes more time and inclination to explore leisure activities. In 1917, at the age of 52, Geddes joined the Alpine Club of Canada. Despite his relatively advanced age, he became a well-known and popular mountaineer. Geddes lectured extensively on the mountains of western Canada and the club's activities. Among his climbing accomplishments was the second ascent of Mount Robson, made in 1924 along with T.S. Moffat, photographer Harry Pollard and their guide, Conrad Kain. Three years later, Geddes was killed in a fall descending Mount Lefroy at Lake Louise. He and several other club members were helping to make a movie on mountaineering in the Rockies, providing some climbing footage. Coming down relatively low angled snow and ice slopes above Abbot Pass, Geddes, no longer roped to his companions, slipped and started sliding. He was unable to stop himself with his ice axe, and after rocketing down the mountain for several hundred yards, went over some cliffs and fell a short distance. Geddes was killed instantly.

The family had taken up residence at 856 Hillcrest Road in 1912, in a house Geddes had built at the height of his real estate success. They lived there until 1918, before moving to a house in Elboya. <sup>317</sup> Geddes' His son Alvin later lived at in Mount Royal.

#### German, Neil V

Rhodes scholar Neil German was one of many distinguished lawyers who made their home in Mount Royal. Ironically, it was his twelve-year fight against Revenue Canada, rather than his legal exploits, which brought him notoriety. For anyone who dislikes the taxman, Neil German was the ultimate gadfly. Originally from Hanna, Alberta, German was always a fighter. He was stricken with osteomyelitis at the age of six. This serious disease left him with a pronounced limp, which did not prevent him from becoming an

accomplished athlete in high school and university. His scholarly achievements were even greater, including over eighteen scholarships. Graduating with a law degree from the University of Alberta in 1940, he articled with the Edmonton firm of Simpson and Macleod, and was invited to become a partner a year after joining the bar in 1941.

After spending several years as the assistant enforcement counsel for Wartime Prices Board and counsel for the Wartime Industrial Control Board, German decided in 1945 to relocate to Calgary. He entered into partnership with William Mckay, a classmate just returned from service in the air force. German flourished in Calgary and became involved in a number of business endeavours, including Medicine Hat Greenhouses, a wholesale florist company, which became the second largest such operation in the country. It was also the business that brought German under the scrutiny of revenue officials. For four years, 1965 to 1969, German had claimed two camper vans and some trips as business expenses, for a grand total of \$28, 682. In 1970, auditors decided they should have been personal expenses. They immediately seized the greenhouse company's records as well as German's other business papers. German's returns were reassessed and he had to pay additional taxes, which the lawyer did, and promptly.

It didn't end there. The government also decided to prosecute German for tax evasion, thus beginning a twelve-year saga. As soon as the complaints were entered against him in court, German entered a motion to quash them. The lawyer challenged the government on its right to prosecute him, arguing that the tax department couldn't meet the burden of proof for a criminal action, and that the alleged offences were now too old to prosecute. German's main contention was that his audited statements had been accepted for five years, so it was ridiculous that Revenue Canada would turn around and put him in court. The tax department argued that under the relevant statute law, German's objections were all irrelevant. German won the first round in provincial court, but the crown won the appeal, and Justice Bown gave German a \$5,000 fine. He paid, but then immediately appealed himself! Not satisfied with trying to reverse the verdict, he also launched suits for malicious prosecution against the government, including three different federal cabinet ministers! In 1980, a higher appeal court finally acquitted him of all tax evasion charges.

It was a Pyrrhic victory, as German may have spent as much as half a million dollars on the affair. Obviously, it was a matter of principle for the lawyer rather than a matter of money. Before he could get full satisfaction, German died in 1986 at the age of 69. This ended many of his lawsuits, but not the actions that he launched to recover the fines and taxes he had paid.

The crusading lawyer and his family lived at 2307 Morrison Street from 1946 to 1953. 318

## German, Roy O.

The Alberta Wheat Pool was an unusual organisation. Born in the radical farmer's movements of the early twentieth century, it was created by the United Farmer's of Alberta as a marketing co-operative to allow farmers to sell their wheat without using the

grain brokers. Despite its radical, even socialist roots, the company operated much like any other large commodities firm. It is not surprising that some of its senior executives could be found living in Mount Royal, including Roy O. German.

He was born in Hastings, Ontario on September 11, 1888.<sup>319</sup> Raised on a farm, German completed public school and attended a college in Belleville, Ontario, studying commercial law and business.<sup>320</sup> With his brother Chris, he came out to Alberta in 1909 and homesteaded a mile from the hamlet of Hanna. After fighting droughts from 1916 to 1918, he moved north to the Battle River and started a ranch.<sup>321</sup> German had been involved with the United Farmers of Alberta almost from its inception as well as other farm co-operative groups. He became the youngest director on the board of the UFA.<sup>322</sup> The young farmer pushed for the establishment of a Wheat Pool, and led the drive to sign up members when the UFA decided to organise it in 1923.<sup>323</sup> In return he became secretary of the company, a position he retained until his retirement thirty-one years later. As secretary, he was one of the executive directors for the pool, which quickly grew into a dominant force in marketing Canadian wheat.

As befitted his position, German moved into a home in Mount Royal in 1934. He lived with his family at 2424 Morrison Street until 1950.<sup>324</sup> Outside of the Wheat Pool, German was active in the YMCA and was chairman of the board for the organisation, and led the funding drive for a new building. He died in 1963.

### Ginsberg, Benjamin

Benjamin Ginsberg was born in Cape Town, South Africa, on May 13, 1884 to a Jewish settler family. Educated as a lawyer in Cape Town, he graduated and joined the bar in the Colony of Good Hope in 1905. After five years of practice, he came to Canada and after some time in Montreal and New York, headed west with the intention of farming in Saskatchewan. The would-be pioneer came out to the prairies in winter - and immediately continued on to Vancouver! After a year there, he ended up in Calgary in 1913, first as an hotelier but after a couple of months joined the bar. Like many young lawyers, he needed money to set up his offices, and approached a local bank for a loan. The banker phoned R.B. Bennett, dean of the local legal fraternity, to check on his applicant. Bennett, known to have a soft spot for new lawyers, famously replied "Don't know him. But send me the note, and I'll back it." With the loan, Ginsberg established a small firm that survives today. A successful lawyer, he was honoured as a King's Counsel in 1936, one of a handful of Canadian lawyers given the distinction by King Edward VIII, later the Duke of Windsor.

Remembered by Calgary's legal community for his ready wit, Ginsberg was a source of all kinds of humour, some of it quite raunchy. According to one story, Ginsberg was in Ottawa when he ran into E.J. Chambers, the Calgary law partner of then Prime Minister R.B. Bennett, at the Chateau Laurier. Chambers lamented the fact he could not get a room at the hotel. Upon hearing this, Ginsberg strode up to front desk and declared "I'm E.J. Chambers, the Prime Minister's law partner. I need a room immediately". Without missing a beat, he added, "My friend Ben Ginsberg needs a room too". 328 Gordon Allen,

late Supreme Court Justice of Alberta, remembered another Ginsberg classic. Supplementing his income during the Depression as an agent for Paarl Wines of South African, Ginsberg arranged for wine to be delivered to dinners of the Calgary Bar Association. When thanked at one dinner by the assembled lawyers, Ginsberg shot back "I suppose this is a case of throwing Paarl before swine!"<sup>329</sup>

Ginsberg served as president of the Calgary Bar himself, and even made provisions in his will for his estate to continue to supply wine for association functions. He was also a charter member of the local chapter of B'nai Brith. One of his stranger affiliations was with the South African Veteran's Association, where he energetically planned and participated in reunions, although he himself had been a teenager during the Boer War and never a combatant. His other memberships included the Canadian Club and the Masonic Lodge. Ginsberg and his wife Harriett also loved to travel. It was in the course of an eighteen-month world tour that he took ill in Sydney, Australia, and died in April 1959. He was buried in Sydney. In Mount Royal, Ginsberg moved into a new house at 2408 Carleton in 1949, living there until 1955. 330

## Glyde, Henry George

Along with A.C. Leighton, Glyde was one of the founders of art education in Alberta and one of the province's finest painters. An Englishman, Glyde was born on June 18, 1906, at Luton, Bedfordshire and grew up in Hastings. Winning a scholarship with the Brassey Art Institute in 1914 and later to the Royal College of Art, he was interested in murals and medieval art and received a college scholarship in mural decoration. He began his career as a teacher during his last year at the Royal, working at the Croydon School of Arts and Crafts, and in 1931 began to teach full time. Glyde's own paintings had already been exhibited at the Royal Academy. He became a friend with A.C. Leighton. Both conservative in their artistic proclivities, the two spent time around Hastings sketching and painting landscapes in nineteenth century styles.

In 1935, Glyde followed Leighton to Calgary to teach drawing at the Provincial Institute of Technology, which had begun an arts program mostly oriented towards producing commercial artists, art teachers and craft workers.<sup>334</sup> Coming in September, he did not care for the little prairie city at first, finding it primitive and backward. A trip to the Rockies the following year convinced him to stay and he slowly fell in love with the foothills and prairies.<sup>335</sup> By 1937, he had taken over the Institute's art program from Leighton, who was suffering from exhaustion brought on by overwork. In 1938 he was officially made head of the Art Department at the Institute. Glyde also assumed direction of the painting division at the Banff School of Fine Arts from Leighton. The Englishman worked hard to bring up local standards of art instruction, introducing among other things nude model drawing, to the scandal of more strait laced Calgarians.<sup>336</sup> The larger artistic community of Calgary also benefited from Glyde's energy: he was credited with the idea of turning the Coste House in Mount Royal into a centre for the arts and with beginning the Allied Arts Council, which encouraged all manner of artistic activity in Calgary.<sup>337</sup> In 1942, due to wartime requisitions of space on the Institute campus for an air force radio

school, the art department moved into the Coste House and Glyde took up residence next door in the coach house at 2224 Amherst, where he lived until 1947. 338

As an artist, Glyde was somewhat old fashioned, interested in the figure, imagery and naturalism, and in England had been little influenced by modernist painters. Although his work evolved greatly in Canada, he continued to use mythological references and strong symbolic content, but combined it with the settings and backgrounds of his new environment. Some authorities see the influence of the Group of Seven in his work, and indeed in 1943 Glyde spent time in the Yukon with A.Y. Jackson recording wartime activities on canvas for the National Museum. Jackson's influence led to the simplification of Glyde's forms, which eventually led to full-blown experiments in abstraction and surrealism in his later years. Very much a regional artist, Glyde still attained national recognition as a painter and had his work included in permanent collections in eastern Canada.

It was as an art educator that Glyde made his most lasting contributions. In 1946, after establishing a strong program in Calgary, he accepted an offer to go to Edmonton and do the same for the fledgling Department of Fine Arts at the University of Alberta, and the following year found himself head of the department. He nurtured the department through the next twenty years. Finally deciding to retire in 1966, Glyde moved to Pender Island on the British Columbia coast, to devote himself to his painting and drawing. At the University of Alberta, he left behind not only a strong art program by also many decorative murals, particularly a huge work depicting the history of Alberta in the Rutherford library.

### Gorman, Ruth

"The Housewife who Fights for Indians" was the rather patronising title of an article in the *Star Weekly Magazine*. It was true that Ruth Gorman was indeed a housewife when she took up the cause of the Hobbema Cree in 1952, at a crucial time in native-government relations. But she was also one of Alberta's first woman lawyers, a tireless community worker who revitalised the Local Council of Women in Calgary and turned it into a potent voice for social change, and served for over ten years as the unpaid legal advisor to Alberta's native groups.

Born in Calgary, Ruth came from a family with a six-generation tradition in law. 340 She was the only child of M.B. Peacock, K.C., a well-known lawyer and founder of the Calgary firm Peacock and Skene. A graduate of the Osgoode Hall law school, Peacock had taken a master's degree in law. His academic record attracted the attention of R.B. Bennett, future Prime Minister and dean of Calgary's lawyers, who sought the young lawyer out in Guelph. Invited to join Bennett's firm, Peacock came west and after several years struck out on his own with George Skene. Peacock served in the army during World War One, becoming Colonel Peacock of the 103<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, but was prevented by a car accident from serving overseas.

Ruth attended school in Calgary, and after finishing high school at Western Canada, she attended the University of Alberta and graduated with an arts degree in 1936. Her father was very keen for his only daughter to continue the family tradition. Gorman herself was reluctant, and remembered purposefully failing Latin, hoping to disqualify. As it turned out, she didn't need it for law school, and after realising there was little for her to do at home, returned to the university and with her father's encouragement entered the law program. She was one of only a handful of women. It was not easy: she recalled a certain amount of hostility, as well as good-natured teasing, on the part of both instructors and fellow students. On one occasion she was hung out of a residence window! Although she made a place for herself at law school, getting articled was another story. Her father took her on at his own firm, but her female classmates had a very difficult time. As for Ruth, she still was ambivalent about a career in the law. After only a year, Gorman stopped working after having her first child. Years later, she was quoted as saying the law was "unnatural" for women, being too argumentative and too demanding. 341 But one has to wonder if her attitude stemmed more from her own negative experiences, for she also said that as a woman "It is extremely difficult to become a lawyer, and you're not welcome."

Ruth had married John C. Gorman, another student articling with her father, shortly after graduating. Although discouraged from working in favour of home and family, like most women of her generation, she soon found an outlet with volunteer work, where she was able to use her legal training to good effect. The Local Council of Women was one the first groups to benefit from her energy. It was first formed in 1895 as an umbrella for sundry women's groups, to lobby for various social and moral reforms. 342 Re-established in 1912, the council had been very active in Calgary, as advocates of causes as diverse as a municipal public market, prohibition of alcohol, and women's suffrage. Some of Canada's best-known early feminists, including Alice Jukes Jamieson and Nellie McClung, one of the Famous Five, were members of the Calgary council. With the aid of Gorman's immense energy, the council underwent a renaissance. It became a persistent gadfly to Calgary City Council, fighting to improve the quality of life in the city and espousing numerous reforms for the benefit of children and family. The Council of Women – and Gorman – had an instrumental role in defeating the proposed CPR land swap in the early sixties. The city almost gave the CPR the lands adjoining the south side of the Bow River for a new rail line, which would be paralleled by a city expressway! The deal was killed by massive public outcry.

Her activities with the Council were just the beginning. In 1948, Ruth found herself the legal adviser to the Alberta Indian Association, a new native lobbying group organised with the help of John Laurie. It was in some ways an inheritance: her father taken on an important case over hunting rights in 1935 for the Stoney Indians, who had made Peacock an honorary chief and Ruth a member of the tribe as Mountain White Eagle Girl. Outraged by violations of Indian treaty rights, the power of the Indian Act and Indian agents over natives, and by the position of natives as second class citizens, without the right to vote while living on reserves, Gorman threw herself into their cause. Acting as an unpaid legal advisor, she was instrumental in winning one key battle. 122 members of the Samson band of the Cree Nation were threatened with expulsion from the

Hobbema reservation in 1952. They had been deemed ineligible for treaty status because their forbears had sold their treaty rights years before for a small lump sum. The case was made even more poignant because of the vast petroleum riches that had just been discovered under the reservation that might finally relieve the grinding poverty on the Samson reservation. Gorman organised a campaign using both the courts and public opinion, and succeeded in keeping the Samson Cree on their land with a 1957 court victory. In celebration of the victory, she was inducted into the Samson band as Queen Morning Star, mother of the Cree.

This was not the end of Gorman's activism on the part of Alberta's natives. An outspoken critic of the Indian Act and the Department of the Interior's handling of native affairs, she led the call for a separate Department of Indian Affairs. In 1960, she accompanied two Alberta chiefs to Ottawa to present a brief to a House and Senate Committee for the revision of the Indian Act.<sup>344</sup> Given one afternoon, their testimony stretched into three. Among other crucial revisions won before the committee was the right of natives to vote while living on reserves, a right that came into effect in that July. It was the high point in Gorman's efforts. Ironically, as natives themselves became more organised, thanks in part to her efforts, Gorman became less welcome. By 1964, Gorman came under fire herself as patronising and out of touch. William Wuttenee, a young Indian lawyer, stated publicly that "She has outgrown her usefulness because she fails to realise there are young educated Indian people who can lead the Alberta association."<sup>345</sup> Although some activists thought it was time for an all-aboriginal leadership, there remained a lasting gratitude among many natives for Gorman's work. She remained a persistent critic of government policy towards Canada's natives. In 1982, she was asked to review briefs that were submitted by native groups on the newly repatriated Constitution.<sup>346</sup>

Although she was less involved with native groups, Gorman did not slow down. In 1964 she started a local Calgary magazine, *My Golden West*, dedicated to the history, art and culture of western Canada. Although it was always a struggle to keep the little journal afloat, it carved a unique niche as a voice for westerners and a place for local poets, writers and journalists to see their work published. Ruth was able to keep it alive for over seven years before finally selling the magazine to Roy Farran of the North Hill News. And outside of her magazine, Gorman also found time to get involve with the handicapped. She helped organise and served as first president of the Calgary Rehabilitation Society, which started a school for children. It was just one of many groups to which Gorman gave her time and immense energy. Gorman's many contributions to the community were recognised by an honorary doctorate in 1966 from the University of Alberta, and enrolment in the Order of Canada in 1968.

The family lived for many years in Mount Royal at 2713 10<sup>th</sup> Street, moving there in 1945. After 1973, Ruth was listed as living else where in south Calgary, but her husband remained at their home until 1977, when he moved into 1119 Frontenac Avenue. John C. Gorman had also graduated from the University of Alberta law program and was a partner with Ruth's father. He served twenty-five years as a Provincial Court judge, dying in 1991. 352

#### Graham, Fred M.

Sheriff Fred Graham did not wear a badge or a six-shooter. He was a Canadian sheriff, which meant he was not a cop, but an officer of the courts. As such Graham supervised bailiffs and the seizure of property, the serving of writs and summons, collected fines, and ran the courthouse and the courts. While the job did not involve shootouts at high noon, it was vital to the administration of justice and could even bring its own brand of excitement.

Born in Cobourg, Ontario around 1872, Graham came west with his parents at the age of ten.<sup>353</sup> The family settled near Morley in 1883, starting a ranch and the Morley Trading Company, which dealt with the nearby Stoney Indians. Graham ranched with his family until 1904, when he joined the Sheriff's office in Calgary. The year before he had married Jean McDougall, a granddaughter of the Rev. George McDougall, and one of the first women of European descent born in Southern Alberta.<sup>354</sup> With such an impeccable frontier pedigree, it is no surprise that the couple were founders of the Southern Alberta Pioneers and Old-timers Association and active members. Graham serving as president in 1929.<sup>355</sup>

Graham remembered that the early days in the sheriff's office involved less routine and more drama. The sensational trial of outlaw Ernest Cashel took place not long after he started working as the assistant to Sheriff P.W. King. Cashel had escaped once, and everyone was on edge lest he do it again. Many cases before the courts involved horse and cattle rustling, and the sheriff's men were often on horseback themselves, confiscating animals of dubious provenance. One of the biggest changes Graham witnessed was the change from the frontier to urban civility. By the time Graham himself succeeded I.S.G. Wart as sheriff in 1911, the staff of his office had grown to nine men and was mostly concerned with routine paperwork and carrying out seizures of property. He held on to the position for twenty-eight years, retiring in 1938 to serve as the magistrate on Calgary's small claims court. His legal acumen had been learned on the job: Graham belonged to a generation where formal legal training was not necessary to fill judicial offices.

The sheriff took an early interest in Alberta's oil industry. He witnessed the 1914 Dingman well come in; and became an investor himself. Graham later organised several small oil companies, including the McDougall-Segur Exploration Company and Sunset Oils. He was a director for the Petroleum Producers Association and its successors, the Alberta Petroleum Association and the Western Canada Petroleum Association, where he was president. Graham remained involved in the oil industry right up until his death on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1951, at the age of 78. He had lived in Mount Royal for many years, at 2005 9<sup>th</sup> Street from 1928 to 1942. Street from 1928 to 1942.

#### Gunn, John Nesbitt

Dr. J.N. Gunn was every inch the gentleman physician of Mount Royal. He was a senior partner of Gunn, Hackney, Shore and Robbins, the city's pre-eminent eye, ear, nose and

throat specialists and well known throughout Canada. The physician had been a soldier, coming back from the First World War a well decorated lieutenant colonel. And he was held in esteem as a sportsman who hunted, fished and bred prized hunting dogs. When Gunn died suddenly in 1937 from a heart attack, over fourteen hundred people attended his funeral, which featured full military regalia and former Prime Minister R.B. Bennett among the honorary pallbearers. 359

The good doctor was born in Beaverton, Ontario and attended the University of Toronto, graduating with a medical degree in 1902. He practised with his uncle, Dr. William Gunn, a famous surgeon, and was accepted to the Royal College of Surgeons of England in 1903. Two years later, he went to Vienna to specialise, and upon returning to Canada in 1907 came out to Calgary. Gunn quickly became established as the leading specialist in his field in the city. He had joined the Canadian Army Medical Corps in 1909, and when the war began, Gunn was made a major and sent overseas. In 1916, he was promoted to lieutenant colonel and given command of the 8<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance unit. Gunn acquitted himself well and was awarded the Distinguished Service Order. After the war, he remained active in the militia, acting as assistant director of medical services for Military District 13, and organising the 8<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance. Gunn took his military experience to the St. John's Ambulance Association and was an integral part of the organisation, serving as president for two years preceding his death. His work with the association was recognised with a decoration in 1936 from Lord Tweedsmuir, the incumbent Governor General.

Outside of medicine, Gunn was an ardent outdoorsman. He was an expert fly fisherman, and a charter member of the Calgary Gun Club. He bred top hunting dogs, frequently winning prizes at field dog trials. Ever the organiser, Gunn helped found the Alberta Fish and Game Association and was vice-president of the Calgary Fish and Game Association. Hunting and fishing were not his only outdoor interests: he was a member of the Alpine Club of Canada for over twenty-five years. Although he was a keen hunter, Gunn also became interested in wildlife photography, and in later years neglected his guns in favour of his camera.

Gunn had gone back to Ontario for a bride, marrying Anna Elizabeth Martin of Exeter in 1910.<sup>361</sup> Mrs. Gunn was as prominent as her husband, a keen social worker with an interest in health care. She sat on the first Calgary hospital board for eleven years, was head of the Victoria Order of Nurses' Calgary branch for four years, worked with the Red Cross and was also involved in the St. John's Ambulance Association. Her work in the community was recognised with her enrolment in the Order of the British Empire in 1946. As a young woman, Anna Gunn had trained at the Toronto Conservatory of Music in soprano voice, and was much in demand in Calgary as a soloist. The Gunns had two daughters and a son. Ian became a doctor, while one daughter, Jeanette, studied nursing and married painter Douglas Motter. Mrs. Gunn died in 1966. The Gunns lived at 856 Hillcrest Road from 1921 to 1949.<sup>362</sup>

## **Harcourt, Percy Valentine**

Although a number of Mount Royal residents had served in military with distinction, relatively few career officers made their homes there. Lieutenant Colonel P.V. Harcourt was one of the exceptions. He began his military life as a private, joining the Royal Engineers in London on May 12, 1898, at the age of fourteen. Barely more than a boy, he was sent to the School of Military Engineering at Chatham and after graduating five years later he was sent on foreign service with the Imperial British Army in Halifax, Nova Scotia. When the Dominion of Canada organised a permanent standing army in 1906, Harcourt found himself transferred to the new military force.

At the outbreak of World War One, Harcourt went overseas with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Division in the signals company. Now a sergeant major, he distinguished himself in action, receiving the Distinguished Conduct Medal and a field commission as a lieutenant. Harcourt survived the war with only minor wounds, and decided to stay with the peacetime Canadian Army. In 1926, he was promoted to Captain and made district engineer in St. John's, New Brunswick, and steadily worked his way up from there. Transferred to Military District 13 at Calgary in 1931 and promoted to major, Harcourt was stationed in the city until his retirement in 1944. He left the military with the rank of lieutenant colonel and the Order of the British Empire for his long years of service. Harcourt and his wife left Calgary to retire in Sydney, British Columbia. While in Calgary, they lived in Mount Royal for five years, at 1320 Quebec Avenue from 1939 to 1943.<sup>364</sup>

### Hartroft, Myrtle P.

Myrtle Hartroft was married to a well-known Calgary real estate man and homebuilder, Samuel Monroe Hartroft. He was one the first fox breeders in Canada, and imported foxes to Alberta from Prince Edward Island, establishing one of the largest farms in the provinces and serving as president of the Alberta Silver Fox Breeding Association and other fur farmer groups. Hartroft was a partner in the firm of Scott and Hartroft. His wife, however, was perhaps the better known of the two.

Myrtle Hartroft had come to Calgary with Samuel in 1904 from Canton, Kansas, her birthplace. In her new home, Mrs. Hartroft began writing poetry. This began a fifty-year career as an author and poet. She had work published in the *Calgary Herald*, the *Albertan*, *Anthology*, and several other Canadian and Albertan poetry and literary anthologies, including "Healers on Horseback" for the *Alberta Golden Jubilee Anthology*. Myrtle was one of a small circle of local woman poets, including Elizabeth Garbutt and educator Margaret Potts. Her work was light and lyrical and tended toward the humorous. Hartroft's poems came to the notice of such august personalities as Winston Churchill and Queen Mary, the Queen Mother. Among her many accomplishments, Myrtle may have been the second woman in Calgary to ever drive a car!

The Hartrofts were among some of the earliest residents of Mount Royal, building a house at 925 Royal Avenue around 1910. They lived there through 1918. Myrtle had two children: Stanley, who became a noted medical scientist, and Frances McNabb, a radio writer and local painter.

### Harvey, Frank M.

Accountants, bankers, brokers and insurance men abounded in early Mount Royal. They were apparently discreet and private men who have left strangely little historical record compared to members of the legal or medical professions. Frank Harvey was an exception. His death on August 3rd, 1938 was headline news in the Calgary Herald. A prominent and respected accountant, Harvey was also an important patron of the Calgary Symphony Orchestra.

He was born on January 24, 1871, in Liverpool, England, where he was educated and became a chartered accountant. After working as a banker and accountant in his hometown, Harvey immigrated to Canada in 1911, and started working in Montreal and Winnipeg. In 1913 he came to Calgary to head an investigation on the financial affairs of the city, which led to a reorganisation of the city treasurer's office. This independent audit led to the sensational arrest of former assistant treasurer and Alderman Harry Minchin on charges of fraud.<sup>370</sup> Perhaps due to his effectiveness in Calgary, Harvey was asked to conduct similar audits for Edmonton and Regina. He later settled in Calgary and was admitted to the Alberta Institute of Chartered Accountants in 1917, and was awarded a gold medal by the institute for his outstanding work. After the succession of the United Farmers of Alberta, the provincial government called upon his formidable ability as an auditor. Through 1921 and 1922, he carried out an investigation into the province's financial affairs. In 1923 he entered a partnership with Kenneth Morrison, which lasted until his death. Harvey also became the City of Calgary's official auditor. His professional standing was recognised in 1921 when he was elected the president of the AICA, which named him a fellow in 1931. The following year he was made the president of the Dominion Association of Chartered Accountants.

Harvey's impact in Calgary went beyond his professional work. He was intimately tied to the Calgary Symphony Orchestra, the predecessor of the Calgary Philharmonic. A talented musician himself, Harvey served for three years as the chairman of the Orchestra's board of directors. His financial acumen played a vital role in keeping the organisation alive: the *Albertan* concluded that "the survival of the Calgary Symphony Orchestra at a time when it had no business to survive according to the usual commercial factors is his monument". Harvey was also elected president of the Ranchmen's Club for two years, and belonged to the Calgary Golf and Country Club.

Frank Harvey and his wife lived for several years in Mount Royal, moving into 2415 8<sup>th</sup> Street in 1932 and remaining there until Harvey's death in 1938.<sup>372</sup> They had one daughter.

## Helman, Samuel Joseph

S.J. Helman was an early Jewish lawyer in Calgary, who was counted as one of the best legal minds of his generation. Brother-in-law of **J.B. Barron**, Helman lived in Mount Royal at 2909 Carleton from 1932 until his death in 1981. Like Barron, he was born in

Winnipeg to Russian parents, on July 11, 1894.<sup>374</sup> Educated at the University of Manitoba, he came to Calgary after graduating in 1921, beginning a career that would last fifty years. The young lawyer became a partner with A. A. McGillivray, future Supreme Court Justice and leader of the provincial Conservative Party. While with McGillivray he acted as a crown prosecutor on some famous cases, including the Picariello-Lassandro murder trial, and for the defence in the Solloway-Mills stock fraud trials. These affairs and many others cemented his reputation as one of Calgary's leading trial lawyers. Helman appeared before the Privy Council in London, England on two different occasions, and numerous times before the Supreme Court of Canada. The Chief Justice of Canada, Bora Laskin, once referred to him as "a legendary lawyer". <sup>375</sup>

A true scholar, Helman had possibly one of the best legal libraries in Calgary. It outshone the local collection of the Law Society of Alberta, which he tried hard to improve during his stint as president in 1967.<sup>376</sup> He was known for his meticulous research and academic interest in the law, proposing many legal reforms during his career. Along with J.V.H. McIlvain, Helman once created a stir by taking an appeal of a murder conviction to the Supreme Court at his own expense, simply because he felt there had been a miscarriage of justice. Helman also moved in political circles, representing the government of Ernest Manning in 1956 before a Royal Commission investigating allegations of government wrongdoing in the province's financial affairs. Premier Manning was so impressed by the Calgary lawyer that he allegedly tried to make Helman his attorney general.<sup>377</sup> Representing the City of Calgary for many years at Public Utility Board Hearings, Helman was credited with saving residents millions of dollars in gas bills. He had himself helped create the legislation governing utilities in the provinces.<sup>378</sup> One ambition that Helman never fulfilled, for all his formidable reputation and connections, was an appointment as a judge. This may have been due to a certain degree of gentlemanly anti-Semitism in Alberta legal circles.<sup>379</sup> It apparently raised some eyebrows when he was made a King's Counsel in 1930.

Outside of the law, Helman was involved in many community groups and charitable causes. He served on the Calgary Public School Board, the Calgary Hospitals Board, the board of the Canadian Cancer Society as well as Jewish organisations such as B'nai Brith, of which he was president, and the Calgary Hebrew School, where he endowed a library. His own extensive library ran to a wide range of literature and the classics as well as legal works, and he was an enthusiastic and talented photographer. Although married twice, first to Frances Goldstein, who predeceased him, and then to Sabine Nagler, Helman had no children. He died March 14, 1981.

## Herron, William Stewart

He was the grandfather of the oil and gas industry in Alberta. Homesteader William S. Herron not only discovered the gas seeps of Turner Valley, but was instrumental in exploring and exploiting them. He spent his life looking for oil and gas in the valley, and was said to have made - and lost - several fortunes in the process. Even when the prospects of Turner Valley waned, he hung on to his leases and exploration rights, and was rewarded when crude oil was finally found there in 1936.

Herron was originally from Ontario. He was born on February 10, 1870, in Haliburton County, forty-five miles north of Peterborough. His father and mother had a homestead in the remote forests of central Ontario, mixing subsistence farming with logging and railway contracting. An education was a luxury few could afford, and as soon as he was able, Herron took a job as a cook's helper in the logging camps. By the time he was out of his teens, the young man had his own business logging and contracting on the railroads, and doing some prospecting. When rail construction ended in the area, work became scarce, and after spending a short time trying in the Pennsylvania oil fields, Herron packed up his young family and came west to farm. He left Ontario equipped with the skills of a seasoned entrepreneur and a consuming interest in petroleum geology.

The Herrons arrived in Calgary in 1901 and several years later bought a nine hundred and sixty-acre farm near Okotoks on the edge of Turner Valley. Within a short time Herron was augmenting his income with a cartage business. One of his hauling contracts was coal from the Sheep River area for Okotoks. He had heard rumours of gas seeps along the Sheep, and decided to investigate while on a coal run.<sup>382</sup> Herron collected samples from the seep, noting a nearby anticline on a rock outcropping indicating a possible petroleum reserve. The samples went to the Universities of Pennsylvania and California for analysis. When he was told they were natural gas, Herron knew he was onto something, and immediately set about acquiring the mineral rights in the area. His timing was excellent: the demand for gasoline was growing by leaps and bounds, and petroleum had become a valuable commodity. Much of the land in the area belonged to the crown, and Herron easily got leases to the mineral rights. The government allowed exploitation of resources on crown land with a lease system, in which long-term leases on the mineral rights could be taken at a fixed price. But homesteaders and real estate companies owned some of the land he wanted, and Herron had to pay tens of thousands of dollars to get the key acreage near his seeps. To finance the purchases he sold his farm and invested in the booming Calgary real estate market, quickly realising a \$50,000 profit.<sup>383</sup>

Now that he had the land, Herron needed to find the oil. Fortunately, another Ontario entrepreneur with just the right skills had come recently come to Alberta. Archibald W. Dingman was engaged in trying to find natural gas supplies for the City of Calgary. An experienced driller and promoter, he formed Calgary Petroleum Products with Herron, bringing some of Calgary's elite businessmen in as investors, men such as A.E. Cross, James Lougheed, R.B. Bennett, and T.J.S. Skinner. Drilling began on January 25, 1913. It was a slow business with the technology available, but the well showed promising signs from the beginning. By October, Calgarians were gripped by feverish interest in the Dingman well, and a frenzy of oil speculation began. Speculators filed leases on every scrap of land still available in the valley, and companies formed overnight to take leases and sell stock to investors. Millions were sunk into oil stocks by Calgarians, and by some estimates over 400 companies were formed to look for oil - or look for investors! When the Dingman well struck oil on May 14, 1914, the speculators went mad.

Herron was right in the thick of it. He had a twenty-five percent interest in the discovery well and the company. Disenchanted by the way Dingman had seized control of their operations, he had also quietly filed on thousands more acres before the speculation got out of control. The promise of fabulous wealth, however, turned out to be premature. The beginning of the First World War dried up investment. Unable to find any money to exploit his holdings, Herron had difficulty holding onto his leases. He sold and mortgaged everything he could to meet his payments, sometimes staying only a month ahead of his creditors. Calgary Petroleum Products, the company he founded with Dingman was sold to Royalite Oil, a subsidiary of Imperial Oil. Salvation for Herron came when Royalite sunk another successful well in 1924. Although the well only struck naphtha, a light petroleum condensate rather than more valuable crude oil, it had discovered a large enough reserve to start a new round of exploration. Herron struck a deal to farm out his lease rights to another driller in return for a percentage of the profits. The well, McLeod Number One, also struck oil. Although Herron did not get as much out of the arrangement as he had hoped, he was able to hang onto his widespread leases. In 1926, he finally formed his own company, Okalta, with majority control but enough investors to pay his obligations and start exploration efforts. In November of 1928, Okalta Number One came in and Herron was suddenly a rich man. "Never-sell" Herron was vindicated. Despite the tight years of the Depression, he continued operating. In 1936, when the Brown, Bell and Moyer group struck crude oil, it was in an area where Okalta held many acres.

Herron only enjoyed his success for a few years. In July of 1939, he collapsed with a stroke while visiting a drilling site. On the 21st, he died at his Mount Royal home. Hundreds came to his funeral, and all drilling stopped in Turner Valley for three minutes to honour the pioneer oilman. He left a quarter million dollar estate, mostly in Okalta stock. The Herron story did not end with his death. His sons, William Stewart Jr. and Harold, took over direction of Okalta. Shortly after their father's death they brought in two crude oil gushers, and successfully piloted the company through World War Two. Bill Herron had always worked for his father, and succeeded to the company presidency. Harold had earned a degree in geology and mining engineering from the university of Alberta in 1926, and after working in the gold mining industry in the Caribou, joined Okalta in 1936. He served in the Calgary Highlanders during World War Two. In the oil boom started by the Leduc discovery in 1947, Okalta initially prospered, but was too small to compete with the big foreign owned oil companies. By 1961, Okalta was bankrupt and passed into the control of a Montreal brokerage firm. The Herrons retired from the oil business soon afterward.

William Herron lived in Mount Royal for many years, at 837 Royal Avenue from 1927 to 1929, 1035 Durham from 1930 to 1936, and finally at 1316 Prospect Avenue until his death. His widow remained there until 1944. Harold Herron also had his home in Mount Royal, residing at 2211 Cartier from 1945 to 1956.

# Honens, H. Harry

The Honens name has been immortalised in Calgary by the Esther Honens International Piano Competition, an annual gathering in the city of the most promising young pianists in the world. Esther, wealthy herself from a real estate business she established with her first husband, married W. Harold Honens in 1974. It was a second marriage for both. Harry Honens was a well-known Calgary businessman and one of the biggest ranchers in southern Alberta. He had gone to Stanford University, served in the French Foreign Legion, and inherited the enormous land holdings acquired by his father, H. Harry Honens.<sup>386</sup>

H. Harry Honens was one of the early residents of Mount Royal, making his home at 629 Royal Avenue SW from 1909 until 1932. He had come to Calgary in early nineteen hundreds, but had been born in Milan, Illinois on May 10, 1868, to a German immigrant father and an American mother. In 1888 he began his business career selling hardware in Rock Rapids, Iowa. He married Miss Zua Smith in 1894, and the couple had two children, Harry and Marie. After ten years the Honens came up to Alberta and Harry senior entered the real estate business. Specialising in farmlands, he organised a company in High River that sold over 60,000 acres to settlers. He subsequently handled sales for the Calgary Colonization Company of **A. Sayre**, and then joined the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1907 as manager of the Department of Land Sales in Calgary. Honens also owned several large farms of his own and no doubt continued to acquire prime lands, which later established his son's fortune and contributed to a major international cultural event for Calgary.

## Irwin, Joseph Stewart

Joseph Stewart Irwin was a pioneer petroleum geologist, a profession that Irwin himself, tongue firmly in cheek, saw as part scientist, part diviner, and part mad prospector. <sup>389</sup> Like many other early geologists who worked in Alberta, he was an American, born in Louisiana, Missouri, on December 28, 1888. <sup>390</sup> He lost his mother to typhoid when he was four. After public schooling in his hometown, Irwin attended the Missouri School of Mines and earned a Bachelor of Science in mine engineering. Finishing in 1912, he taught geology at Missouri until 1914 and then at Leigh University in Pennsylvania to1916, before joining the Carter Oil Company, part of John D. Rockerfeller's Standard Oil Empire, as a geologist. Irwin enlisted in the army when the United States entered World War One in 1917. After the war, he went west with the Producers and Refiners Corporation, becoming their chief geologist in 1926

Irwin spent ten years working on the American prairies and the slopes of the Rocky Mountains. Much of his time was spent in the field with survey crews.<sup>391</sup> With seismology still in its infancy, geologists indulged in a great deal of educated guess work on the nature of underlying geological formations, extrapolating from surface formations. Gravity meters and measurements of variations in electrical current gave some indications of the geology under the surface, and a host of much more dubious inventions later nicknamed "doodlebugs" were sometimes used by geologists. Irwin was responsible for a great deal of important work in Montana and Wyoming, which also piqued his

interest in Alberta. He published two papers, in 1923 and 1926, suggesting Alberta had a common geology with Montana and likely good oil and gas prospects. <sup>392</sup>

In 1929, he spent a year in Canada as a consulting geologist for the Nordon Corporation, and became excited by this new geological frontier. Irwin convinced the Producers and Refiners Company to start exploring in Canada and was put in charge of this initiative in 1930. In 1932, he struck out on his own as a consultant based in Calgary. Along with several other geologists, he founded the Alberta Society of Petroleum Geologists in March of 1929. With other pioneers and friends, such as Russell Johnson, Jim Sanderson, and Imperial Oil's **Ted Link**, Irwin made important contributions to understanding Alberta's geology and the development of the oil and gas industry. He specialised in eastern Alberta, especially Lloydminster, but also did a great deal of work around Waterton, at Turner Valley and at Jumping Pound west of Calgary. He was a major contributor to the understanding of the Devonian Reef formations that eventually produced the rich oil fields that established Alberta as an important petroleum producer.

Irwin continued to work until 1970, retiring at the age of 80. As well as the Association of Petroleum Geologists, he belonged to the Engineering Institute of Canada, the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, the Association of Professional Engineers of Alberta, and also the Calgary Chamber of Commerce. A colourful writer and speaker, he wrote a manuscript himself detailing the history of the geological fraternity in the western United States and Canada. Irwin and his family first moved into Mount Royal shortly after he started working as an independent consultant, living at 1342 Montreal Avenue in 1931 and 1932. They later resided at 2106 7<sup>th</sup> Street from 1941 to 1976. He died in 1979.

#### Ives, William Carlos

He was known always as the cowboy judge. William Carlos Ives had been born in Compton, Quebec on October 29, 1873, but came west with his parents to Pincher Creek in 1881.<sup>394</sup> His father George had been a Mountie stationed on the prairies in 1879, but quit to start a ranch. Ives grew up in the age of the open range, when cowboys rode for days watching over their herds and the annual roundup was the social event of the year for isolated ranching families. Colonel James Macleod, at that time Stipendiary Magistrate for the Northwest Territories, was a neighbour in Pincher Creek.

After minimal education at the local school, Ives left home at the age of fourteen to work as a ranch hand. By the time he was seventeen, he was working at the Cochrane ranch, owned by Senator Cochrane, who coincidentally was also a native of Compton. He spent four years with the outfit, the largest ranch in Alberta. Although he loved the life of the cowboy, the young ranch hand was not content with remaining on the range. Saving his wages, Ives went east in 1894 with a load of Cochrane cattle and stayed, enrolling in McGill University. He came back to Alberta in the summers, worked on the ranch, and returned to school with a shipment of cattle each fall. Ives graduated with his law degree in 1899, and was called to the Quebec bar in 1900, but the west was in his blood and he went to Lethbridge to practice the following year. Ives never forgot his ranching

past; in later years he went to reunions, where he showed he could still handle a branding iron, and on one occasion spent the summer by himself riding the old trails in the foothills by Pincher Creek.<sup>397</sup>

Admitted to the bar of the Northwest Territories on March 14, 1901, Ives was a partner of C.F.P. Conybeare, crown prosecutor and noted pioneer lawyer, for five years before setting up on his own. <sup>398</sup> As a lawyer, he still had connections to the range, drawing up contracts for the Cochrane ranch when it sold off its herd and later when it sold much of its land to the Mormon Church. Ives later recollected that "I made more money out of those two little jobs than I did during the four years that I rode the range for them." <sup>399</sup> Ives remained in private practice until 1914, trying his hand at provincial politics by running unsuccessfully as a Conservative in 1905 and 1909.

In 1914 he was appointed directly to the Supreme Court of Alberta. Ives proved a strong judge, well known for his poker face in court. He rarely reserved judgement, listening carefully to opposing counsel and quickly making up his mind. His written decisions were very much to the point. Although respected as a jurist, Ives was foremost a common sense judge. He presided over several very famous and controversial trials. When Alberta Premier John E. Brownlee of the United Farmer's party was sued for the seduction of his ward, Vivian Macmillan, Ives took the controversial step of reversing the jury's award of \$15,000, ruling she had suffered no injuries as defined by the Seductions Act. This legislation had been put in place to allow the families of underage girls to sue for maintenance costs if their daughter was made pregnant. The decision was overturned later by the Appeal Court. Ives also sat as judge for the Solloway and Mills trials. The two defendants were stockbrokers who had lost millions of dollars for their clients in the crash before the Depression. They were convicted of operating a bucket shop, going short on shares before actually making the purchases, and Ives gave them four months and a \$275,000 fine. In 1942, Ives was made chief justice of the trial division of the Supreme Court. He retired in 1944.

After retirement, Ives remained busy as an arbitrator in labour disputes and on a royal commission on the taxation of annuities and family corporations. He died in 1950, during Stampede Week, and his ashes were scattered on the site of the Cochrane ranch. Ives lived at 2003 8<sup>th</sup> Street, originally **Bert Stringer's** house, from 1935 to 1946. 401

## Jacques, Leonard P.

Well known in the retail furniture business, Leonard Jacques' greater claim to fame was as a racehorse breeder and racer. Born in Grimsby, England, Jacques immigrated to Canada in 1902 and opened his own immigration agency two years later. He also invested in local real estate. In 1912, he started Jacques Furniture, which he ran for thirty-six years, later changing the name to the Chesterfield Shop. Jacques was successful enough in his business ventures to indulge in the "Sport of Kings". In 1928, a fast young horse named Silent Messenger caught his eye at a race in Calgary and Jacques bought him. The horse turned out to be a great success on the local racing circuit. Jacques was introduced to Johnny Longden the same year and talked into investing in the novice

jockey. Longden went on to become the world's most successful rider: by 1962 he had won 5,652 races and brought in prize money totalling over twenty-two million dollars. When Jacques and his wife had their 50th anniversary, the Western Canadian Racing Association ran the Jacques Golden Anniversary Handicap in Calgary. A little more than a year later, in July 1963, Jacques passed away. The Jacques family lived at 2118 7<sup>th</sup> Street from 1927 to 1929 and 1136 Sydenham from 1949 to 1957.

### Jenkins, Henry Marshall

With over forty stores in Alberta, Jenkins Groceteria was once as familiar as Safeway to Calgary shoppers. The company was founded in 1909 by Henry Jenkins, the son of a potato farmer from New Brunswick. As a young man blessed with a great deal of curiosity, Jenkins put a note in a sack of potatoes, asking the recipient to write him and tell him about the place the tubers had reached. He received a letter from Calgary in reply, and was so intrigued by the description of the city that he decided to come west. After a season as harvest hand, he decided to relocate permanently in Calgary in 1909.

A brief spell as a cook and housekeeper followed until Jenkins found a job as a clerk in a grocery store. With some borrowed money and a partner, John Cornfoot, Jenkins bought out his employer only two months later and opened for business as Jenkins and Cornfoot. Within a year, Jenkins bought Cornfoot's interest and renamed the business Jenkins and Company. Although only one grocer among many in the city, Jenkins manifested the curiosity and imagination that had brought him to Calgary. He began experimenting with new styles of merchandising, hiring salespeople to canvass grocery orders from the area around Calgary. In 1918 he heard about a new self serve system that had been introduced by a grocer in Seattle, under the name of Groceteria. Instead of clerks picking and packaging a customer's order, delivering it and billing the customer, shoppers served themselves from shelves of pre-packaged goods and paid for their shopping immediately. Jenkins seized upon the new model, and obtained the Canadian rights to the Groceteria name and system.

In 1918 Jenkins opened eight stores in Calgary, possibly the first self-serve grocery stores in Canada. With much less overhead in the new stores, Jenkins could charge lower prices. Despite widespread scepticism among other grocers, the new stores proved a wild success, as consumers were happy to exchange service for a smaller grocery bill. By 1928, Jenkins had seventeen stores, a bakery plant, and a wholesale distribution operation. The company went public that year as Jenkins' Groceteria Limited. It also expanded into other towns in Alberta. Despite the Depression the company prospered, and by 1945 had 210 employees and retail sales of over three million dollars. Henkins was innovative with its marketing and did numerous original promotions. Not all were successful: to celebrate the chain's 30th anniversary, Calgarians were offered a dollar for every 1909 penny they turned in by the end of the day. Jenkins ended up with a vault with thousands of pennies, and no one ever found out exactly how much he paid out honouring his offer. Henry Jenkins died in 1945, still running his company after thirty-five years. His funeral was attended by an estimated 1,700 people; Jenkins had been

involved in the community, belonging to the Rotarians and serving as a director of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede and a governor of Mount Royal College. 407

His son Ronald, fresh from wartime service with the RCAF, took over the family firm as president and general manager. Under its new leader, the company continued to expand, opening a state of the art warehouse in East Calgary and more stores. By 1959, Jenkins had twenty-two stores in Calgary and twenty-four in other centres. On October 1<sup>st</sup> of that year, the business was bought by Western Grocers and eventually became the basis of Westfair foods, which owns the Great Canadian Superstore chain. Henry and Ronald Jenkins lived in Mount Royal, Henry at 1314 Quebec Avenue from 1939 to his death (his wife Betty remained another year), Ronald at 3205 Carleton 1949 to 1951 and later at 3009 Champlain.

#### Jennings, Harry Nelson

A pioneer in internal medicine in Calgary, Dr. Harry N. Jennings was Chief of Medicine at the Holy Cross Hospital for eighteen years. Originally from Simcoe, Ontario, where he was born in 1893, Jennings was advised to study in 1915 to study medicine by Sir William Osler, a famous British doctor of the day. Before he could follow this edict, war intervened. Jennings went to Europe with the Canadian Expeditionary Force and finished the war with the Royal Air Force. Returning to Ontario, he attended the University of Toronto, graduating in 1924 as a MD. He came to Calgary after interning in Boston and studying Pathology in Toronto. After ten years in private practice, Jennings went to Britain to specialise in internal medicine. Shortly after finishing his two years of post-graduate studies, Jennings took over the position at the Holy Cross. He retired in 1959. After leaving medicine, he raised Arabian horses on a ranch near Red Deer Lake. Jennings died in December of 1974. In Mount Royal, the doctor and his family lived at 1122 Talon Avenue from 1940 to 1953.

# Jones, Edgar Ward

The Canadian Pacific Railway was more than just trains. The company had received vast land grants from the Dominion Government as part of the deal for building the first transcontinental line. The railway actively promoted immigration, irrigation schemes and exploited the vast agricultural and mineral wealth of its lands through its own Department of Natural Resources. The Department worked diligently to encourage the latest agricultural and stock keeping techniques through its own experimental farms. E. Ward Jones was hired as superintendent of agriculture in 1928 to fulfil this mission, and did so with conspicuous success.

Jones was well suited to the job. Born in Carman, Manitoba on May 17, 1889, he was the son of a successful homesteader. After finishing public school, Jones was able to attend the University of Manitoba, studying agriculture. Graduating in 1911, he got a job as Superintendent of Fairs and Institutes for the province of Manitoba, and three years later joined the faculty of his alma mater at the tender age of twenty-four as professor of animal husbandry. The value of a university education! He left academe for the

Dominion government in 1916 to develop the Livestock and Livestock Products Act and work as a market representative for the Department of Agriculture's livestock branch. Finally, in 1919, he took over as manager of the Alberta Stockyards Company in Calgary. Jones continued to promote scientific methods of breeding and production, and better marketing of Canada's agricultural products. Jones also had his own farms at Cochrane and Brooks. 414

After ten years with the stockyard, Jones was enticed away by the CPR. He managed the railway company's supply farms but also started a network of experimental farms. One pet project was the introduction of Hampshire and Suffolk sheep to Alberta. Jones belonged to a multiplicity of organisations, societies and clubs concerning livestock breeding and agriculture, often in an executive capacity. He also served as an advisor to the Federal government; in 1935 he was appointed to the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Advisory Committee, acting as a go between for the Minister of Agriculture and drought stricken farmers. As a powerful figure in one of Calgary's chief industries, Ward was naturally on the city's Board of Trade. Outside of his work, the agriculturist enjoyed curling and hockey, even running a professional club in the latter sport.

The Jones lived at 2906 Montcalm Crescent, moving there in 1929. In 1937, Jones became ill and died in November. He left his wife Ada and three children. She remained in the family home until 1947.

### Knox, George L.

George Knox was a prominent American oil executive who spent eleven years in Calgary, living in Mount Royal at 2918 Champlain Street from 1950 to 1964. Knox was born in Hymer, Kansas, and grew up in Palo Alto, California. Attending Stanford University, he earned a bachelor's degree in geology in 1921. Joining the Standard Oil Company of California, one of the offspring of John D. Rockefeller's Standard Oil Trust, Knox worked as field geologist for the company. He was part of the company's first seismograph field party, and in 1936 was made supervisor of seismographic surveying in California. By this time, he was the assistant chief geologist for the exploration department and in 1939 became Standard's senior geologist. Around 1949, he was promoted to president of Chevron Standard, a wholly owned subsidiary very active in the Alberta oil patch. Knox was the first CEO of the company to live in Canada, overlooking its extensive exploration activities.

The American oilman participated fully in the Canadian oil industry, sitting as a director of the Western Canada Petroleum Association and chairman in 1952, and was the chair as well of the Canadian Petroleum Association. Knox belonged to several professional associations and all the better Calgary clubs. He retired to Palo Alto, where he died in 1969 at the age of 69.

# Lancaster, George C.

Alderman, community worker, tire salesman, George Lancaster loved working for the betterment of Calgary. He was born in Cedar Springs, Ontario around 1887, and grew up on a farm. <sup>420</sup> In 1906 he followed thousands of other Ontario natives west looking for opportunity. After several months working as a ranch hand in Saskatchewan, Lancaster arrived in Calgary in June with two dollars in his pocket. He got a job with the Western Commercial Company and spent eleven years with the company, learning the ways of the business world. In 1917, he bought the Fisk Tire Service Company, a small firm selling and servicing automobile tires. He ran the company for over thirty years, bringing it through the Depression and the Second World War, and sold it to his employees in 1958 when he decided to retire. <sup>421</sup>

It was an act characteristic of Lancaster's concern for others and his community. He got his start in charitable work in 1916. 422 A friend canvassing for relief funds for victims of the Halifax harbour explosion took ill, and Lancaster took over for him. To his surprise, he raised \$10,000! It hooked him on community work, and he never looked back. The Red Cross was the first major organisation he was involved in, joining in 1918 and sitting on the board from 1925 onwards. As chairman of the building committee he was instrumental in raising money to build a new children's hospital in 1950. In 1935 he was named to the board of the YMCA, and participated enthusiastically in their efforts to build a new Calgary headquarters. Lancaster also sat on the board of the Calgary General Hospital, Mount Royal College, and was president of the Calgary Zoological Society. He particularly enjoyed putting up new buildings: at Central United Church he was chairman of the building fund. In 1957, George was given the Jaycee's Citizen of the Year Award in recognition of his contributions to the community.

Not surprisingly, Lancaster took his penchant for community service into municipal politics. First elected in 1936, he was an alderman for twelve consecutive years until stepping down in 1948. He had been particularly interested in the city's public transit while on council, and in 1964 he was asked to chair the Calgary Transit Commission. Lancaster helped guide the deficit-ridden system back to health, and during his tenure the city began looking at rapid transit concepts that eventually led to the LRT.

Lancaster had a long life as well as a useful one. He died in 1978, at the age of 91. The Lancaster family lived at 1404 Joliet Avenue, from 1931 to 1979. 424

#### Leach, Kenneth McClure

A pioneer of the movie business in Calgary, Kenneth Leach got his start in Swift Current, Saskatchewan, operating a makeshift theatre with a hand cranked projector in a vacant store. He was originally American, born in Hedrick, Iowa in 1891. His parents homesteaded in Saskatchewan in 1908. Introduced to movies by a friend in nearby Moosejaw, Leach went to Swift Current in 1912 and opened up his own nickelodeon. In 1917 he came to Calgary and took over the Regent Theatre on 8th Avenue and 1st Street, offering movies as well as live vaudeville. The Regent was one of several theatres he owned and operated in Regina, Edmonton, Winnipeg and Vancouver. Leach also entered the film distribution business in 1918, and held the exclusive Alberta franchise for films

featuring Charlie Chaplin, Douglas Fairbanks, and Mary Pickford. In 1926, like many other independent theatre operators, Leach entered into a partnership with the Famous Players Canadian Corporation, and closed the Regent to take over the Strand Theatre. He also held the lease for several years for the Grand Theatre in the Lougheed Building, and became embroiled in a legal fight with the Lougheed Estate and **J.B. Barron** when the latter bought the Grand in 1937. 426

Leach was an avid horseracing fan and owned his own animals. His harness horses competed in the United States as well as Alberta, and he often went to California with his wife to enjoy the races. He was also an avid hunter and fisherman, and served as a director of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede and the Stampeders Football Club. Leach married his wife Edna, a native of Swift Current, in 1914. They lived in Mount Royal at 925 Royal Avenue from 1936 to 1957. Their daughter Kaye married John M. Dillon jr., son of Jack Dillon, Arena Director of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede.

#### Dr. Rosamond Leacock

Dr. Rosamond "Dot" Leacock was a pioneer in the true sense, one of Calgary's first women physicians as well as its first and for many years its only trained pathologist. She was also a close friend and doctor to Bob Edwards, the city's famous satirist. Edwards no doubt found her a kindred spirit, as the sister of humorist Stephen Leacock no doubt had a fine sense of the ridiculous. Her brother Teddy, who worked as a pharmaceutical representative out of Calgary, was reputed to be even funnier than his famous sibling. Clearly, humour ran in the family.

Leacock graduated from the University of Toronto in 1910. 429 She had trained as a pathologist, at that time a new medical speciality. One of her classmates, Dr. Evelyn Windsor, later became her partner in a family practice in Calgary as well as her sister in law. Rosamond, her brother, and his wife came to Calgary soon after graduation from medical school. Doctors Leacock and Windsor established their first practice in Bridgeland, at that time considered a rough part of town. It lived up to its reputation. While on a house call, Dr. Windsor was taken hostage by a thug looking for narcotics. He forced her to fill out a prescription and sent one of his children to get it filled. Dr. Windsor rigged the prescription in such a way as to arouse the suspicions of the pharmacist. Suitably confused, he phoned the practice to clarify the prescription. Dr. Leacock, as quick-witted as her partner, immediately called the police, who descended upon the hapless criminal and rescued Dr. Windsor.

Aside from the excitement of private practice, Dr. Leacock was appointed to staff of General Hospital in 1912 as pathologist. She also became the pathologist for the Holy Cross Hospital, and did additional testing in her own private laboratory. The official laboratory at the General was only one room, and Dot had to carry out all duties herself, including record keeping and even the cleaning. In this one room lab, she also did public health testing for city and the local federal food inspectors. Among many other firsts she is credited with introducing blood transfusions to Calgary. Eventually she was able to train an assistant, but remained the City's only qualified pathologist until 1928.

Accepting a position at Toronto's Children Hospital, she was replaced by Dr. Lola McLatchie, another graduate of the University of Toronto Medical School.

Leacock moved into Mount Royal in 1923, living at 1322 Montreal Avenue until 1928. 431

### Leyden, John M.

David Leyden and his wife Beatrice established a hardware store and funeral parlour in 1910 in Granum, Alberta, just south-east of Calgary. In 1930 they decided to relocate to Calgary, where Leyden opened a funeral parlour with partner E.C. Bruce. Located on the corner of 2nd Street and 18th Avenue SW, the business became one of Calgary's leading funeral homes and is still operating in a modern building at the same location. In addition to running one of the largest funeral homes in Calgary, Leyden was the president of the Alberta Funeral Director's and Embalmer's Association in 1945 and 1946. During his tenure the association began a special annual school of embalming to coincide with its convention. After David Leyden's death in 1946, his sons Jack and Bruce managed the business until 1957, when they sold it to Alexander Luft and George Wood. The Leyden name still graces the firm. Jack Leyden and his wife moved into 1111 Premier Way in 1947, living there until 1952, when they moved to 1126 Premier.

#### Link, Theodore August

Dr. Theodore August Link lived at 1201 Prospect Avenue from 1932 to 1944. A geologist with Imperial Oil, he was a key figure in the development of the oil industry in western Canada. Born in 1897 in La Porte, Indiana, Link originally wished to emulate his father, a Lutheran pastor. He failed a course in classical Greek as a first year theology student, and switched to geology at the University of Chicago and a date with destiny. Through a classmate, Canadian Bert Mackay, Link got a job with the Canadian Government after graduating with a bachelor's degree in 1918. He spent the summer as a field geologist in Quebec and British Columbia, looking for gold deposits. After a short time working in Oklahoma and Texas, Link joined Imperial Oil in 1919 and was sent to the Northwest Territories. Imperial was in the process of exploring oil seeps along the Mackenzie River and had already sent a drilling crew to the area. Link was not the first geologist to work on the Norman Wells oilfield, as it was later named. However, his work there from 1919 to 1921 mapping the extent of the discovery and directing drilling activity was crucial to the development of the field, and he is often credited as the discoverer of Norman Wells. As the northernmost oil find of the time, it pioneered arctic oil exploration and also marked one of the earliest uses of aircraft for transportation and exploration in the Canadian north.

Link would later return to Norman Wells in 1942 during World War Two, as chief geologist for the CANOL project, which further developed the oilfield and built a pipeline to supply the Alaska Highway for the war effort. After his first exposure to the north in the twenties, however, he was transferred to an Imperial Oil subsidiary, International Petroleum, and sent to Columbia – quite a change from the sub-arctic! After five years in this exotic locale, the now seasoned geologist returned to the United States

and decided to get his doctoral degree in geology. He laughingly recounted in later years that his mother pushed him into it, worried that her son would end up as some sort of bum if he continued to work in the field. As a field geologist, Link had already developed a reputation for advanced theories and was widely published in geological journals. He contributed a great deal to the understanding of the geology of Alberta as well as the Northwest Territories, helping lay the foundation for the discoveries after World War Two which established the oil industry in the province. Link was convinced of the potential of Alberta as an oil producing area. He was an early exponent of reef exploration, believing that ancient reef formations deep in the earth would hold reservoirs of oil. After receiving his doctorate in structural geology in 1927, Link persuaded Imperial to post him to Calgary.

Although the Depression meant tight budgets for exploration, Link's fieldwork and theories contributed to the discovery of crude oil in Turner Valley. One possibly apocryphal story has Link touring the valley with Bob Brown Sr., the founder of Home Oil, in 1936. Link told Brown, then drilling the Turner Valley Royalties well, that "you're at 5800 feet now. At 6200 feet you'll either hit oil or water". At 6190 feet, the well struck crude oil. Link's employer, Imperial, and its subsidiary Royalite Oil had spectacularly bad luck in its own exploration efforts. After drilling a successful well, Royalite #4, in 1924, the company drilled one hundred and thirty three dry holes in succession. Returning to Imperial as their chief geologist after his wartime involvement with the CANOL Project, Link found the company on the verge of pulling out of western Canada. Ted Link was instrumental in convincing Imperial and its parent company, Standard Oil of New Jersey, to continue drilling in Alberta. After a stormy meeting in April of 1946, Imperial decided on one last exploration program, with Leduc Number One as the first well. On February 13th, 1947, the company ushered in the modern oil age for Alberta when it struck an enormous reservoir of crude.

With his faith in Alberta's oil potential vindicated, Link oversaw Imperial's drilling program for another year, bringing in the prolific Redwater field in 1948. After Redwater, Link parted ways with Imperial uninterested in the company's plans to methodically exploit its discoveries, preferring to be on the edge of new exploration. Now with a formidable reputation as an oil finder, Link had a successful career as a consultant and as a partner in various small oil exploration companies. He garnered a large number of accolades, serving as president of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, receiving the Barlow Memorial Medal and the Baylock Medal from the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Mining, and an honorary doctorate from the University of Calgary. He retired to Victoria in 1971, and died there in 1980. Although his life was dominated by his work as a geologist, Link was also a keen amateur astronomer.

## Lougheed, Douglas

The Lougheed family had a presence in Mount Royal. The patriarch of the clan, Sir James, built the "ancestral home" of Beaulieu on 13th Avenue, but three of his sons lived

in the neighbourhood on the hill. Douglas was the youngest, and the first to die, only surviving his illustrious father by five years. Born in Calgary in 1901, Douglas received a private school education, beginning with Western Canada College and then University College in Victoria. He did not go on to university, instead articling in the insurance industry in Toronto and working as a broker after returning to Calgary. Lougheed eventually joined the family financial company of Lougheed and Taylor and later went to work for Pete Smith Motors. A scratch golfer who began the sport at the age of seven, Lougheed won several amateur championships, including the Alberta Amateur in 1924. Sadly, while Lougheed seemingly lived the untroubled life of second generation wealth, in reality he suffered from severe bouts of depression. None of the senator's sons were terribly robust, and rumour had it that Douglas' death in October 1931 was in reality suicide. He lived at 1121 Frontenac in 1928 and 1929.

#### Lougheed, Edgar

The third son of Sir James Lougheed, Edgar was the father of Premier Peter Lougheed. Overshadowed by his illustrious father, Edgar later inherited the thankless task of managing the family fortune during the Depression. Born in 1893 in Calgary, he grew up in the most powerful and privileged family in the city. He attended Western Canada College and then went to McGill University in Montreal. Like his elder brother Clarence, he enlisted with the Canadian Army Service Corps in World War One and spent most of the war in England, with a brief spell in France. Returning to Canada a captain, he entered the University of Alberta in 1919 and went from there to Dalhousie University to study law. In Halifax he met and married Edna Bauld, daughter of a Halifax food merchant, in 1924. The new couple settled down in Calgary in a small house near the family mansion of Beaulieu.

Just over a year after the couple's return to Calgary, Senator Lougheed died, and Edgar was appointed one of the executors of the estate, along with his brothers and the Royal Trust Company. The affairs of the estate, especially management of its property holdings, were complex enough that they took most of Edgar's attention and he did not pursue a career in law. Although Edgar was forced to sell the estate's valuable Royalite Oil Company shares to meet succession duties, until the Depression it returned enough money to provide a comfortable income to the extended Lougheed family. The Depression radically changed this for the worse. The income from the family's commercial real estate was severely reduced as many of their tenants went bankrupt. Edgar was compelled by his sense of honour to see that the shareholders of Lougheed and Taylor, the family brokerage firm, were given a full return on their investments when the company experienced difficulties. Edgar lost his brother Douglas to suicide in 1931 and his elder brother Clarence to a heart attack in 1933.

The family reached a crisis in 1936 after the death of Lady Isabella Lougheed. The city of Calgary seized the family home for non-payment of taxes, and Edgar became estate manager for the Royal Trust, which took over the Lougheed Estate. He developed an alcohol problem and his wife Edna suffered from bouts of depression. <sup>438</sup> By 1939, the family fortunes improved as the economy recovered. After the war Edgar obtained title to

the family properties and the Lougheeds moved to Mount Royal in 1944. The family settled in at 2215 Hope Street. However, the stressful years of the thirties had taken a toll on Edgar's health, and he died in Seattle in 1951 at the age of 57. Edna remained in their home for another year.

#### Lougheed, Norman

The second son of Senator James Lougheed, Norman outlived his three brothers, dying in 1963 in Victoria at the age of 75. He was born on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1889 in the Lougheeds' small frame house on 4th Avenue, but grew up in the grand mansion on 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue, graced by royalty and many other prominent figures of the day. Although he came from a privileged family, Norman attended public schools in Calgary. After graduation he went to work for the family's financial firm Lougheed and Taylor, and later helped his brother Edgar administer the Estate of Senator Lougheed. Norman only lived briefly in Mount Royal, at 1031 Durham Avenue in 1934 and 1935.

### Love, Herbert Gordon

H. Gordon Love succeeded to the highest aspiration of any good Calgarian: in 1961 he was elected president of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede. Perhaps more importantly, he was a pioneer of radio and television broadcasting in Alberta, an associate of W.W. Grant who helped establish CFCN and owned and operated the station from 1928 to 1967.

Born in Dutton, Ontario, Love came to Calgary in 1909 to work with a local bank as a clerk. Here he met and married Mabel Clarke, daughter of an original pioneer family, in 1915. The couple went to Moosejaw, where Love worked as fruit wholesaler and established a brick plant in Claybank, Saskatchewan. Returning to Calgary in 1922, Love became involved in commercial radio broadcasting, then in its infancy. He set up a radio station, The Voice of the Prairie, with a 50-watt transmitter on the top of the Southam Building in downtown Calgary, which became CFAC. Joining forces with W.W. Grant, the founder of CFCN, Love took over the station in 1928 as owner and manager. It became not only one of Calgary's major radio broadcasters but was known as the station of rural southern Alberta. Love added television the 1950s. He was a vocal spokesman for independent broadcasters in Canada and a vitriolic critic of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, calling it a "monster" and "riddled with communist type thinking". In the forties Love and CFCN had been forced to move from the 1010 frequency to the 1060 frequency by the CBC. The new wavelength limited its rural broadcasting signal to 10,000 watts until 1960.

As president and chairman of CFCN, Love was one of Calgary's leading businessmen, as is clear from his affiliations. He was president of the both the Calgary and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and a director of the Canadian Association of Broadcasters. His clubs included the Ranchmen's, the Petroleum, the Glencoe, the Calgary Golf and Country Club, and he took pride in his community service through the Shriners and the Rotary Club. Love regarded his involvement with the board of the Stampede as the

crowning achievement of his career. He believed strongly in the event's symbolic importance, a reflection of the rugged individualism, free enterprise and pioneer values to which he owed his own success. In 1967 Love sold CFCN to MacLean Hunter Publishing and retired a wealthy man

#### Lunney, Henry William

Many early lawyers in Calgary, including some prominent judges, began their careers as schoolteachers. Harry Lunney also came to the law after trying his hand in a different field, but in his case, it was journalism. He was born in Saint John's, New Brunswick, on January 20, 1885. He attended the University of New Brunswick after finishing public school, and after earning his degree in arts in 1906, went to King's College to study law, receiving that degree in 1909. Admitted to the bar of New Brunswick in 1910, Lunney went into journalism instead, working as a reporter in St. John's and then joining the *Montreal Star*. He came to Calgary in 1911 to work on the *News Telegram*, a short-lived daily. We don't know why Lunney went off on this journalistic tangent, but in 1912 he joined the Alberta Bar, and established a practice in Calgary with Clifford B. Reilly. After the latter retired, he took on A. Lannan as a partner, staying with him until his appointment to the bench in 1928,

Lunney was the youngest Supreme Court judge in Canada upon his elevation to the Appellate Division of Alberta at the age of 43. It was a plum appointment: for many judges it was the pinnacle of their career, attained only after time in the lower district court and in the Trial Division of the Supreme Court. Lunney proved himself to have an independent streak. He frequently dissented on judgements, and usually wrote out his own opinion irrespective of whether he was for or against the majority in a decision. These reports frequently found their way into lawyer's briefs! Lunney's appointment to the bench may have had something to do with his Liberal Party connections. He took a try at unseating R.B. Bennett in 1926 in the federal riding of Calgary West, but was unsuccessful.

In Mount Royal, Lunney lived at 1012 Frontenac from 1933 to 1944. He retired in 1944, having suffered from poor health for several years: he died in December of that year. Lunney's daughter Sally had become a journalist as well, as society columnist for the *Calgary Herald*.

**Mackimmie, Ross Anderson** check hendersons first appears 1953

## MacNaghten, Francis

One of the more interesting stories in Mount Royal is that of Sir Francis MacNaghten. Although he only lived briefly in the neighbourhood, the rancher turned Irish baronet added some colour to the hill. MacNaghten had come from a good family, but was far down the ladder for succession to the family estates in County Antrim, Ireland. Like many young men in the United Kingdom, from the privileged to the poor, Francis decided to pursue his fortunes in the Canadian West. He arrived in Calgary in 1885 and

homesteaded in the vicinity of present day Bowness Park. His original log home was still standing there in1938. 445 Whether he had family money behind him is unknown, but MacNaghten was a successful rancher and part of the cattle elite of Calgary. One of his friends and associates was A.E. Cross, and he was one of the original investors in the Calgary Brewing and Malting Company, the Cross family brewery. As a scion of a minor noble family and a western cattle baron, MacNaghten moved in elite circles, as is evinced by his marriage to Beatrice Ritchie, daughter of the chief justice of the Supreme Court of Canada. The MacNaghtens moved into Mount Royal in 1913, living at 1012 Frontenac Avenue, one of the first houses on that street. 446 In 1916, the rancher learned his nephew, who held the family title, had died without an heir, and that he had inherited the family estates, becoming the Honourable Sir Francis MacNaghten. Two years later, he and his wife went to Ireland to reside on the family estate, Bushmills House.

### Mahaffy, James Caven

When James Mahaffy was sitting on Calgary city council in the thirties, he became thoroughly disenchanted with the new Social Credit Government of Premier William Aberhart. So much so, that he decided to run in the 1940 provincial election as part of the Citizen's Slate, a coalition of opposition party candidates. His aim was no less than to topple the popular religious and political leader. Mahaffy got his seat although Social Credit won the election. The young red haired lawyer, only 37, was chosen as leader of the opposition members in the legislative assembly. When Mahaffy rose to face William Aberhart in the legislature, he not only faced the premier, minister of education, and attorney general, but his old principal from Crescent Heights High School!<sup>447</sup>

Mahaffy as politician was just one chapter in a diverse career that started with the law but went to the heights of corporate power. He was born on August 29<sup>th</sup>, 1905 in Port Elgin, Ontario and came to Calgary in 1907. Attending public school in the city, Mahaffy recalled being a middling student, caught up in extra-curricular activities such football and debating, where he led his high school team to the provincial championships. He went to university with the idea of becoming an engineer, but chose the law instead. His father, the Reverend Mahaffy, had been a Presbyterian minister who had later become a lawyer. Attracted at first to the exciting world of criminal law, Mahaffy decided it wouldn't support him, and instead turned to corporate work. He became an early pioneer in oil and gas law and a recognised expert on pipelines. When the Alberta Gas Trunk Line Company (now NOVA) was formed, Mahaffy was asked to be the company's solicitor and acting secretary. Three years later, after much soul-searching, Mahaffy dropped out of Mahaffy, Howard, Moore, and Mackie, his law firm, to become general manager of the pipeline company. In 1966 he was made president, retiring in 1970.

In 1936, while still a lawyer, Mahaffy took an interest in municipal politics, following once again in his father's footsteps. <sup>449</sup> Running for council, he was elected and served as an alderman until he tried provincial politics in 1940. He was motivated by a strong dislike for Social Credit, both its economic theories and the religious leanings symbolised by Premier William Aberhart. Elected as an independent, Mahaffy himself had strong conservative leanings. He was an effective MLA and demonstrated his leadership in the

coalition of opposition parties, so much so that he was elected their leader in 1942. After only two years, Mahaffy left the political arena, deciding not to fight the 1944 election. Aberhart had died in 1943, and Mahaffy later claimed that he respected Ernest Manning, and lost his desire to fight when Manning became leader of Social Credit. Ironically, twelve years later, Mahaffy was appointed chairman of a Royal Commission investigating the Manning administration for possible corruption in the handling of government contracts.

Although out of politics, Mahaffy put his energy into several important community and charitable groups. He was elected chairman of the board of governors for the Glenbow-Alberta Institute, better known as the Glenbow Museum, in 1969. <sup>452</sup> Mahaffy also served on the board of governors for the University of Alberta and on the boards of the Calgary Children's Hospital and was the first chairman of the board of the Foothills Hospital, and was instrumental in its construction. <sup>453</sup> In recognition of his many contributions to Alberta, the University of Calgary gave Mahaffy an honorary degree in 1971. The former lawyer left for Victoria and retirement soon afterward. He died at the coast in 1986. In Mount Royal, Mahaffy and his wife Eva lived at 1003 Frontenac from 1934 to 1937, and at 2701 8<sup>th</sup> Street from 1941 to 1946.

### Manning, Frederick C.

Although unrelated to Alberta's more famous Manning family, Frederick Manning had his own claim to prominence. Born in London, England, he immigrated to Ontario with his parents in 1883. 455 At fifteen he started working in a lumberyard. In 1897, after ten years in the lumber industry, Manning moved to Revelstoke, British Columbia and managed a mill before opening the Manning and Sawyer Sash and Door factory with two partners. In 1901 he sold his share of the business and started the Revelstoke Lumber Company. Manning sold this company as well but remained as an employee and in 1909 came to Calgary. Until 1922 he worked for Revelstoke Sawmills, as the company had been renamed, and a year later established the Manning-Egleston Lumber Company.

Manning-Egleston quickly became one of the major lumberyards in Calgary. Manning served on the Calgary Board of Trade and took part in community activities with the Kiwanis Club and was a charter member of the Renfrew Club. He went into municipal politics in 1927 and served a term as an alderman. In 1929, he moved to Sproat Lake, British Columbia, and started another sawmill, but remained president of Manning-Egleston. The family later moved to Victoria. In 1949 Frederick Manning died at the age of 79. His son F. Clarence Manning took over the Manning-Egleston Lumber Company.

Manning built a house at 1415 Prospect around 1913. He kept the house as his Calgary residence until 1932, shortly after retiring to British Columbia. 456

## Mannix, Fred Stephen

The Mannix name is synonymous in Calgary with power, wealth and seclusion. The family built up an international construction and resource empire based in the city.

Through the Loram Group of companies, the family has had major interests in mining and strip mining, pipelines and oil transport, construction of buildings, highway and bridges, irrigation, railways, concrete and building supplies, design and engineering and even ranching. Yet for all of its stature and influence, the Mannix family has always kept a low profile.

Their fortune began with Fred S. Mannix. A descendent of William Sinclair, fur trader and chief factor of the Hudson's Bay Company's York Factory, he was born in Manitoba in 1881. At the age of nineteen, he started working as one of many small subcontractors, with a couple of horse teams and men, who built rail bed for the Canadian Pacific Railway. Mannix came west to work on the CPR spur lines that were fanning out from the main line like a web. By 1904, he was based in Edmonton, Alberta, where he married his wife Edna, and had grown into a substantial contractor. One of the first rail contractors to mechanise, he acquired Athey wagons and caterpillar tractors as soon as they were available. The company began branching out from rail construction, undertaking irrigation canal construction near Bassano in 1911. By 1917 Mannix had moved to Calgary, where he worked with several partners on large contracts, most often W.A. Dutton.

In Calgary, Mannix continued to diversify his business, taking on highway construction in the twenties. Even more lucrative were his contracts with Calgary Power, first for the Seebe Dam and later for the Lake Minnewanka Dam and the Spray River hydro development. Although the Depression slowed business, Mannix had become the leading earthmoving contractor in Alberta. In 1933, the Mannix family moved from the Mission district to Mount Royal, residing at 1114 Talon Avenue. Three years later, he incorporated as Fred Mannix and Company, and entered the coal business, operating strip mines for Calgary Power. The war brought an enormous influx of construction contracts, particularly for airports, and the company continued to grow.

By this time Mannix was ready to retire, and sold the firm to the Morrison-Knudsen Company, a huge American construction firm based in Idaho. One condition for the sale was that his son Fred C. Mannix would remain president of the company. Fred junior had started working for his father at eighteen, running construction crews in the summer and working his way up through the ranks. With an infusion of capital from the new American parent, the business continued to grow rapidly. Fred senior had died in 1951 at the age of 70. By the early fifties, his son wanted control over the family firm and had the means to buy back the company. Fred Mannix Jr. entered the oil industry building pipelines, while continuing to make healthy profits contracting on the many infrastructure projects of the Federal and Provincial Governments built after the war. The company moved into the international construction market and began to diversify into the resource sector. At its peak the holding company, Loram, controlled over 130 other firms, including Pembina Resources and Manalta Coal.

One of the richest men in Canada, Mannix was also one of the most private, and strenuously avoided publicity. It was said that his press officers were rewarded for how *few* times the Mannix name was mentioned in the press. 459 Behind the scenes however,

through the Carthy Foundation, the Mannix family has undertaken a great deal of philanthropic work. One exception to Mannix's avoidance of public notice was the legal fight over expropriation of his ranch in Fish Creek by the provincial government when Fish Creek Provincial Park was established. The publicity shy tycoon was forced to testify in court and suffered much attention from the media. Before building his country retreat, Mannix had lived in Mount Royal at 2719 Carleton from 1950 to 1954. Although Fred C. died in 1995, his sons continue to run the family empire.

#### Matthews, Charles C.

Before becoming one of southern Alberta's best-known ranchers, Charles Matthews ran a music store in downtown Calgary founded by his father. He was known as the "piano man" and Matthews Music House supplied not only instruments and sheet music but also radios and appliances. Charlie Matthews had always been more interested in ranching and farming than music. He was born in Lincoln, Nebraska in 1893, where his father had a music store. The elder Matthew wanted to be a farmer, but suffered from severe asthma and instead prospered as a merchant. His son Charlie started the agriculture program at the University of Nebraska, but quit to come north to Alberta with the family. The climate around Calgary was thought to be beneficial to lung ailments, and many sufferers of allergies, asthma and tuberculosis were sent by their doctors to partake of the cool dry air of the foothills. The Matthews were among them, coming in 1910.

While his father founded Matthews Music House, Charlie set up a homestead near Indus, north of Calgary, and started a herd of Percheron horses. Matthews bought land near Langdon as well. However, he began to have his own problems with asthma, and reluctantly came into the city, working for his dad in the store. After a brief stint in the American Army during World War One, Matthews became a partner with his father in 1919. He threw himself wholeheartedly into the music business. Along with running the store, Matthews was involved with the Calgary Light Opera Society and the Calgary Musical Festival, serving as its president. Even in the depths of the Depression Matthews Music House prospered, and with agricultural land prices greatly depressed, Matthews decided in 1933 to return to ranching, buying land west of Calgary and establishing the Highland Stock Farms.

It was around this time that the Matthews came to Mount Royal. Son Dick Matthews remembers his father sold the family's Elbow Park home, but neglected to inform his mother that he planned to move them out to the ranch. Ethel Matthews was not impressed with the idea, and her husband sheepishly bought a house at 3006 10<sup>th</sup> Street, where the family lived until 1949. They moved to 1134 Prospect Avenue in 1951. Although Charlie Matthews did not get to live on his farm, it prospered. By 1942, Matthews was a full time rancher, and closed up the music shop. He specialised in Percherons and Angus cattle and became known throughout western Canada for his herds and innovative breeding and grazing techniques. As befitted his new calling as gentleman rancher, Matthews was asked to join the board of the Calgary Stampede and Exhibition. He was also a member of several stock breeding organisations. The Tsu Tsinna band, or Sarcee, his neighbours on the ranch, made Matthews an honorary

chieftain, Eagle Robe. He had leased some grazing pasture from the tribe, but having heard stories of mismanagement of Indian lands by the Department of the Interior, he insisted his lease payments go directly to the band rather than the government. 467

Charlie and Ethel Matthews had two sons, Don and Richard. Like his dad, Don loved ranching and after military service he earned a master's degree in agriculture in Iowa and joined Highland, eventually taking over the operation. 468 Don served as president of the Stampede board. Richard enjoyed the ranching life, but his interests took him into law. Along with Ross MacKimmie, he established MacKimmie Matthews, until recently one of Calgary's prominent corporate law firms.

### Mayland, Albert Henry

An American born in Faribault, Minnesota in 1872, Albert Mayland was a rancher and businessman in the mould of A.E. Cross and Senator Pat Burns. His father was a stock dealer who moved the family to Nebraska. After finishing school, Mayland left home to become a cowboy, making his way to Montana where he rode the range and tried his hand at prospecting and mining. Still barely more than a teenager, Mayland started horse trading like his father before coming to Nanton in 1905 to set up his own ranch. He kept up his livestock commission business, and helped found the Alberta Stockyards Company in Calgary around 1908. The livestock trading grew into the A.H. Mayland Commission Company, incorporated in 1920. Six years later, Mayland bought a one third interest in the Union Packing Plant, a small independent meat packing operation. He soon bought out his partners, and established a vertically integrated agricultural business, with his own ranches supplying his packing business and livestock trading operation. Mayland ought more ranch properties, and even in the Depression, his business continued to grow. He was the epitome of the hard driving businessman, never losing his horse trading ways, and was feared rather than loved by his employees.

Mayland had similar success in the oil patch. He was an early investor in Turner Valley, but unlike many contemporaries, he prospered there as well. From the first, Mayland was not interested in merely bankrolling other wildcatters, instead founding his own company Mayland Oils. This first company was sold to Imperial Oil, but Mayland founded another, Mercury Oil, in 1930, and decided to build this into an integrated oil company. He drilled producing wells, built an absorption plant to refine gasoline from the wet gas prevalent in Turner Valley, and bought a chain of service stations in Saskatchewan from the Beaver Lumber Company and Alberta stations from the Arctic Oil Company. When crude oil was discovered in the Valley, Mayland was there, and built a refinery in 1939. By the early forties, Mayland's "99" brand gasoline could be found throughout western Canada. In the fifties oilman Sam Nickle bought Mayland's interests for millions.

In 1946, Mayland sold Union Packing to Swift's for a hefty sum. He was a long way from retiring, however: he had bought the Gilchrist ranch, one of the largest in the province, the previous year for a rumoured million dollars. The deal added 350,000 acres and 7,000 head of cattle to his ranching business. Whatever Mayland's plans for his vast cattle and sheep empire, they were not realised. He died unexpectedly in 1947. Although

there was no love lost between Mayland and his employees, there was another, softer, side to the hard driving entrepreneur. Over the years, he quietly gave a great deal of money to the Salvation Army, Wood's Christian Homes, the Lacombe Home and other charities. Although he spread his philanthropy around, Mayland had a particular fondness for children, especially orphans. He put more than a few of his employees' children through university.

Mayland was not forgotten after his death. Fifteen years later, when parts of his former ranch land overlooking Nose Creek were developed the new subdivision was called Mayland Heights. The neighbourhood's elementary school, an avant-garde building designed by Calgary architect Gordon Atkins, was also named after him. In Mount Royal, Mayland, his wife and two daughters moved into 1035 Durham Avenue in 1941. Mrs. Mayland remained there until 1956.

## McCall, Captain Fred R.

World War I ace, barnstormer and bush pilot, Freddy McCall was a character from an adventure novel. Today he is commemorated by the Calgary International Airport's official name, McCall Field. He lived for several years, 1939 through 1942, in Mount Royal at 1424 Premier Way. 469

Freddy McCall was born in Vernon, British Columbia, in 1895, and came to Calgary as a boy of ten. 470 He enlisted in 1916 and trained at the Sarcee military camp, and was a sergeant by the time his unit went overseas. In England he became enamoured with flying and requested a transfer to pilot training. He arrived in France on December 4th, 1917 as a flight officer. Joining the 13th Squadron of the Royal Flying Corps, McCall began flying reconnaissance missions in clunky two seat observation planes. Amazingly, he not only survived his first encounter with the enemy, but also managed to shoot a fighter down. Continuing to fly artillery observation missions, he kept adding to his score, becoming an "ace" with six kills before his commanders finally figured out that he was perhaps better utilised elsewhere and transferred him to the elite 41st fighter squadron. Now in better aircraft, he continued to add to his tally and also survive in a branch of the service that took a terrible toll. By August of 1918, the constant strain had told on his health and he was declared unfit for duty. He returned to Canada a hero, with thirty-seven victories to his credit, a captain with the Military Cross, the Distinguished Flying Order and the Distinguished Service Order. The only decoration for bravery he missed was the Victoria Cross.

As a civilian pilot after the war McCall's legend only grew. He was an aviation pioneer in western Canada. His barnstorming was legendary, as were his crashes, including a landing on the carrousel at the Calgary Exhibition in 1919. Behind the antics, however, McCall blazed the way for commercial aviation in Alberta. He founded the Calgary Flying Club, which operated a primitive airfield near the Banff Coach Road. With his own plane he ran an air taxi service before joining **Emil Sick** of Associated Breweries in establishing Great Western Airways. Buying the first plane with an enclosed cabin in Alberta, the company ran a flying school, an air taxi and a freight service. McCall

continued to add to his store of tales, on one occasion flying three hundred quarts of nitro-glycerine into a farmer's field in Turner Valley to blast a wild well. On another occasion, again loaded with volatile nitro-glycerine, he landed at the Flying Club field after running out of fuel.

Like so many enterprises, the Depression killed Great Western Airways. His wings clipped, McCall became the manager of the royalty department of Calgary Brokers. In World War II he served again in the air force as an instructor. After the war, he returned to the brokerage company and sadly, died in 1949 at the relatively young age of 55.

#### McCalla, Arthur Irvine

One of the many prominent physicians who lived in Mount Royal, Dr. A.I. McCalla died in 1935 from pneumonia. He had been one of Calgary's first pathologists. Born in St. Catherine's, Ontario, in 1887, he went on to university in Toronto, graduating in 1914 and coming to Calgary. McCalla had studied pathology and joined the General Hospital as the staff pathologist. After a few months, he left for McEarchern, Merritt, and McFarlane, one of the city's leading medical partnerships.

McCalla and his wife Muriel, also from Ontario, were leading lights in Calgary's music scene. Mrs. McCalla was a talented pianist and vocalist and taught music. After coming to Calgary, she spent a great deal of her time and energy encouraging local musicians. Her biggest undertaking was organising a symphony orchestra for Calgary: she was credited with coming up with the idea and worked hard towards its realisation. She predeceased the doctor, dying in 19--. Dr. McCalla was also musically inclined and worked with his wife to support the symphony, and served as its president shortly before his death. The symphony turned its second concert of the season into a tribute to the doctor. The symphony turned its second concert of the season into a tribute to the

The McCallas lived at 1122 Talon Avenue from 1928 to 1938.<sup>477</sup> McCalla's second wife Kathleen remained at the house for several years after his death.

## McCullough, Ernest A

His son was a noted athlete who represented Canada in track at the 1948 Olympics, and he himself took up figure skating in his forties. Ernest A. McCullough was fine example of a self-made man of the west, who carved a business career for himself in Calgary but also found time for dynamic life that included sports, the arts and a fair dollop of community service. Born in Iroquois, Ontario, in 1891, McCullough grew up in Ottawa. In school he developed a passion for sports, particularly hockey, which stayed with him the rest of his life. Although he started at Ottawa College, McCullough was forced to drop out when the family went west in 1907. His father had a gambling problem, much to the family's financial detriment, and they came to Calgary for a fresh start. McCullough had hoped to become a dentist, but as his father's money problems worsened, he opted for a year of study at a business school in Calgary. After graduating, he started out as a stenographer for the CPR, then worked for the Canadian Oil Company

for a couple of years. A talented pianist, he was a retail clerk at the Alexander Kay Music Company, and then a stint selling real estate in 1914.

It was not an auspicious time to be selling property, as Calgary's real estate balloon was in the process of rapidly deflating. McCullough found a job with the Ford Motor Company as a cashier, and then started selling cars. He had finally found his calling. After a brief interruption for pilot training during World War One, he quickly became Canada's top Ford salesman. Later he helped establish Maclin Motors, a Ford dealership, eventually serving as president and chairman of the board for the company, which is still operating in Calgary. Like many businessmen, he took an interest in civic politics. A member of the Citizen's Government Association, a business lobby group which ran candidates for city council, McCullough was himself elected four times as an alderman. He tried for the mayor's job in 1945, but lost to ??????. In his eight years on council, McCullough was involved in an ongoing battle to replace the ageing streetcar system with modern gasoline powered busses. Another highlight of his political career was chairing the committee in charge of the 1939 reception of King George the Sixth.

Politics was only one aspect of McCullough's involvement in the community. A past president of the Kiwanis Club and a member of Chamber of Commerce, he was an organiser of a swimming pool committee that provided funds for the city's first pool in the late thirties. Still an avid hockey player and skater, McCullough was one of the founders and the first president of the Glencoe Club. It was there that he took up figure skating, which he pursued until breaking his leg in 1950! McCullough was also a director for the Stampeders Football club. Aside from sports, the alderman was involved in numerous charitable organisations and sat on the boards of the Calgary Symphony Orchestra, the Lacombe Home, the Holy Cross Hospital and the Providence Creche. 482 A Roman Catholic, McCullough was active for many years with the Knights of Columbus, a service league. But as he got older, he became more concerned about issues like world peace, which led him in 1952 to the Canadian Council of Christian and Jews. 483 The organisation was formed to promote not only closer relations between Jews and Christians of all denominations, but also to foster greater peace and understanding throughout the world. McCullough was the co-chairman of the Calgary branch and did executive work at the regional and national level.

Somewhere amidst all this activity Ernie managed to marry and raise a family. His wife Dorothea was the niece of Bishop John McNally, first Catholic primate of the diocese of Calgary. They had five children. Ernest Junior and Daniel both attended Notre Dame University in Indiana, where they were star athletes. One daughter pursued music, and the McCullough household was apparently a popular stop for many visiting musical celebrities. Ernie McCullough died in 1965, Dorothea in 1992. The family lived at 2101 10<sup>th</sup> Street from 1931 to 19--. 485

## **McDaniel, Dorsey Dalton**

Many ranchers retired to Calgary and sometimes moved into Mount Royal. In his day, Dorsey McDaniel was one of biggest ranchers in Alberta, a cattle baron from Carstairs.

He lived at 2124 Hope Street from 1936 to 1942. 486

Originally from Clinton, Iowa, McDaniel came to the Carstairs area in 1902 and purchased the Two Bar Ranch. 487 The Two Bar was one of the largest ranches in the area, and was the scene of the big annual roundups for cattlemen in the area. 488 McDaniel built up a herd of over 10,000 cattle, and expanded into feedlots and other industries related to ranching, and had one of the best known brands in western Canada, the Wagon Ranch. McDaniel once shipped 2,500 steers out of Calgary to the Frye Packing Company of Seattle, which was for many years the single largest shipment of cattle from the city. The Two Bar was not McDaniel's only spread: he also owned the High River Wheat and Cattle Company Ranch west of Cayley, Alberta. His operations were big enough to make him an early rival of Patrick Burns and W.R. Hull, who were both close friends. Like many pioneer ranchers McDaniel was a big "C" Conservative and a personal friend of Prime Minister R.B. Bennett. He sometimes used his political connections for the benefit of ranchers, and was credited with an instrumental role in the passing of the mange laws through Parliament, intended to control the spread of the deadly skin disease in cattle. McDaniel was one of the founders of the Alberta Wheat Pool and the Alberta Livestock Association.

After retiring in 1920, McDaniel moved to Calgary. He and his wife Daisy had three sons and two daughters. Their son Donald died in World War One serving with the Calgary Highlanders. McDaniel himself died in 1956.

## McDermid, Neil Douglas

Local boy Neil McDermid became the first native Calgarian to be appointed to the Supreme Court of Alberta. Retiring in 1986 after twenty-three years on the Appeal Court, he was also one of the longest serving justices in the province. McDermid's father had been a pharmacist and his brother Kenneth continued the family pharmacy business. Neil went into law, attending the University of Alberta after graduating from Central High School. He received his BA degree in 1932 and his law degree in 1935. While at the U of A, McDermid was a bit of a "Big Man on Campus", president of his fraternity, editor of the campus newspaper, the Gateway, as well as winner of the Carswell Prize in 1934 for the highest standing in the law program. He articled with Senator George Ross of Calgary and was admitted to the bar on June 18, 1936. It was not the most auspicious time for a new lawyer to begin his career due to the Depression. McDermid credits Marshall Porter, himself later a judge, for keeping him in the law by giving him a job filing documents!

When he finally got a chance to practice, McDermid jumped immediately into corporate law. University buddy Bobbie Brown Junior was working for his father drilling for oil in Turner Valley and McDermid was hired by Brown, Moyer, Brown, the family holding company. The firm of Macleod, Riley and Dixon took McDermid on as a partner in 1944. He continued to act as solicitor for Brown at Home Oil, as well as famed oil millionaire and lawyer Eric Harvie. A recognised expert on oil and gas law, McDermid became a Queen's Counsel in 1953. His practice was not restricted to corporate and

commercial matters; he also acted as a crown prosecutor for drug offences. <sup>493</sup> Ten years later he was appointed to the Appeal Court. He flourished on the bench, a prolific author of judgements for the court. <sup>494</sup> Not surprisingly, many were in areas of commercial law. His colleagues regarded McDermid as an excellent and versatile jurist.

Through his association with Harvie, McDermid became involved in the Glenbow Museum. He was a founder of the Glenbow Foundation and acted as the first chairman of the Glenbow-Alberta Institute in 1966. 495 The judge was involved in other community causes. A director for the Alberta Children's Hospital during the fifties, he was also on the board of the YMCA for sixteen years. The corporate lawyer was also involved in the Chamber of Commerce and did a term as an alderman, sitting on city council for 1950 and 1951.

A long time resident of Mount Royal, McDermid and his family lived at 2215 Hope Street in 1943 and then at 1027 Prospect Avenue from 1946 to 1953, and finally 1356 Montreal until 1968. He later retired to Victoria. Predeceased by his wife Jean in 1988, McDermid died a year later. 497

### McEachern, John Sinclair

Surgeon, scientist and humanitarian, Dr. John McEachern was a pioneer in the prevention and treatment of cancer. He was awarded the Order of the British Empire for his efforts in fighting the disease. Originally from Simcoe, Ontario, where he was born in 1873, McEachern had been a schoolteacher before getting into the University of Toronto. <sup>498</sup> He showed early promise, graduating a gold medallist in 1897 and went to London, England for post-graduate work after interning in Toronto. Spending a few years as a country doctor in Ontario, he came to Calgary in 1905. <sup>499</sup> Setting up practice with Thomas H. Crawford, McEachern established a reputation as an excellent surgeon. Crawford and McEachern were soon joined by a number of other doctors, establishing one of the most respected medical offices in the city.

McEachern became involved in cancer research early on. His contribution lay mainly in organisation. He was an original member of the board of trustees for the King George V Silver jubilee Cancer fund. From this group the Canadian Cancer Society was born. McEachern was instrumental, organising local committees that became branches of the society. As chairman of Canadian Medical Association's committee on cancer, he rallied doctors to the cause. His work was recognised by his appointment as President of the new society when it incorporated in 1938, a position he held for six years. McEachern was also played a major role in federating the provincial medical associations with the national group. For this he was given the Dr. Starr award by the CMA, the fourth ever, which had been given previously to such illustrious medicos as Sir Frederick Banting, one of the discoverers of insulin.

Outside of medicine, McEachern also worked for underprivileged children with Wood's Christian Home, where he sat on the board. He was active at Knox United Church. The

doctor who gave over forty years service himself died after a long illness in 1947, at the age of 74. The McEachern household was at 1030 Hillcrest from 1925 to 1947. <sup>502</sup>

#### McFarland, John I.

While agriculture is still important in Alberta's economy, it was vital in the pre-Leduc days. Many powerful businessmen were in the grain trade, and not a few of them lived in Mount Royal. John I. McFarland was one such man. Ironically, given his prominence in the commodities industry, Robinson himself later sold his grain interests to pursue, among other businesses, oil and gas exploration!

Originally from Ontario, McFarland was born in Halton County in 1878.<sup>503</sup> Twenty years later, he heard the call of "Go West Young Man" and journeyed to Edmonton and found work as a bookkeeper with a small grain trading company. Investing his savings in his own company, the Calgary and Alberta Grain Company, McFarland started out with a single grain elevator in Strathcona. As Alberta's farmers multiplied and the wheat economy blossomed in the province, McFarland's firm grew rapidly. In 1912, he merged it with the Alberta Pacific Elevator Company to form Alberta Pacific Grain. It became one of the largest companies of its type, with over three hundred rural grain elevators by 1926. Despite running a private company, McFarland was sympathetic to the burgeoning farmers' co-operative movements, including the Wheat Pools and the United Grain Growers. He even offered to sell Alberta Pacific to the Alberta Wheat Pool in 1923

One of the original investors in Turner Valley in 1914, McFarland remained interested in the oil industry over the years. One of his business partners was future Prime Minister R.B. Bennett. Deciding to divest himself of his personal stake Alberta Pacific in 1926, McFarland went whole hog into the oil business. Already a large shareholder in Royalite Oil, an Imperial subsidiary active in the Valley, McFarland helped bankroll **William Herron**, and was head the board for Okalta Oil for a number of years. He expanded his business interests by buying Imperial Motors in Calgary, a major car dealership. So it may have surprised many of his colleagues when this eminently successful capitalist took over management of the Canadian Wheat Board, refusing a salary and directing a gigantic government intervention in the wheat industry.

It was a potent irony that a man who had been one of the most powerful figures in the wheat economy as a free enterprise businessman was even more powerful as the agent of co-operative wheat marketing for the nation's farmers. The Depression had created mass chaos in the wheat markets, prices had plummeted in the wake of the stock market crash and thousands of farmers were looking at bankruptcy. At the request of Prime Minister Bennett, a consortium of major banks, and the wheat pools of the country, McFarland took over the direction of wheat marketing for the pools, establishing the Canadian Wheat Board. Backed by the financial muscle of the government and the banks, he essentially controlled the trading on the Winnipeg Exchange, the main commodities trading floor in the country. McFarland also directed his energies to the international stage, fighting to get wheat-exporting countries to cut back on wheat production to buoy prices. McFarland's policies were aimed at helping the producer rather than the

consumer, but this seemed the only course given the prospect of mass extinction faced by prairie grain farmers. He refused a salary as director of board, working for the common good.

McFarland continued his labours for the Wheat Board through the Depression and into the war years. Ill health finally forced him to step down and retire to Vancouver, where he died in 1943. McFarland had lived in Mount Royal 1014 Hillcrest Avenue, from 1921 to 1943. 505

### McGillivray, William Alexander

One expects much public praise and regrets when a prominent public figure like Chief Justice of Alberta dies. In the case of Bill McGillivray, it was a genuine outpouring of affection and respect. Friends and colleagues wrote to the local papers to take them to task for mentioning controversial moments in his career. An old school lawyer, described as "Churchillian" by one reporter for his ever-present cigar and portliness, McGillivray was known a down to earth, unpretentious, and warm man, which did not stop him from taking tough stands as a judge.

McGillivray was born in Calgary on October 14, 1918.<sup>506</sup> He came from an excellent legal pedigree: his father, Alexander McGillivray, was one of Calgary's leading barristers and ascended to the Supreme Court of Alberta himself in 1931, and was also a MLA and the leader of the Provincial Conservative party for three years. Bill never felt pushed into the law, but naturally followed his father's example, although he briefly considered engineering.<sup>507</sup> After attending a private school in Victoria and high school in Calgary, McGillivray went to the University of Alberta.<sup>508</sup> An outstanding student, he got his law degree in 1941, first in his class and winning the Horace Harvey Gold Medal. Unlike many of his contemporaries, McGillivray did not end up in the military, but instead articled with future chief justice S. Bruce Smith in Edmonton and went straight to the bar in1942. Returning to Calgary, he joined the firm of Fenerty and Fenerty, where he remained over thirty years, practising with other leading lights such as Colin McLaurin, who also went to the Supreme Court. Specialising in civil law, McGillivray was an outstanding trial lawyer. Made a Queen's Counsel in 1957, he was a Bencher of the Law Society for ten years before serving a term in 1969 as president.<sup>509</sup>

Prime Minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau named a somewhat reluctant McGillivray directly to the post of Chief Justice of Alberta in 1974, an unprecedented appointment. He proved an excellent administrator, streamlining the courts, and a respected justice. As Chief Justice, McGillivray sat on the appeal court. He was a strong presence, presenting many judgements that made their way into the law reports. Many of his best known – and controversial – decisions were in criminal matters rather than civil law, his speciality as a lawyer. McGillivray had a very dim view of drug dealers and took a stern line with appeals on trafficking convictions, and was also tough on convictions for armed robbery. The chief justice came under severe criticism on two occasions. In 1983 he cut the sentence of a man convicted of assaulting his wife, describing the woman as a "complete shrew". He made more headlines when he cut a sexual assault sentence, citing the fact

the victim had accompanied the defendant home at a late hour to drink and smoke drugs. <sup>513</sup> Women's groups and advocates for victims of domestic violence were outraged. The judgements were out of character for a justice usually described as compassionate and fair and almost universally well regarded by the bar and his colleagues.

In his younger days, McGillivray was an avid tennis player and had been the provincial champion in table tennis. He was also an avid hunter. McGillivray met his wife Kate, a nurse, in 1949. <sup>514</sup> They had four children and remained together until his unexpected death in 1984, at the age of 66. One son, Douglas, also went into law, joining the bar in 1976. The McGillivrays lived in Mount Royal for x years, first at 2121 Hope street from 19—to 19--, then at 1122 Talon until 19--. <sup>515</sup>

#### McLaws, William Henry, Donald Preston and William Randolph

In 1986, the venerable Calgary law firm of McLaws and Company underwent a transformation and became Parlee McLaws when it merged with an Edmonton firm of even older lineage. It was just one more incarnation of a family legal tradition that traced its roots right back to Senator Sir James Lougheed's canvas law office in 1883.

The patriarch of the McLaws family was William Henry McLaws. Born in Ontario in 1882 near St. Thomas, he came west in 1905 just out of high school. According to family tradition, he stopped in Calgary on his way to San Francisco to visit friends. Planning on staying until it was cold enough to need a winter coat, he never left as Chinook after Chinook blew through the city. McLaws entered the office of Lougheed and Bennett, the town's leading law firm, as an articling student. He was admitted to the bar only a year later in 1906. In the teens, McLaws became a partner in the bustling firm. The young Ontario lawyer stuck mostly to the law, while both Bennett and Lougheed were more and more occupied by their political and business interests. The junior partners handled most of the day to day affairs of the firm.

Perhaps because of this, McLaws was to be a central figure in the acrimonious break up of the firm. In the early twenties, his political career stagnant, a disenchanted R.B. Bennett was contemplating a move to England. He made his mind known to the firm and left for England to plead a case in front of the Privy Council, at that time the highest court of appeal in Canadian law. No firm arrangements had been made about his share of the partnership when Lougheed suddenly advised him by telegraph in 1922 that he was dissolving it. Bennett, quick to anger and slow to forget, returned immediately, launched a lawsuit, and made certain all the effects of the firm were seized by a trustee until the matter was settled before a judge. The case wended its way through the courts for several years; in the interim, two new law firms were created. McLaws went with Lougheed to start Lougheed, McLaws, Redman and Sinclair. Bennett never forgave Alexander Macleod Sinclair or William McLaws for the break-up of the firm, which he believed had been engineered behind his back!

McLaws went on to a prosperous career. After Lougheed's death, the firm became McLaws, Redman and Company. Edgar Lougheed, the senator's son, left in 1940.

McLaws himself was later made a King's Counsel. Like Lougheed and Bennett, he had many business interests outside of the law, particularly in the Eau Claire Sawmills and the Calgary Iron Works. When his sons William Randolph and Donald Preston started practising law, McLaws and McLaws was created. Born in Calgary in 1911, William R. McLaws attended Western Canada High School and the University of Alberta, graduating with a law degree in 1939. He only practised briefly with his dad before joining the RCAF, where he trained as a pilot and served in the pacific theatre. Upon returning to Calgary in 1945, he went back to the law and worked with his brother, Donald. McLaws senior had died in 1950 at the age of sixty-eight, leaving the firm to his sons. The two continued the family legacy quite successfully and were both named Queen's Counsels, William receiving the honour in 1962. He died just two years later at the age of 49, leaving his wife Doris and four daughters.

Don McLaws had joined the family firm in 1940. After his father's death, he had found himself looking after the family's business interests. Following his dad's example, Don pursued ventures in industries ranging from road construction to the hotel business. But McLaws and McLaws was not ignored: it grew quickly along with the rest of Calgary during the post war boom, and made oil and gas a speciality. From seven lawyers in 1967, it grew to almost fifty by the mid-eighties. It gave Don McLaws a comfortable living: he was able to indulge in a passion for horse racing, and later owned an eight hundred-acre ranch with fifty thoroughbred horses. McLaws was also an avid golfer and served as president of the Calgary Golf and Country Club as well as the Stampeders football club. He remained with the firm until it merged with Parlee and Company in 1986.

McLaws senior was an early resident of Mount Royal, building a house at 2200 8<sup>th</sup> Street in 1913, where his two sons grew up. It remained the family home after his death. Donald moved into 1310 Quebec Avenue in 1941, but about ten years later he swapped houses with his widowed mother and kept the old McLaws home for another ten years. His brother William Randolph took up residence at 1424 Joliet in 1946, living there until 1948 and returning to Mount Royal at 856 Hillcrest in 1953. His family remained there until 1961.

### McNeill, Leishman

Leishman McNeill contributed greatly to the city's history by recording it. A long time member and secretary of the Southern Alberta Old Timer's and Pioneer's Association, the native Calgarian wrote a column for the *Calgary Herald*, "Tales of the Old Town". McNeill's writings set down not only his own reminiscences but also those of many other "old-timers" of the early days of the city.

Born around 1896, Leishman was the son of contractor J.C. McNeill, who had come to Calgary in 1883 and later formed the Calgary Paving Company. The young Leishman attended the original Western Canada College, a private school for boys on the site of Western Canada High. Many of the "Old Boys" who graduated from that short-lived institution became prominent citizens of Calgary. McNeill himself went into the real

estate business and later had his own realty and estate management firm. <sup>518</sup> To his contemporaries, McNeill was best known for his political activities. A professed conservative himself, McNeill early on became active as a campaign manager, getting Harry Hays elected as mayor of Calgary in 1959 and working on federal and provincial elections. <sup>519</sup> The understanding of the election procedures he developed as a campaign worker made McNeill an excellent returning officer for both the federal and provincial governments. Successive Liberal and Conservative administrations as well as the provincial Social Credit used him as chief returning officer in the constituency of Calgary South. He supervised four different elections.

In his *Calgary Herald* column, McNeill related all sorts of stories about Calgary's early days, including his own memories, like skating on the site of the present downtown Bay store. His articles were eventually compiled into a book of the same name, and his anecdotes remain to this day an important source of information on Calgary's history. McNeill himself died in 1964, at the age of 68. In Mount Royal, he lived at 1121 Premier from 1948 until his death. 520

#### McPherson, Oran L.

Many a politician has learned the dangers of preaching "family values" if one is not prepared to live up to them. So it was with the United Farmers of Alberta. Started as a cooperative society it became a political party in 1921 and unexpectedly swept into power. It was also an organisation of some moral rectitude, although not so overtly as the social conservative parties of today. After over a decade in power, the Farmer's party was brought to its knees by the Great Depression and two sensational sex scandals, one involving Premier John E. Brownlee, the other the Minister of Public Works, O.L. McPherson.

Like many of his UFA colleagues, McPherson was originally an American. He was born in Kingman, Kansas in 1886 and later attended the University of Illinois. An excellent athlete, poor health, most likely allergies or asthma brought him to Alberta in 1906. Two brothers were already farming near Vulcan, and McPherson started his own homestead in the area. Many of the immigrants that flooded into Alberta before World War One were Americans taking advantage of Canadian homestead regulations to acquire larger farms. One of the things they brought with them was the radical farm movement, where farmers banded together to promote co-operatives and lobby for reforms concerning agriculture. It was only a short step to forming a political party. McPherson did well near Vulcan, eventually owning a two thousand-acre farm. He was naturally attracted to the United Farmers when the organisation was founded by Henry Wise Wood in 1910. McPherson was the secretary for the local in Vulcan, and his career in the group soon took off. He was the president of the Bow River Political Association of the UFA; in 1919, as the organisation began contemplating running in the next election as a party, he became the provincial president of its political wing. In 1921 movement founded ten years before kicked the ruling Liberals out of power, and McPherson was himself elected in the riding of Little Bow. When the party won their second election in 1926, McPherson joined the cabinet as the Minister of Public Works.

McPherson appeared to have a brilliant career ahead of him, but it came to ruin in one of the biggest scandals in Alberta's history. Ironically, the scandal was only indirectly connected to politics: it started as an affair of the heart, but inevitably wound up in the public eye. The minister had moved to Mount Royal in 1919, living at 925 Royal Avenue until 1927. McPherson and his wife Cora became friends with Major Leroy and Mrs. Helen Mattern in 1929.<sup>521</sup> Within a short time, McPherson developed an infatuation with Mrs. Mattern that quickly became an affair. Bizarrely enough, McPherson discovered from Helen that Cora had also become intimate with Roy Mattern. At this point, the whole situation got out of control. McPherson allegedly proposed the couples swap partners. Mrs Mattern accompanied the McPhersons on a campaign trip in 1930, sharing their bed! Shortly, McPherson decided he wanted to marry Helen Mattern. Cora and the Major obligingly provided the grounds for a divorce action with a trip to a hotel, witnessed by a private detective. Divorces in general were, however, still somewhat outside the pale and many lawyers refused to have anything to do them. Much of the rural constituency of the UFA would have certainly regarded them as immoral. The Minister could be guaranteed that the press would have a field day with his divorce, and his party would not countenance such an ignominy.

McPherson's solution was to find a judge of the Supreme Court of Alberta willing to perform a discrete divorce. Justice Tweedie, by all accounts a respected jurist but also a man of the world, was persuaded to hear the action in the judge's library of the Edmonton courthouse. As Cora was the offending party, only cursory arrangements were made for her support: she was supposed to marry Roy Mattern. Amazingly, McPherson got what he wanted: a secret divorce and a chance to marry his new sweetheart. Clearly he was blinded by his infatuation, as it boggles the imagination to think that he could have kept his new domestic arrangements secret. It all started to unravel when Mattern unexpectedly decided he didn't want to remarry. His ardour for Cora had cooled, and he was more interested philandering. Cora found herself abandoned and almost destitute. She appealed to McPherson, who in an astonishing display of hubris, not only ignored his ex-wife's pleas for help, stopped paying her support after marrying Helen in 1932. To compound his offence, McPherson, who had custody of their four children, did not let Cora visit them. It was a fatal misjudgement. Cora, a women scorned, found herself a lawyer, Liberal party stalwart Neil Maclean. McPherson's worst nightmare was about to visit him.

Maclean lost no time in bringing a statement of claim against Tony McPherson on behalf of Cora, alleging fraud and collusion in the divorce action and challenging its legality, claiming that it had been held in a private court and was therefore invalid. Cora McPherson provided an affidavit for the claim that spelled out the details of the whole sordid affair. Although Justice Frank Ford threw out the affidavit, it was only a matter of time before the press got it. Tony McPherson fought back with libel suits, but it only fuelled the fire. When Cora's lawsuit got to trial on May 8, 1933, she lost. Tweedie had declared the library to be an open court before hearing the action, so it was legal. As well, Cora had been party to the whole divorce action and could not claim damages just because it had ended up a raw deal for her. She did not give up, and the case eventually

went to the Privy Council of England, still the highest court of appeal for Canadians. Cora won there, but the council would not set the divorce aside due to McPherson's remarriage. Although it left Cora no farther ahead financially, her suit had humbled her former husband. O.L. McPherson had been reduced to tears on the stand, and forced to resign. Both with the public and the UFA rank and file, the whole sorry spectacle left a bad taste, intensified when the premier himself was embroiled in another sex scandal. Two years later, the party was obliterated in the provincial elections.

#### Michener, Edward E.

The Michener name is usually associated with the city of Red Deer. Senator Edward E. Michener was mayor three times, as well as serving for many years as the leader of the Provincial Conservatives, while his son Roland, born in Lacombe and raised in Red Deer, was the first Canadian to serve as Governor General. Yet E.E Michener came to Calgary in 1918, residing for many years in Mount Royal. As well as occupying a seat in the Canadian Senate, he was an oil baron as president of Commonwealth Petroleum. Not bad for a man who came to Alberta as an itinerant Methodist preacher!

Michener was born in Tintern, Ontario on August 18, 1867. 522 Growing up on a prosperous farm, he later attended schools in St. Catherine's and Toronto before attending Wesley College in Winnipeg. Ordained as a Methodist minister, he was sent to take charge of the parish in Banff in 1894. After three years there he went to Lacombe due to medical problems. Michener only lasted a year with the local congregation, resigning in 1899 to pursue farming as a tonic for his health! Proving up a homestead near Red Deer, he ended up in the town soon after, where the preacher turned farmer dealt in real estate before establishing the financial company of Michener and Carscallen. The future senator soon took an interest in municipal politics, winning three consecutive mayoralty races. From the municipal arena he made the jump to the provincial stage, winning the Red Deer constituency in 1909 for the provincial Conservatives and serving as the member until 1918. 523 He also vaulted into the leadership of the Conservative Party. Although never able to bring down the ruling Liberals, Michener did lead his party to their best electoral successes in Alberta until its revival many years later by Peter Lougheed. 524

After leaving the legislature in 1918, Michener moved to Calgary, settling in Mount Royal in 1927 at 1149 Sydenham. <sup>525</sup> Appointed to the senate by Prime Minister Borden on February 4, 1918, he divided his time between Ottawa and Calgary. An ardent defender of the Senate, Michener believed that far from being useless, it was an important guardian for the people against the power of parliament. <sup>526</sup> Despite holding political office, Michener became involved with Frank Reeves' Commonwealth Petroleum, serving as president for a number of years. The senator died in Ottawa, on June 16, 1947, at the age of 80. Michener and his wife had a large family of four boys and four girls. Son Roland became a household name himself: a pilot in World War One, a Rhodes Scholar, an Ontario lawyer who elected to the province's legislature and filling the post of Provincial Secretary, and finally the first Canadian born Governor General. Roland had

left home by the time the family moved to Calgary, but the Micheners held onto their Mount Royal address until 1939. 527

### Miquelon, Jean Romeo

Jean Romeo Cyr-Miquelon was one of Calgary's leading Francophone citizens. Born in St. Camille, Quebec, on September 3, 1868, he came west in 1886, joining his father who was at the time chief immigration officer for the Northwest Territories in Calgary. The younger Miquelon went into business, dealing real estate with **T.J.S. Skinner** and later going into the wholesale liquor trade before founding the Miquelon-Stokes Cap Company. Quite successful, Miquelon moved into 1150 Prospect Avenue in 1930. 529

Miquelon was very politically active. He served two terms on Calgary City Council on a pro-business platform, in 1930 to 1934, and was on the Separate School Board for many years. A close friend of R.B. Bennett, Miquelon was an ardent member of the Conservative Party. He served in 1926 as president of the Calgary Conservative Association, and ran Bennett's successful campaign in 1930, which saw him become the Prime Minister. Interestingly, Miquelon was not an outstanding leader in the local French speaking community. Although he was an honorary member of the St. Jean Baptiste Society and worshipped at Ste. Famille, the French language parish, his contribution to Francophone culture was indirect, through his work on the Catholic school Board. One suspects that Miquelon was more interested in being part of the Anglo-Scottish elite of the city than promoting the language and culture of his native Quebec.

He was, however, a fanatic curler, and had curled in Calgary since the early 1890s. He was a founder of Alberta Branch of the Royal Caledonia Curling Club in 1904 and was the first secretary-treasurer and the president in 1907. Miquelon organised numerous bonspiels for local curlers and was an avid participant right up to his death. The curling enthusiast and businessman died in 1938 at the age of 70. The family remained in Mount Royal until 1939.

#### Molson, Ernest A.

He was the great grandson of John T. Molson, founder of the Molson's Bank and the Molson's Brewery, now one of the largest corporations in Canada. Ernest Molson himself had a modestly successful career in banking and insurance. Born in Fernhill, Quebec, he joined the Merchant's Bank of Canada at the tender age of seventeen. Despite his illustrious name, Molson worked his way up in the bank to his first managerial post, a branch in Brandon, Manitoba. After managing branches in Winnipeg and Shoal Lake, he was transferred to Alberta in 1906. Coming to Calgary after two years in Red Deer, he left the banking business in 1910 and became an insurance broker. One break in his otherwise staid career was service in the Boer war with the Canadian Field Artillery. Molson spent many years in Mount Royal, dying at his home at 2317 Morrison Street in 1935, where he had lived with his family since 1915.

#### Myers, Charles Vernon

Few careers have had as many ups and downs as that of C.V. Myers. Founder and editor of *Oilweek* magazine, he was one of the most respected authorities on Alberta's oil industry and a well-known investment advisor. He died an exile in the United States, a convicted criminal wanted for tax evasion and parole violation.

Myers was born in a small homesteader's house near Vulcan, Alberta, on June 15th, 1912.<sup>532</sup> His parents were hard working and modestly successful German immigrant farmers. They were able to send their son to the Brandon Baptist College in Manitoba after high school, where he graduated with a BA degree in geology in 1932.<sup>533</sup> Unfortunately, the Depression had taken hold and although Myers also had a teaching certificate, he was unable to get a job. He spent the next few years alternating between his parent's farm and trying to support himself as a salesman. Myers eventually found a job with the Gainers Meatpacking Company in Brandon, and married the owner's daughter. He then turned to selling insurance, which brought him out to Victoria in 1940, but without much success. Relations with his wife Amy became quite strained, and she began manifesting signs of mental illness. They were later divorced and she was incarcerated in the provincial psychiatric hospital at Ponoka. Myers later remarried.

During the war, Myers was hired as the personnel manager for the CANOL project, a pipeline built from the oilfields of Norman Wells in the Northwest Territories and intended to supply the Alaska Highway with petroleum. He turned his inside knowledge of the project into a book after the war, *Oil to Alaska*, which sold five thousand copies and turned Myers into a journalist. With his book and background in geology, Myers was quickly hired by the *Calgary Herald* as their oil editor. The Leduc find in 1947 made this a very influential position, and his shrewd analysis of the frenetic oil activity in Alberta made Myers a respected authority on the industry. <sup>534</sup> He left the *Herald* to write for the *Albertan*, but in 1952 struck out on his own to establish *Oilweek*. After a shaky start, Myers was able to secure enough advertisers and turned his magazine into not only Canada's but North America's most reputable journal on the oil industry. He also made money on his own investments in the oil patch. In 1949 he was able to buy a house in Mount Royal. <sup>535</sup> After several years at 927 Royal Avenue, Myers built a new house for his family on a ranch near Midnapore in 1954.

In1963, Myers' magazine caught the fancy of media giant Maclean Hunter. Myers was courted for several months and finally sold out for over \$450,000. Not ready for retirement, he became interested in precious metal trading and started an investment newsletter. Myers became even better known than he had been as an oil analyst. One of his pet theories was that paper money was worthless, essentially a promissory note, and that gold or silver was a wise investment against inflation. Myers went one step further, offering to buy and hold gold in Canadian banks for American investors, who could not legally own bullion in the United States. This raised the ire of U.S. regulators and started a downward spiral for Myers. He refused to stop holding gold for his clients despite pressure from American and Canadian authorities. In 1974, Revenue Canada

seized the gold and assessed it as income, presenting Myers with a sizeable tax bill. Myers was saved temporarily when the United States made gold ownership legal in 1974, but he was now under close scrutiny by tax officials. There were scattered protests when Revenue Canada arrested Myers again on tax evasion for the amount of \$878,000 and impounded all his business papers. Although acquitted by a provincial court judge, Myers was charged again immediately upon leaving the courthouse. Feeling persecuted, perhaps justifiably, Myers fled to Spokane, Washington, and was sentenced to two years in absentia. He had become a fugitive.

After two years, Myers returned to Canada in 1979 and voluntarily gave himself up to authorities to serve his sentence. He hated his incarceration in Bowden Penitentiary, which he still felt was unjustified. When his parole was denied unless he paid his tax bill, technically an illegal requirement, he fled back to Spokane, where several of his children lived, while on a weekend pass. Here Myers continued to publish his newsletter, but the Americans were not happy to have him. Although he had an American passport and tax offences were not extraditable, U.S. authorities began deportation proceedings. His wife Muriel became seriously ill and returned to Calgary for treatment. At the end of 1987, Myers was apprehended in Calgary after he came back to be with Muriel on her deathbed. Fortunately, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms now removed any impediments on his parole, which was granted on compassionate grounds for the seventy-five year old Myers. He returned to the States, unsure if he would be allowed to stay but unwilling to remain in Canada. Myers died an exile in California in 1990.

### Newhall, Vivian A.

Of all the officials of Calgary's civic government, the most powerful are the city commissioners. These bureaucrats act as the general managers or chief executive officers of the city's administration. Since 1952, the commissioners have been appointed; before then, they were elected. One long serving commissioner, elected to four terms from 1944 to 1952, was V.A. "Van" Newhall.

Born in Omaha, Nebraska but with a Canadian mother, Newhall returned to Canada to attend the University of Toronto. After graduating in 1911 with a degree in civil engineering, he came to Calgary to work for the Dominion Government's irrigation department. From the government he went to work as an architectural inspector on the new Hudson's Bay Store, built in 1913, and was made manager of Western Woodworks, a construction subsidiary of the Bay. He later became a design engineer and Calgary manager for the Truscon Steel Company, then sales engineer at the local firm of Bell and Morris. He was tapped by the Civic Government and Taxpayers Association, a probusiness group, to run for commissioner. Newhall was a popular figure in the position, managing the city's problems of growth in the post war period and the demands for new infrastructure and affordable housing. Although elected by acclamation in 1950, Newhall stepped down in 1952 rather than accept an appointment as commissioner, and returned to private industry. He died seven years later at the age of 61. He and his family lived at 2918 Champlain from 1931 to 1944 and 1106 Premier Way from 1946 to 1960.

### Osborne, Frederick Ernest

One of several mayors of Calgary who lived in Mount Royal, Fred Osborne served for three years in the late twenties, 1927 through 1929. His involvement in civic politics began with two terms as an alderman, 1919-1920 and then 1923-1924. As mayor, Osborne was one of the last "business" mayors before the long reign of labour sympathiser Andy Davidson. Which is not to say Osborne was only concerned with the needs of the city's businesses. Although a small businessman himself, he was also community minded and was given an honorary doctorate from the University of Alberta in recognition of his work with the Salvation Army, the YMCA and the Canadian Institute for the Blind.

Born in Belleville, Ontario in 1878, Fred Osborne had attended a business college and on graduation found work in a stationery store as a stock boy. Exempto open his own store, like many eastern Canadians he came west to Calgary to take advantage of the booming frontier. Arriving in 1905, he opened a stationery store in a hole in the wall location downtown. Clever with his inventory, Osborne attracted a great deal of business in a city of immigrants by carrying a wide selection of British newspapers. He also went into school supplies, which had the side effect of giving Osborne a life long interest in education. The company prospered, and after only four years Osborne was able to buy his own small commercial block at 112 8th Avenue West, leasing extra space until he needed it for his own thriving business. By 1946 Osborne's Book Store had become F.E. Osborne Ltd. and included a wholesale operation in school supplies and office furniture, run out a warehouse at a separate location. A fixture of the Calgary Board of Trade, Osborne served as the organisation's president in 1925.

As an alderman Osborne made a name for himself as an advocate of responsible government, heading a committee to review the administration of the city's sinking fund. The fundamental structure projects are committeed to review the administration of the city's sinking fund. The fundamental structure projects are committeed to serve as mayor during the burst of prosperity immediately before the great Depression. During his tenure some of the city's outstanding debts were paid off as tax receipts rose to record highs. This greatest contribution to Calgary was, however, his volunteer work. As well as serving on the boards of the organisations listed above, he took a real interest in education in the city, and was a strong advocate of access to a university level education in Calgary, especially a branch of the provincial university for Calgary. He was recruited for the University of Alberta's Board of Governors in 1923, remaining for over twenty years. During the war, Osborne headed the provincial committee for National War Finance Committee. For this service he was made a Companion of the British Empire.

Osborne lived in Mount Royal for many years at 2121 7th Street. He and his family moved there in 1921, and remained there until 1954. 547 Osborne himself died in 1948.

### Parsons, E. Harold

A former military man, E.H. Parsons became the co-ordinator of civil defence for Calgary in 1950.<sup>548</sup> He was born in Nova Scotia and began his military career by attending Royal Military College in Kingston, Ontario, as a cadet. Graduating in 1928, he was given a commission in the Canadian Army. After serving in the Second World War, he was appointed commander of ordinance for the army's western command. In 1949 he retired as a lieutenant colonel. Joining the land titles office in Calgary, Parsons was hired by the city as the civil defence co-ordinator and after two years became the industrial development co-ordinator. In 1956 he went to private industry as the industrial co-ordinator for Calgary Power. Responsible for encouraging new industry, Parsons worked with Alberta farmers to increase rural electrification. In 1968 he and his family moved to California, where Parsons died in 1974 at the age of 68. The Parsons lived in Mount Royal at 1203 Frontenac Avenue from 1941 to 1946.<sup>549</sup>

#### Patrick, Omer H.

A medical doctor who became a wealthy businessman, Omer H. Patrick was one of the founders of the Calgary Zoo. Born in Ilderton, Ontario around 1870, Patrick studied medicine at the University of Western Ontario, graduating in 1892. For twenty years, he was a general practitioner in Port Huron, Michigan. Coming to Calgary in 1912, Patrick apparently dropped medicine and entered the coal business, operating mines in the Drumheller area. He ran his own investment company and served as the president of the local board of trade. Active politically, Patrick was an organiser and the first president of the Calgary Civic Government Association, a pro-business group that sponsored aldermanic candidates. Patrick was himself elected to the public school board. A fervent Conservative, he acted as the campaign manager for R.B. Bennett in the federal elections of 1925 and 1926. As befitted a successful Calgary businessman, Patrick moved into a Mount Royal home in 1927, living at 1228 Prospect Avenue until his death, with his widow remaining there until 1957.

Patrick was also something of a philanthropist. He was a director for the Wood's Christian Home for orphan children, but it was the Calgary Zoological Society that got most of his attention. He was a founder and its first president, serving from 1928 to 1944. The main work of the society was the zoo on St. George's Island. Patrick invested both his time and money in the park, visiting other zoos and natural history parks for ideas, and the famous Dinosaur Park is credited to his inspiration. Along with head zookeeper Tom Baines, Patrick managed, despite the Depression, to make the Calgary Zoo one of the leading institutions of its type in Canada, with only the Toronto Zoo having more animals or exhibits. The zoo was not the only park to get Patrick's attention: he also chaired a civic beautification committee that sponsored a tree-planting project throughout the city.

The Calgary Zoo remains the legacy of Patrick, who died in 1949 at the age of 78. This internationally renowned facility is now known for its endangered species breeding program as well as its educational programs and exhibits

### Pearlman, Benjamin

The Pearlman family operated a large soft drink manufacturing company in Calgary, Polar Aerated Waters. Benjamin Pearlman was born in Propoisk, Russia in 1901. He came to Canada with his family in 1912, following his brother Herschel. The Pearlmans settled in Winnipeg, but Benjamin and his brother Abraham came to Calgary in 1924. They founded Polar, with Benjamin as the secretary-treasurer and later the president. The two recruited their brother Lou as the chemist for the company. He had originally studied medicine but later switched to biochemistry. According to the Pearlman family, Lou won awards for the company with his 7-Up and Orange Crush recipes. Polar Aerated Waters did very well, and Benjamin moved into 2606 10<sup>th</sup> Street in 1931, later moving to 1332 Frontenac in 1943, where the family lived until 1955.

Benjamin married Rowena Perlman, the sister of his brother Hershel's wife. The Pearlmans were active in the Jewish community. Benjamin and Abraham were founding members of the I.L. Peretz Institute and served on its board for many years. The Peretz School had a Yiddish curriculum, and was established after the Talmud Torah Hebrew School dropped Yiddish instruction. Rowena, who had been a schoolteacher in Manitoba, was the institute's kindergarten teacher. When the Canadian Jewish Congress formed its Calgary chapter, Benjamin was the first president. Lou and Abraham were also involved with the Congress.

Rowena and Benjamin had two children. Their daughter Marsha Hanen was the president of the University of Winnipeg, and son Ron is a professor of biochemistry at York University in Toronto. Ben Pearlman died in 1985 at the age of 84, followed three years later by his wife, also 84.

## Purdy, Rush

Until 1947, the big business in Calgary was not oil, but wheat. The Grain Exchange building, Calgary's first skyscraper built in 1910, was just that: a grain exchange, with a trading room where wheat and other agricultural commodities were traded. A number of wealthy brokers lived in Mount Royal in its early days, men like **Louis Strong** and **James McFarland**. Ironically, after the founding of the Alberta Wheat Pool, created to fight the power of the grain traders, many of the executives of the organisation also moved into Mount Royal. It was not so strange as it might seem. Although the pool was born from farmers' frustrations, the men who ran it were often lawyers, accountants, or business executives from industry. Such a man was Rush Purdy.

He had started out in the banking industry, beginning on the ground floor at the Bank of Montreal. Purdy had been born in ----- in ----. [more research!] Purdy joined the Wheat Pool as General Manager in 1925, just two years after it was formed. He had been recommended for the job by United Farmer of Alberta Premier J.E. Brownlee, who had been instrumental in incorporating the co-operative as its solicitor. Purdy held the job for twenty-eight years. He led the organisation through many trials, most crucially the

desperate days of the Great Depression. Just before wheat price had crashed, the Pool had guaranteed a price to its farmers it then couldn't pay and came close to bankruptcy. Buoyed by a real sense of mission, an almost evangelical zeal for the purpose of the Pool as a protector of the farmer's interests, Purdy displayed crucial leadership through the bad years. A strong, perhaps arrogant personality, his eulogists said his best traits were dispassionate analytical approach to problems and calm in the face of adversity. Under his direction, the Pool flourished, and at his death in 1953 at the age of 64, it was the largest marketing company in the province.

In Mount Royal, the Purdys lived at 2722 Montcalm for many years. They had moved there in 1931. Mrs.Purdy remained in the neighbourhood for a number of years after her husband's death, moving to ------ in 19--. <sup>560</sup>

### Raby, Vital

In 1916, Vital Raby was faced with a difficult choice: close up his very profitable liquor wholesale business, established in 1905 with his partner Phileas Laurendau, or go underground, supplying the prescription medicine market and bootleggers on the side. This unhappy state of affairs had been brought about the declaration of prohibition in the Province of Alberta.

Raby was born in St. Placide, Quebec in 1857.<sup>561</sup> As a young man, Raby was trained as a moulder and worked in the building trade of Montreal. In his mid-twenties he went into the grocery and liquor trade getting well established himself and even serving for a term as an alderman. Raby came west as a mature and prosperous businessman looking for new opportunities. With his brother in law and business partner Laurendau, he bought the Calgary Wine and Spirit Company in 1905, expanding into Edmonton in 1908. With an extensive retail as well as wholesale trade, Raby was one of the major liquor dealers in the province, but eminently respectable, belonging to the board of trade and other organisations. The Quebecois businessman was well known for his indulgence towards young entrepreneurs, and he supposedly helped many young men get their start in business. As a symbol of his success, Raby built one of the early mansions in Mount Royal, moving into 1009 Royal Avenue around 1910.<sup>562</sup>

With prohibition, Raby's business was ruined. Alcohol could still be sold as a prescription medicine, which soon became a loophole that encouraged bootlegging. Raby and his partner shut the doors instead, uninterested in the risk. Raby's house, which he shared with his brother in law's family, was the first to be converted to suites in the area. This was carried out in 1917, and we can only speculate it was out of financial need. Raby later left Calgary. The house ended up in the hands of R.B. Bennett who donated it to the Red Cross Children's Hospital, which was already operating in a converted house in the nearby Mission Area. For two decades, the rambling mansion served the needs of Calgary's sick children, until the existing facility was built in 1951. Sadly, Raby's house was then demolished.

### Ragg, Harold Richard

The third Anglican bishop of Calgary, Harry Richard Ragg, was the dean and rector of the Procathedral of the Redeemer for ten years before his election to the bishop's throne. He came to Calgary in 1933 from Winnipeg, where he had been rector of All Saints Anglican. Ragg and his wife Winnifred, who he called "mummy", and five children moved into Mount Royal. They lived at 1029 Hillcrest Avenue, the Bishop's Palace, from 1944 to 1951. Sec. 1951.

Ragg was born in Edgbaston, England, in 1889.<sup>567</sup> He attended St. John's College at Cambridge, graduating with a bachelor's degree. At Cambridge he was a track "blue" and became engaged to Winnifred May Groves. After graduation, he was made a deacon of the Cathedral of Liverpool in 1912 and ordained a priest in 1913. He served as a curate in Southport, England until 1914, when he was sent to Canada. His new appointment was quite a shock. Ragg was sent to the parish of Fruitvale, British Columbia, deep in the interior of the Kootney Mountains.<sup>568</sup> The parish was over fifty miles long and stretched east and west into the mountains to a number of isolated mining camps. Ragg lived by the church in a little shack with no heat and water, formerly used for storing cement. On his second Sunday in the parish he had to give a morning service in Salmo and then an evening service in Fruitvale, eighteen miles away. Ragg had no horse, there were no train or cars, and the young minister had no choice but to hike. That December his new wife Winnifred joined him at the parish, and their oldest son John was born there.<sup>569</sup>

After a year, Ragg was transferred to the more civilised parish in Trail, British Columbia, although he never regretted his frontier experiences at Fruitvale. He and Winnifred spent four years in Trail and then went to Chilliwack. From there they were sent to Winnipeg in 1925, and in 1933 Ragg was elevated to Dean and appointed to Calgary. It was not an auspicious time, as the Depression was deepening and great demands were being made on the resources of the church. As Dean and administrator of the diocese, Ragg saw the hardship through both his pastoral work and his knowledge of the financial drain on the church. He rose to the challenges. The selection of Ragg to fill the Bishop's Chair in 1943 was a mark of the esteem in which he was held.

The cheerful and affable Ragg proved very popular as bishop, and was an indefatigable traveller in the diocese. He was not afraid of controversy, and at the first synod he conducted Ragg spoke out against the treatment of Japanese Canadians by the Federal Government during the Second World War. <sup>571</sup> Ragg was interested in international affairs and the effect on the church of many events after the Second World War. While condemning communism in 1949, as the Cold War began, he also took a stab at the moral state of Western capitalism. On a more immediate level, Ragg had to deal with a lack of funds, building maintenance and the material and manpower shortage caused by the war. Worried about the erosion of rural parishes and the lack of reach of the church, Ragg was an advocate of union with the United Church.

His tenure as Bishop of Calgary was cut short by a heart attack in 1951. With his health impaired, Ragg decided to retire, considering it unfair to remain on the bishop's throne

with so much work to be done. He went with Winnifred to Victoria, where he died in 1967. Inspired by his example, Ragg's three sons all joined the Anglican ministry.

#### **Reeve, Francis Fournier and Winnifred Eaton**

It is no easy task to quickly sum up the Reeve family. Francis F. Reeve made a fortune in oil, and then became a philanthropist, setting up a foundation that continued to benefit Calgarians long after his death in 1955. His wife Winnifred was a novelist who toiled for a number of years as a Hollywood screenwriter, and was known throughout the world by one of her pennames, Onota Watanna. Their life together was rocky, with as many twists as one of Winnifred's novels, but they left a lasting legacy in Calgary.

Francis Reeve was born in Riverbend, Long Island, New York, in 1879. As a young man he worked as a longshoreman and then as a seaman on the tugboats of the Hudson River. A man of ability, he rose to the rank of vice-president of the Red Star Towing and Transportation Company, which was still operating in the 1980s. Reeve decided on a radical lifestyle change in 1917, and came to Alberta to become a rancher. Selling his business interests, he brought his new wife with him to the Bow View Ranch west of Calgary.

His bride was Winifred. It was her second marriage; the first had been to a New York journalist and theatrical agent, Bertrand Whitcomb Babcock, and she already had three children. Winifred had come to New York to pursue her career as a novelist. Born in Montreal in 1879, she was the daughter of an English silk trader and artist, and a Chinese missionary woman. Writing came naturally to Winnifred, and she was a published author by the age of fourteen. After doing short stories for several years, she started on novels. Fascinated by the Orient and inspired by the stories of her parents, Winnifred began to write romantic novels set in Japan, using the name Onota Watanna. They were very successful; she received as much as \$15,000 in advance for each book, a very considerable sum in 1912. In New York she moved in distinguished literary circles, counting among her friends Edith Wharton, author of *Ethan Frome*, Lew Wallace of *Ben Hur*, and the inimitable Mark Twain. She founded the American Author's Association with Twain and Jack London.

Widowed and left with three young children, Winnifred continued to write and then met Frank Reeve. We don't know what whimsy decided them on ranching in Alberta. But it was a world away from the seaside docks and glitter of New York City's *literati*. Although not homesteaders, starting with an established ranch, it was still a hard life for the Reeves. Winnifred found it difficult to write and for three years lived as rancher's wife, cooking, cleaning and doing farm chores. Eventually, her publishers talked her into more books, and she left the ranch for Calgary, living in rented quarters so she could concentrate on her craft. Meanwhile, the Bow View Ranch faltered and so did the Reeve marriage. Frank sold out in 1925 and came to Calgary, but Winnifred had gone back to New York the year before, taking a job with Universal Pictures as a scenario editor. She moved to California and continued to work for Universal and MGM, editing screenplays

and adapted works to the screen, as well as writing a few screenplays of her own. Among her adaptations were *Phantom of the Opera* and *Showboat*.

Back in Calgary, Frank started over in the brokerage industry, founding his own firm, F.F. Reeve and Company. Much of his work involved oil investments, and Reeve became involving in Alberta's nascent oil industry. As well as putting other peoples' money in various drilling ventures and oil companies, Reeve took an active role, and in 1938 was made president of Commonwealth Petroleum, a company founded by **D.J. Young**. Reeve had executive positions in a number of other small oil companies, several of which he founded. But Commonwealth was the key to his success. Setting up two subsidiary companies, Commonwealth Drilling and Dominion Oil Field Supply, Reeve was well situated to take advantage of the 1947 Leduc oil discovery. Commonwealth became the largest Canadian company of its kind, and Reeve's many other investments in the oil industry paid off.

The Reeve marriage also came back from the brink of failure. In 1931, Frank filed for divorce, but Winnifred convinced him to try reconciliation, and came back to Calgary. Her career as a novelist had petered out, but she kept writing short stories. Before she had returned to New York, Winnifred had organised Calgary's Little Theatre with Judge Roland Winter and his wife Lydia. It was an amateur theatre, part of a North America wide movement in the twenties and thirties. Once back in Calgary the theatre kept her busy, and the local group performed several plays authored by the former screenwriter. The couple moved into 801 Royal Avenue in 1939, and were social leaders in Calgary. Frank got involved in the YMCA, and sat on the board of directors of the Calgary branch.

Winnifred died suddenly in April of 1954, returning from a winter spent in Arizona with Frank. Three months later, as a memorial, Frank set up the F. F. Reeve Foundation with over a million dollars to carry out charitable work. When he died in 1956, much of his estate was added to the trust. For over twenty years, it supported religious and educational causes. In 1978 a million dollars was given to the University of Calgary to build a teaching theatre, to be called the Reeve theatre. Six years later, the foundation split up its remaining funds among five beneficiaries, including the YMCA and the Salvation Army.

The Reeves only had one daughter, Doris. She also proved somewhat extraordinary, becoming one of the first female executives in the Canadian oil industry as vice president and corporate secretary of Commonwealth.

### Richardson, Ernest L

Along with many directors of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede, Mount Royal can also boast E.L. Richardson, manager of the "Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth" for over thirty years. He was a long time resident of the neighbourhood. Richardson moved into 1027 Prospect Avenue in 1911, and lived there until 1929. 573

An Ontario farm boy, Richardson was born in Wicklon on March 26, 1876. <sup>574</sup> He apprenticed as a printer and graduated to journeyman, but did not practice the trade, deciding instead to attend the Agricultural College in Guelph. After receiving a diploma he managed a dairy plant in Myrtle, Ontario, from 1897 to 1898. In 1901 he joined the department of agriculture for the Northwest Territories government in Regina, becoming the assistant of C.W. Peterson. <sup>575</sup> It was a fateful meeting. He followed Peterson to Calgary in 1903 when the latter become the Calgary Fair Secretary for the Calgary Board of Trade and the Alberta Livestock Association. This was the ultimate origin of Calgary's most famous event, the Calgary Stampede. Richardson was Peterson's assistant manager. When Peterson left in 1907, Richardson was made general manager and found himself organising the Dominion Exhibition, slated for Calgary in 1908. <sup>576</sup> With the federal and provincial grants he received for the exhibition, Richardson was able to improve the fairgrounds at Victoria Park, adding new buildings. The success of the Dominion Exhibition secured Richardson's promotion.

When rodeo promoter Guy Weadick obtained the backing of Patrick Burns, A.E.Cross, Archie Maclean and George Lane, the "Big Four", for the first Calgary Stampede in 1912, Richardson was asked to be treasurer for the show. He was one of the moving forces behind the 1919 Victory Stampede. In 1923 Richardson, along with Guy Weadick, revived the rodeo show as a permanent part of the Exhibition to counteract falling attendance. By aggressive marketing, Richardson established the Stampede as a major international attraction as well as the premier professional rodeo competition in the world. Richardson believed that the Stampede's success was due to the fact it was a competition rather than a staged show, adding a higher degree of authenticity and excitement and drawing competitors from all over North America. Colourful displays and parades carried the event into the streets of Calgary, and the venerable Stampede breakfast was born in Richardson's promotional schemes.

While the Stampede helped save the Exhibition and became its most famous feature, Richardson never lost sight of the event's importance as an agricultural show. He persuaded the livestock associations of southern Alberta to use the Exhibition and the grounds for their shows and competitions. The Calgary show included agricultural displays and competitions for livestock as well as agricultural products. He even included craft and handicraft shows, and instituted cash prizes to ensure a high quality of competition. By 1940, when Richardson retired, attendance at the Stampede and Exhibition had grown to almost 250,000, at a time when Calgary only had a population of perhaps 80,000. Richardson was also very successful in recruiting talented and dedicated citizens of Calgary to serve as directors for the exhibition, and to serve on the board was and is considered a major honour.

Richardson served as secretary for the Alberta Livestock Association for over 30 years and was a member of the Rotary Club. He was a past president of the Western Canada Fairs Association and the International Association of Fairs and Expositions. His main hobby outside of work was gardening, and the Richardson household was well known for its thousands of peonies. Richardson died in Vancouver in 1952.

### Richardson, James Wilson

Physician James Richardson wrote an unpublished autobiography he entitled "A Prairie Doctor." Although the title conjures up the image of the rumpled country practitioner, in reality Richardson was a successful city surgeon for over sixty years, and was the oldest working physician in the province in 1974, at the age of 85! Although likely well able to purchase his own home in Mount Royal, Richardson also married Dolly Skinner, the daughter of prominent resident and realtor **T.J.S. Skinner**, thus almost guaranteeing he would live on the hill. The couple built a lovely house at 815 Prospect around 1919.

Richardson was born on June 5, 1882 in Halville, Ontario on a small farm. His mother died when he was only two; his father later remarried. While the family was not desperately poor, Richardson began working as a carpenter and blacksmith while still in high school, and after graduation was a farm labourer in the U.S. for a time. Like many young men bound for the professions, Richardson taught school in the rough and tumble environment of rural Ontario for over two years until he could afford to start medical studies at McGill University in Montreal. He had visited the west in 1904, coming out on an excursion ticket, and after graduating in 1910 decided to relocate to Calgary. After two years in general practice he rounded out his medical education with postgraduate work in London and Edinburgh, training as a surgeon. Richardson was a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons and also the American College of Surgeons.

Before he could return to Canada, World War One broke out and Richardson enlisted in the British Imperial Army as a surgeon. He later transferred to the Canadian Army, and returned to Calgary to take up the post of surgeon at the Ogden Military Hospital. Richardson ended his war service with the rank of captain. In 1917 he married debutante Elizabeth Anne Skinner, and returned to private practice a year later. He continued to specialise as a surgeon and was affiliated with both the Holy Cross and General Hospital. Over his long career, he was president of the Alberta College of Physicians and Surgeons, the Calgary District Medical Society, and an honorary president of the Calgary Cancer Society. In 1967, his colleagues presented Richardson with a special commemorative award to celebrate his decades as a physician. He was still going strong at the time, at the age of eighty-five

Richardson did retire before he died. Showing great longevity, he almost made it to one hundred, dying in 1979 at the age of ninety-seven. His wife had predeceased him in 1962. Elizabeth Richardson had been very active in the community with the Hospital Aid Society, the Canadian Club, the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire, as vice president of Knox United Church women's association, and vice-president of the Southern Alberta Old Timers and Pioneers Association. She and her husband had two children. Son Thomas became an orthopaedic surgeon, and daughter Catherine married prominent Calgary defence lawyer and Supreme Court Justice A.M. Harradence.

Ripley, Wilder

Wilder Ripley was a Calgary oilman who founded racehorse stable Alberta Ranches with tycoons Frank McMahon, **Max Bell**, and jockey Johnny Longden. Alberta Ranches had a number of winning horses in the Kentucky Derby and other major races. Ripley maintained a small stable in Calgary as well as California up to his death in 1974. A partner to Max Bell in many petroleum ventures, he was involved in a number of small oil companies operating in Turner Valley and other parts of Alberta. President and Director of Canadian American Royalties from 1949 onward, he also sat on the boards of Allied Chemicals, B.C. Florescent Sales, Redwater Utilities and several other companies. Ripley moved into Mount Royal in 1949, living at 1302 Prospect Avenue until 1961.

### Robinson, Bruce L.

Tributes poured in from prominent Calgary citizens when Bruce L. Robinson died suddenly in April 1930 at the age of 62.<sup>581</sup> Born in Lindsay, Ontario, Robinson had come to Calgary in 1904 to open a branch office of the National Cash Register Company. Just over a decade later, now well established in local business circles, he opened the Bruce Robinson Electric Company. It was a pioneer in selling and servicing electric appliances. The company eventually had stores from the Yukon to Vancouver to Saskatchewan. He served as president of the Calgary Board of Trade in 1921. A charter member of the Rotary club, Robinson was well thought of for his community and philanthropic work; according to the eulogies much of it was done quietly with little fanfare. Bishop Louis Sherman officiated at the funeral for the vestryman of St. Stephen's Anglican, which was very well attended.<sup>582</sup> The Robinson family lived at 2415 8<sup>th</sup> Street from 1918 to 1930.<sup>583</sup>

### Robinson, William Earle

The Glenmore Reservoir supplies Calgary with much of its drinking water, but is also a favourite with Calgarians for recreation. There is golf at the Earl Grey club or the North Glenmore public course, a canoe club, a yacht club with a boat landing, the Weaselhead natural area and Heritage Park. The man largely responsible for this oasis of blue water and green spaces was William Earle Robinson, Calgary's waterworks engineer from 1929 to 1953.<sup>584</sup>

Born in Oshawa, Ontario, Robinson went to the University of Toronto, where he studied civil engineering. Like many new young engineers, he joined the Dominion Land Survey after graduation, which brought him out west in 1912. He was later hired by the CPR, toiling on the railroad's never ending projects, such as spur lines, bridges and freight terminals. Robinson went to the lower mainland of British Columbia and the Peace River Country of northern Alberta with the railway before coming to Calgary to take over the city waterworks system. The idea of damming the Elbow River to create a reservoir was not a new one, but as the new head of the waterworks department, it was Robinson who pressed city council to pass a money bylaw and actually carry the plan out. Just as the scheme got underway, the Depression hit, but the dam became Calgary's first relief project, providing work for hundreds of otherwise unemployed men.

Robinson and his family lived at 1103 Colborne Crescent from 1949 to 1962.<sup>585</sup> He and his wife Helen had a son and two daughters. The former chief engineer died on April 10, 1962

### Salter, Hardy E. (may be deleted)

As time went on and the agricultural frontier vanished on the prairies, it was not uncommon for successful ranchers and farmers to come to cities such as Calgary and enjoy the fruit of their labours. Mount Royal had its share of these pioneers, and Hardy E. Salter of 2416 Carleton was one of most prominent. Salter was known throughout North America as a breeder and promoter of Percheron horses.

Salter was originally an Englishman, born and raised in Devonshire. He came to Canada in 1910 at the age of fifteen and went straight out to Cochrane where he went to work on the Bow River Horse Ranch. Four years later the young cowboy answered the call of the motherland and enlisted, going back to England with the Canadian Expeditionary Force. Wounded at Ypres and the infamous Battle of the Somme, Salter spent the rest of the war recuperating in London. Once back in Canada, he bought a farm near Crossfield where he indulged in his favourite pastime, breeding the giant Percheron draught horses. When the Alberta Percheron Association was formed in 1929, he was the first secretary treasurer, and performed the same duty for the Canadian Percheron Association in 1943. Salter's own horses were award winners; one mare, Starlight Koncarness, won 19 grand championships in row, a North American record. At one Regina show, Salter's horses swept most of the classes. The breeder was also credited with saving the Percheron in North America with his tireless promotion, which included a speciality newspaper. Out of a job due to the mechanisation of farms, Percherons and other heavy horses had begun to disappear in Canada.

Not surprisingly, Salter served on the board of the Calgary Stampede as an associate director from 1929 on, a fixture of the livestock show committee. The rancher lived in Mount Royal from 19-- to 19--. <sup>590</sup> Apparently a bachelor, Salter had no children. He died February 27, 1969, at the age of 74.

## Saucier, John James "Jack"

A native Calgarian, J.J. Saucier was born here in 1903, and except for his university years, spent almost his whole life in the city. <sup>591</sup> His family was Quebecois, and came out west shortly before his birth. <sup>592</sup> After getting his Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws from the University of Alberta, Saucier articled with J. Fred Scott, QC. While a student, Saucier developed his lifelong allegiance to the Conservative Party, almost by accident. His mentor Scott was a dyed in the wool party supporter. Scott's wife was not – she supported the Liberals. During the 1926 election campaign, she forbade him from campaigning for R.B. Bennett in Calgary. Scott sidestepped the proscription by sending out his articling student, young Saucier, to do his dirty work! Saucier's energetic campaigning caught the future Prime Minister's attention, and Bennett offered him a job in his law firm, Bennett, Hannah and Sandford in 1927. Saucier spent his entire career

with the company, watching it evolve into the present day firm of Bennett Jones Verchere. He was Bennett's executive assistant to for fifteen months in 1934 and 1935, which he later described as exhausting – his boss had a tremendous capacity for work. According to Saucier, Bennett stopped working "at midnight Saturday." His assistant and colleague always felt Bennett was sadly underrated as a prime minister, having the misfortune of taking office in 1930 just as the Depression was taking hold. He hoped historians might someday rehabilitate Bennett's reputation as a leader and politician.

Saucier was himself an amateur historian of some note, and wrote a light-hearted history of his law firm in the early eighties, *Bennett Jones Revisited*. He specialised in corporate oil and gas law, and was made a King's Counsel in 1946.<sup>594</sup> Saucier also served as President of the Canadian Bar Association, the Law Society of Alberta and the Calgary Chamber of Commerce. As head of the Law Society and the Bar, Saucier pressed for law reforms especially the elimination of archaic statutes and procedures. In a 1968 interview with the *Calgary Herald*, he even speculated about eliminating precedents in favour of codifying common law!<sup>595</sup> One of his more interesting public appointments was Chairman of the Alberta Press Council in 1978. This body functioned as an ombudsman for public concerns about the press, and also a watchdog guarding against infringements of press freedom. Saucier lived in Mount Royal at 2317 Morrison from 1936 to 1938, 2226 Amherst from 1939 to 1974, and finally 2725 Carleton until his death in 1988.<sup>596</sup>

#### Sayre, A Judson

A. Judson Sayre was a member of the original clique of American real estate men who called Mount Royal home - and American Hill. Born in Iowa in 1859, Sayre became a merchant in Osceola, his hometown, before removing to Harvey, North Dakota in the early 1890s. Fintering real estate and trading in farmlands, Sayre and several partners became interested in Canadian land around 1905. They formed the Calgary Colonization Company, with Sayre coming to the city as the firm's manager. Along with real estate, Sayre was interested in the timber business and more importantly, the oil industry. He was one of the investors and first president of the Calgary Petroleum Products Company; the firm behind the drilling of the Dingman Discovery well in Turner Valley that ushered in Alberta's oil age in 1914. Sayre left Calgary in 1920, perhaps discouraged by the post war recession and the setbacks suffered by his petroleum company, which was absorbed by Royalite Oil in 1920. The American had built a house at 717 Royal around 1906 or 1907.

### Sellar, William

Judge William Sellar was born in Montreal in 1911, the son of an architect. He attended McGill University, earning a Bachelor of Arts in 1932 and of laws in 1935. While at university, he worked part-time as a journalist, covering news and sports for the *Montreal Daily Star*. After graduating, his first job was with the Canadian Pacific Railway as assistant to Vice-President Eric Leslie, the comptroller for the corporation. Sellar's career was interrupted by the Second World War. He joined the Royal Canadian

Air Force and served with Bomber Command, which claimed more Canadian lives than any other branch of the forces.

After the war he came to Alberta. His wife, Irene Margaret Johnston, was a Calgarian, although they had met in Montreal. After being admitted to the Alberta Bar in 1947, Sellar joined MacLeod, Riley, McDermid, Dixon but left to start his own firm a year later. The Sellars moved into Mount Royal in 1948, living at 1417 Council Way, and then left for Elbow Park in 1953, returning to Mount Royal in 1968. Sellar joined the Glencoe Club, the Ranchmen's Club and the Calgary Press Club, not having lost his interest in journalism. He was also involved in provincial politics, and in 1959 he became chairman of the Alberta Progressive Conservative Association finance committee. In 1962, Sellar made the step from lawyer to judge with his appointment to the District Court of Southern Alberta. He was not on the bench very long, dying on May 19, 1968, only 57 years old.

### Seymour, Joseph B.

A Mount Royal businessman, who worked in the grain trade, J.B. Seymour's claim to significance was the term he served on city council, from 1933 to 1935. From England, where he was born in 1892, Seymour came with his family to Claresholm around 1906. As a young man he went to Calgary and got involved in the wholesale grain trade, first with the United Grain Growers and later as manager and then owner of the Anderson Grain and Feed Company. During World War One, Seymour trained as a pilot, but the war ended before he could go overseas. Although his stint as an alderman marked Seymour's only time in office, in 1932 he was president of the Independent Taxpayers Association, a lobby group that backed independent candidates for political office. Seymour lived at 3211 Alfege from 1934 through 1940.

#### Shearer, John S.

Not all the residents of Mount Royal were lawyers, judges, or businessmen. John S. Shearer was a fireman who lived at 2322 Carleton from 1930 through 1933, and again in 1951. He served with the Calgary Fire Department for over 38 years. Born in Banffshire, Scotland on September 10th, 1886, he immigrated to Canada with his parents while still a child. In 1913 he joined the Calgary fire department but went into the military soon afterward. Upon his return in 1918, Shearer was promoted to senior fireman. In 1946 he attained the rank of Captain, five years before retiring in 1951. The long time fire fighter was the secretary of the fireman's union local for several years. He was also a member of the St. John Ambulance Association. Shearer died in 1962 at the age of 76.

# Sherman, Right Reverend Louis Ralph

The Right Reverend Louis Ralph Sherman had large shoes to fill when he came west to Alberta. He was the successor to a legendary figure of pioneer Calgary, William Cyprian

Pinkham, the first Anglican bishop of the city. The imposing six foot Sherman, a star athlete in his youth, and one of the youngest Bishops in Canada, was the man for the job.

At the age of four, the future prelate announced to his parents in Fredericton, New Brunswick, that he was going to be an Anglican minister. It was a promise that the precocious child fulfilled. The youngest of six children, he went to the University of New Brunswick after public school, and then, as a Rhodes Scholar, he attended Oxford to study classics. Ordained in St. Paul's by the Bishop of London in 1912, he spent the next two years on the East End docks and in the home mission of the slum of Notting Hill. Although offered many different parishes, Sherman felt obligated to return to New Brunswick since the province had sent him to England. Sherman became the minister to Trinity Church in Saint Johns, New Brunswick. His rise from here through the ranks of the Anglican Church hierarchy was rapid. He went to the Holy Trinity Cathedral in Toronto as the rector, was elected canon in 1922, and was appointed Dean of Quebec in 1925.

In 1926, Sherman was offered the vacant See of Calgary. With his wife Carolyn and family, he arrived in Calgary in 1927. Bishop of Calgary for sixteen years, Sherman was a popular and respected churchman. He continued to make his mark nationally as a strong proponent of a national church. At the 1934 General Church Synod, he made a impassioned plea for an end to grants from the Anglican Church in England, feeling strongly that it made the church in Canada dependent and that the church should be able to stand on the support of its own parishioners. It was inevitable that he would be promoted again, and in 1943 he ascended to the Archbishopric of Rupert's Land, with his seat in Winnipeg, overseeing ten dioceses in western Ontario and the Prairie Provinces. He died while still in office, in Brandon, Manitoba in 1953.

It was under Sherman's watch that the Anglican Church obtained the house at 1029 Hillcrest to use as the bishop's residence. Sherman was there from 1939 to 1943, and the next three Bishops, Ragg, Calvert and Goodman also made the Bishop's Palace their home. 608

### Sick, Emil

Although now owned by brewing giant Molson, the Lethbridge Brewery and Lethbridge Pilsener Beer continues the legacy of Fritz and Emil Sick. The company was founded by Fritz Sick in 1901. A farm boy from Freiburg, Bavaria, Sick immigrated to the United States in 1883 after his compulsory military service. He learned the brewer's trade in Cincinnati and then headed west. After working in California, Sick went to Washington and then to Trail, British Columbia, where he established the first brewery in the province. In 1901 he made his way to Lethbridge. Here Sick began another brewery, building it himself and serving as brew master, cooper, salesman, and accountant. Reorganised as the Lethbridge Brewing and Malting Company in 1904, the business survived the difficult years during World War One and the declaration of Prohibition in Alberta in 1916, and became the foundation of a brewing empire.

Emil Sick was born in Tacoma, Washington, on June 30, 1894 but was raised in Canada. The family shipped Emil off to school at Western Canada College in Calgary, and from there he attended university at Stanford in California. After graduating in 1918 he joined his father's business as the general manager of Lethbridge Breweries. In 1923, a year before the end of Prohibition in Alberta, the company began a period of rapid expansion. New breweries were opened in Prince Albert and Regina in Saskatchewan, and in 1927 the Sicks bought the Edmonton Brewing and Malting Company. A year later, a new company, Associated Breweries, was formed, with Fritz Sick as President and Emil Sick as general manager, amalgamating the Sick brewing interests into one corporation. In 1930, founder Fritz Sick retired to Vancouver. 1948

Not long after his father's departure, Emil Sick began an ambitious expansion into the United States. Despite the Depression - or perhaps thanks to it - in 1933 Associated purchased two breweries in Great Falls, Montana, an interest in the Missoula Brewing Company, and a Spokane brewery and began a modernisation program for its acquisitions. In November of 1933, Sick announced he would relocate to Seattle to better manage Associated Breweries' American operations, which eventually included breweries in Seattle and Olympia, Washington. He Sick family became leading citizens of the city. Emil Sick served as president of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce, and bought a professional baseball team, the Seattle Rainiers. He built a large English style mansion that became known as the Sick House. The house was later bought by Queen Elizabeth, to serve as the house of the Canadian Consul General. Like an embassy, it became part of Canada, but due to peculiarities in state law the Queen had to buy the property as a private individual even though it was intended state functions.

Emil Sick lived in Calgary for eight years while manager of Associated Breweries. From 1928 to 1933, he and his family lived at 1031 Durham Avenue. Already a prominent businessman, Sick belonged to the Ranchmen's Club, the Calgary Golf and Country Club, the Renfrew Club, and the Gyro Service Club. Sick was also famous for his interest in commercial aviation. In 1928 he decided to buy a plane for travel between the four breweries of Associated and as a promotional device. Forming Purple Label Airlines, he purchased a Stinson Detroiter bi-plane, reputedly the first plane in Alberta with an enclosed cabin. Renowned World One fliers **Freddy McCall** and Jock Palmer were hired as pilots. Sick was so pleased by the plane that he bankrolled Great Western Airways, one of Alberta's first commercial air services, with McCall as managing director. The business did not survive the Depression, and Sick did not pursue his interest in flying.

Emil Sick died in 1964 at the age of 70.<sup>621</sup> He had sold Associated to Molson Breweries, and was a director and vice-chairman of the board for the giant eastern company. He retained ownership of Sick's Rainier Breweries in Seattle. Sick and his wife had three daughters and two sons, none of whom continued the family name in the brewing industry. Timothy Sick did manage a Sick's Brewery outlet in Calgary briefly, but became a surgeon living in London, England.<sup>622</sup> He was also married for a time to Shirley Douglas, daughter of NDP founder and Saskatchewan Premier Tommy Douglas and a well known Canadian stage actress.

#### Simmons, William Charles

A small town boy from Ontario, W.C. Simmons became chief justice of the trial division of the Supreme Court of Alberta. He was born in Bruce County, Ontario on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 1865. Attending school in Collingwood and Owen Sound, Simmons became a schoolteacher himself for a time in Ontario before attending the University of Toronto, where he graduated with a bachelor's of arts. He arrived in Lethbridge in 1895 to take up the position of principal of schools. Simmons followed a common career path of the time, forsaking education for the law and articling with R.B. Bennett in Calgary. Joining the bar only a year later, in 1900, Simmons returned to southern Alberta to practice in Cardston and then Lethbridge. Working with S.J. Shepherd, a former cowboy who also ascended to the Supreme Court, Simmons built up a large ranching clientele.

Like many of his contemporaries in the law, Simmons was very active in politics (four of Alberta's first five premiers were lawyers!). He was elected to the first provincial legislature as the Liberal member from Lethbridge in 1906, and tried for the House of Commons in the 1908 federal election, but lost to Conservative C.A. Magrath. Soon after, he was tapped for the bench and moved to Calgary in 1910. He and his wife settled in Mount Royal, moving into 2101 10<sup>th</sup> Street in 1913 and living there until 1936. Simmons was on the bench for twenty-six years, twelve as chief justice. Despite his seniority Simmons did not have a strong judicial personality, and authored far fewer judgements than colleagues such as Horace Harvey or Nicholas Beck. After retiring in 1936, Simmons and his wife retired to Victoria, where he died in 1956 at the advanced age of 91.

Simmons met his wife Mary in Lethbridge. She was also a teacher, originally from Woodstock, Ontario. <sup>625</sup> Very active in the Presbyterian Church in Lethbridge, Mrs. Simmons was also a strong proponent of social welfare. She was one of the founders of the Nursing Mission, which began as a group distributing old clothes and turned into a full fledged welfare agency. <sup>626</sup> By 1931, it was providing public health services with qualified nurses, especially helping young mothers. Mary Simmons remained active with similar organisations in Calgary. Justice Simmons had also been concerned with social justice, championing labour laws when he was a member of the legislature.

# Singer, Bella

When she died in 1984, the local Calgary papers called her the "Grand Matriarch of the city Jews". While perhaps an exaggeration, Bella Singer did indeed preside over an extended family of hundreds of Jewish immigrants. They were brethren she had sponsored to Canada over the course of several decades, a labour of love that saved many from anti-Jewish pogroms and ultimately from the Nazi holocaust.

Born in Poland, Bella and her husband Abraham immigrated to Canada in 1906, partially to escape anti-Semitism in their home in the town of Radon: although Jews comprised over fifteen percent of the city's population, they were harassed in pogroms that were becoming increasingly violent and ominously well-organised. It was difficult starting out in a new land;

neither Bella nor Abraham spoke English and they had little money. After a year in Toronto, the couple came out to Alberta and spent a short time as farm workers before making their way to Calgary. Abraham went into the junk trade and Bella worked as a housekeeper at the Palliser Hotel until they saved enough money to buy an old rooming house on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Bella had promised her relatives that she would send for them once in Canada, and the indomitable woman fulfilled her pledge. Starting an account at the CPR office in Calgary, she would put aside whatever money the couple could spare. When the dimes and pennies accumulated to the sum of a hundred dollars, she could pay for the passage of another friend from Poland. From each new immigrant, Bella would extract the promise that they too would sponsor another compatriot when they could. Singer helped the new immigrants get on their feet. There was a room for them at the boarding house, and jobs would be found to get them started. One of the first relatives she helped across was a cousin, Abraham Belzberg.

In this way, Bella managed to bring several hundred Polish Jews to Calgary and get them established. Her work became even more urgent as anti-Semitic political parties took control of governments throughout Eastern Europe. She was more able to help: by the thirties the Singers owned several rooming houses and hotels as well as other real estate. Like many of the people she brought to Calgary, the Singers had good business instincts and were extremely hard working: her sons remember Bella spending sixteen hours a day looking after her lodgings and roomers. By the forties, Bella and Abraham had become quite well off, and moved the old Traunweiser mansion at 1213 Prospect in 1942. Many of her charges became successful businessmen, while their children went on to university and filled the ranks of the professions. Ironically, as Bella's resources for rescuing family and friends increased, it became more and more difficult to get them through immigration controls both overseas and in Canada. After World War Two and the horrors of the Holocaust, Bella was only able to rescue a few survivors of the concentration camps.

Her own mission aside, Bella had always been involved in Calgary's Jewish community. A founding member of the Shaarey Tzedec synagogue, she was also a member of the Hadassah and Mizrachi, a Zionist women's organisation. After the founding of Israel, Singer provided money for several different Zionist causes, including developing a university and tree planting programs in the Palestine. Abraham Singer died in 1942, the same year they moved to Mount Royal. Bella was comforted by her four children, Hyman, Jack, Rose and Diane. Although Bella herself was quiet and modest, all her children were quite flamboyant and became wealthy through real estate development. Their success was built upon Bella. As for the matriarch herself, Singer lived to the appropriate age of 103, dying in 1984. After 1951, she moved to a smaller house at 1309 Colborne Crescent, and then in 1958 to 1156 Sydenham, where she remained until 1962.

# Singer, Jack

He was Calgary's own Mr. Hollywood, a cigar smoking, gold chain bedecked real estate developer who walked the line between flamboyant and vulgar as he spun deal after deal, including the purchase of famous director Francis Ford Coppola's bankrupt Zoetrope Studios. Singer was, of course, the son of Bella Singer. He could make some claim to being a self made man, for while his mother was an astute investor as well as a humanitarian, the

Singers were poor hardworking immigrants for many years. Jack Singer was born in Calgary in 1918. As a young boy, he was put to work in the family rooming house business, collecting the rents at the age of eleven. Singer remembered many of his mother's tenants as being pretty unsavoury. By the time he was a teenager, Singer was putting together his own real estate deals with his older cousin, Abraham Belzberg. It was the start of partnership that would last right up to Belzberg's death. By Singer's account, his partner had the nose for bargains, while he had the knack for finding the money.

The two made a great deal of money dealing in properties on the wrong side of the tracks. In the fifties, Singer set his sights higher, becoming a developer with his brother Hyman in Calgary and in the United States. Over the next thirty years, sometimes on his own, sometimes with Hyman or Abe Belzberg, Jack put together bigger and bigger deals, financing subdivisions, shopping malls, and office buildings. By the eighties, he had assets worth over 750 million dollars. It wasn't all roses: a gambler, Singer sometimes lost big. Friend Rod Sykes, former mayor of Calgary, remembered that "In the 60s, Jack sometimes had no money. He used to take creditors out for a coffee and a sandwich and sweet-talk them. He paid eventually." Singer bounced back quickly, always dreaming of bigger deals. He and his brother once proposed to build a giant subway across the United States; another outlandish scheme was a 123-storey apartment building in Toronto. The money came from more pragmatic projects, such as a development deal with Safeway where the Singers found sites for grocery stores and built strip malls and shopping centres to complement them.

Much of Singer's flamboyant reputation had less to do with his real estate dealings than his other activities. A boxer himself as a youth, he promoted the sport in Calgary for years. As his assets grew, he indulged in rich man's hobbies such as thoroughbred horse breeding and racing; when he joined the ranks of the super rich, he tried to buy major league sports teams such as the Dallas Cowboys and the Kansas City Royals, albeit unsuccessfully. Singer's purchase of Zoetrope studios was a particularly surreal chapter. The family had connections with the entertainment world – Hyman ran a burlesque parlour in the thirties, and many years later dated the daughter of studio mogul Jack Warner. Jack, a resident of Palm Springs in the winter, was friends with Bob Hope and George Burns. On a visit to Zoetrope to get the autograph of Francis Ford Coppolla, director of *The Godfather* and *Apocalypse Now*, Singer was talked into investing three million dollars in the filmmaker's troubled musical *One From the Heart*. Ever the canny deal maker, Singer took a collateral mortgage as security. When another creditor foreclosed after *Heart* bombed, Singer bought the studio and became an instant mogul. Wisely, Singer avoided the movie making business, renting his new studio out to producers.

Although Singer was not noted as a philanthropist, Calgary arts community indirectly benefited from his good fortune. When the Centre for Performing Arts was built in 1984, Jack's sons donated one and half million dollars towards a sixteen hundred-seat theatre to be named after their father. It is a lasting legacy to the boy from the wrong side of the tracks who made good, and then some. Singer himself is dead?alive?. For many years Singer lived in Mount Royal, first with his mother at 1213 Prospect, and then at 1111 Sydenham Road from 1955 until at least 1991.

#### Skinner, Thomas John Searle

A true Calgary pioneer, T.J.S. Skinner was the epitome of the western success story, a testament to the cliché of "Go West Young Man". His mansion in Mount Royal, at 2307 7<sup>th</sup> Street, was a symbol of the opportunities available to an energetic man on the frontier. Skinner was born in Torquay, Devon, England on August 15, 1861, immigrating with his family in 1872. He grew up in Halifax, leaving in 1882 to go to Winnipeg where he got a job with the Canadian Pacific Railway. Assigned to the engineering service, Skinner was sent to the end of the track at Maple Creek, Saskatchewan, and set out across the prairies as part of a location party scouting the way for the railroad as it approached the Rocky Mountains. Travelling by horseback, Skinner and his companions followed old fur-trading and Indian trails through the Rockies into the interior of British Columbia. The following year, in 1884, the CPR organised a mail and express company and Skinner was offered a job as a courier. He travelled fifty miles along the line, delivering mail to the work camps, on horseback through the summer and then by dogsled in the winter!

After the railroad was finished in 1886, Skinner spent a year in Banff before going to Calgary and "becoming interested in business like every one else in a small way." 630 Skinner chose real estate and hotels as his line of work. And he was eminently successful at both. The T.J.S. Skinner Company was one of the city's most important real estate firms, and he also started the Yale Hotel company, running the Yale and Palace hotels.<sup>631</sup> As he grew more successful, Skinner's interests branched out into diverse businesses, including flourmills, meatpacking and even a soap factory. 632 When approached by pioneer wildcatter A.W. Dingman, Skinner became an investor and director of the Calgary Petroleum Products Company, which discovered oil in Turner Valley. 633 The great boom on the prairies before World War One secured Skinner's fortunes. He built his mansion at 2307 7<sup>th</sup> Street for allegedly more than a hundred thousand dollars, an astronomical sum in 1912.<sup>634</sup> A founding member of the Ranchmen's Club, Skinner had been part of the Wolf's Pack, a rag tag batch of ranchers and businessmen who decided to elevate their drinking and card playing into something a little more genteel. When a Board of Trade was formed in Calgary, Skinner was a leading member, and later served as president. While head of the board, Skinner represented Calgary at the coronation of King George in 1911.<sup>635</sup>

Skinner was also something of a philanthropist. Higher education was a pet cause; he sat on the board of governor's for Mount Royal College but he was also a supporter of a university for Calgary. After Strathcona was made the site of the University of Alberta instead of Calgary, Skinner joined with a number of other prominent Calgarians to establish another school with private funds. Skinner put up a sizeable sum of money towards the endeavour, which foundered when the provincial government refused it degree-granting powers. Like many leading businessmen, Skinner took an interest in municipal politics and sat on city council as an alderman in 19---. Lest the impression be given that Skinner was just another upstanding local citizen, in 1924 he figured in a bigamy scandal in California. A woman by the name of Mrs. Mellor had him arrested on charges of false marriage and breach of promise. Skinner indignantly claimed it was a blackmail attempt by a woman of immoral character. He had known Mellor in Calgary,

but stated she knew that he was married and was inventing the story of a promised marriage. Although Skinner seems to have dealt with the situation, anyone with jaundiced modern sensibilities must wonder what really happened. A blackmail attempt, or the revenge of a spurned mistress?

It may be unfair to speculate on Skinner's private life over the distance of time. Certainly he was regarded as one of the leading citizens of Calgary. He retired sometime in late twenties, but the Depression affected him drastically. The septuagenarian Skinner had his home seized by the city of Calgary for non-payment of property taxes around 1934, and moved to 1028 Hillcrest Avenue. He died there suddenly in March of 1944. The original Skinner home went through several metamorphosis after the City took possession. For a number of years it was rented, and then was used as a barracks for the CWACS during World War Two, and even spent a year as a vocational school. In 1949 it was sold to a doctor, W.E. Cowell-Taylor, but ended up back in the City's hands when the new owner went to Florida and couldn't sell the rambling mansion. It sat empty and vandalised for several years before being demolished around 1952. The real estate business founded by Skinner bounced back after the Depression in the hands of his sons, and is one of the largest property managers in the city.

## Slipper, Stanley E

Mostly forgotten now, Stan Slipper was one of the outstanding figures in the early oil industry in Alberta. He had graduated from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, in 1911 as a geologist and went to work for the Geological Survey of Canada. After a stint on the Alaska-Yukon Boundary survey, he came to Alberta in 1913. Slipper spent his time coming to grips with the oil and gas potential of the province and supervising the Calgary and Edmonton offices of the survey. His expertise was established when he determined which geological strata produced the oil found by the Dingman Discovery well, the first strike in Turner Valley. Slipper carried out extensive fieldwork and wrote many papers on the oil geology of Alberta. The Federal government made him the resident petroleum engineer with the Department of the Interior in 1919.

Slipper not only supervised government geology work and drilling, but also oversaw the development and enforcement of regulations for oil exploration and exploitation in the west. The young geologist also developed some important techniques for evaluating natural gas fields. But Slipper was becoming restless as a bureaucrat, and in 1923 set himself up as a consultant. In 1928, he helped found and was first president of the Alberta Society of Petroleum Geologists. Among the companies that employed his services was Canadian Western Natural Gas, where he later became chief geologist. Slipper worked for Frank McMahon, founder of Westcoast Transmission and Pacific Petroleum, helping him find the gas fields in north-eastern British Columbia that supplied Westcoast's pipelines to Vancouver and the Pacific Northwest. He teamed up with New York lawyer Bob Reed and George Cloakey, a local rancher and oil investor, to form Brialta Petroleum in 1949. The drilling program Slipper ran for Brialta uncovered the Many Islands gas field on the Alberta-Saskatchewan border, close by Medicine Hat.

In Mount Royal, Slipper lived at 2931 Wolfe Street from 1931 to 1944, then moved to 2013 8<sup>th</sup> Street, where he remained until 1954. The geologist died in 19--.

## **Smith, Arthur Leroy**

A.L. Smith had established a reputation as a talented and astute trial lawyer in Alberta before becoming famous as one of the most penetrating wits to sit as a Member of Parliament. Born in Regina on February 13, 1886, Smith was the son of a tinsmith who was also the city's first mayor. A brilliant student who finished high school at fourteen, Smith was an outstanding athlete. He dabbled with the idea of a professional hockey career while attending the University of Manitoba and later studying law at Osgoode Hall in Toronto. Although he opted for a legal career, Smith continued to play semi-professionally while articling in Regina with the firm of McKenzie and Brown, and refereed the game for many years. He was admitted to the bar of Saskatchewan in 1908 and joined the provincial Attorney General's office. After two years Smith came out to Calgary and joined the firm of Walsh and McCarthy. His employers were two grand old men of the city's legal fraternity, heavily involved in politics, who both went on to the bench.

He quickly established himself as one of the premier trial lawyers in the city. Smith's successful defence of heavy weight boxer Arthur Pelkey on manslaughter charges after he killed Luther McCarthy in a Calgary match garnered national recognition and launched his career. In 1926 Smith teamed up with his brother, war hero Clarence Smith, and future Supreme Court justice **W.G. Egbert** to establish the firm of Smith, Egbert and Smith. Like most lawyers in Calgary between the two world wars, Smith had a varied practice. He was solicitor for corporations such as the Canadian Pacific Railway and for labour groups like the United Mine Workers Local 18. Smith also acted frequently for the crown, successfully prosecuting the infamous Solloway and Mills stock fraud case. But he remained best known for his defence work: in 1941 he was the lawyer for Victor and Dorothy Ramberg, charged with the murder of their terminally ill two-year old son in Canada's first mercy killing trial. The couple was acquitted.

This was one of Smith's last big cases before beginning his political career. A life long Conservative, in 1932 he had acted as a special counsel for the government of R.B. Bennett, investigating allegations of senatorial corruption. In 1945 he ran for Parliament himself and was elected as the member for Calgary West. Sitting on the opposition benches, Smith soon had a reputation as a merciless wit and talented debater. From behind a genial demeanour he took delight in savaging the Liberal government of Louis St. Laurent but was a popular MP with colleagues from all parties. When he retired in 1951, praise came from every quarter, prompting his daughter to remark "It's a wonderful thing to have these obituaries while you are still alive". Smith died only a year later.

Smith had married Sara Isabel Ryan of Winnipeg in 1912. They had two children, a daughter and a son, **Arthur R. Smith**, who followed his father into politics and became a Member of Parliament himself. The Smiths moved into Mount Royal in 1927 from

Elbow Park, living at 1119 Sydenham until 1946 and later at 1424 Joliet Avenue. Sara Smith remained there for four years after her husband's death in 1952. 642

#### Smith, Arthur R.

Arthur R. Smith remains a prominent and active citizen of Calgary although his public career now stretches over four decades. The son of **Arthur L. Smith**, well known Calgary lawyer and Member of Parliament, Smith was born around 1920. After attending a private school on Vancouver Island, Smith dropped out at the age of 16 to become a roughneck in Turner Valley for Royalite Oil. On the outbreak of World War Two he joined the Royal Air Force and was a bomber pilot, earning a Distinguished Flying Cross. Back in Calgary after the war, Smith worked as a stock salesman before becoming a journalist in 1948. He wrote for *Oil in Canada* and became an editor for the magazine, then established his own journal, the *Petroleum Exploration Digest*. Smith later sold it to Carl Nickle. After four years in oil industry journalism, he was asked to become executive assistant for public relations to Sam C. Nickle, president of Anglo-American Exploration.

Smith began his political career by running for alderman in 1952 and winning a seat on Calgary city council. A life long Conservative like his father, Smith was elected to the Alberta Legislature as one of only three Conservatives in 1954. From provincial politics Smith moved easily to the federal arena and ran in the riding of Calgary South in 1957. He was elected at the age of thirty-five. While establishing his political career, Smith also found time to operate his own public relations firm, Arthur R. Smith and Associates. Pacific Petroleum hired him to take charge of their public relations, but Smith resigned after a short time to avoid conflicts of interest. As a parliamentarian, Smith was a vocal backbencher but no friend to his party leader, Prime Minister John Diefenbaker. Although he served three times as a parliamentary delegate to the United Nations and chaired several important parliamentary committees, unlike other Alberta members he never received a cabinet seat. This may be why he resigned in 1963 rather than seek reelection.

Smith was not done with politics. He tried for the job of mayor of Calgary in 1963 but was defeated by Grant McEwan. Not discouraged, Smith returned to city council as an alderman in 1965. He helped Peter Lougheed with public relations for the latter's successful 1971 election campaign. Less encumbered by political commitments, Smith's business interests blossomed. In 1967 he went to Vancouver to become president of Venture Management, an overseas investment firm, staying a year. His work in public relations brought him into contact with many companies and Smith began to acquire board memberships. He became vice president and president of five subsidiary companies in the Edmonton-based conglomerate Allarco Developments. Smith eventually held executive positions in several different energy and development companies. His business career was crowned by the presidency of Lavalin Partec, one of the largest oil and gas engineering firms in the world.

Not content with successful business and political careers, Smith devoted a great deal of time to community service. At one time he belonged to over thirty groups! A president of the Chamber of Commerce, he was a founder of the Calgary Transport Authority, the Calgary Booster Club, the Calgary Olympic Development Authority, and the cochairman for many years of the Calgary Economic Development Authority. As Calgary's chief booster, Smith is sometimes credited with the successful diversification of Calgary's economy after recession of the early eighties. More recently, Smith has devoted his energy to fighting homelessness in Calgary. In 1989, in recognition for his outstanding contribution to his community, Smith was awarded the Order of Canada. 651

Smith lived in Mount Royal while still a broker, residing near his father at 1145 Sydenham Road from 1946 to 1948.<sup>652</sup> He and his wife Betty Ann have two sons and a daughter.

#### Smith, William W.

Old barnstormer Bill Smith made a lasting contribution to aviation in Calgary as the secretary-manager of the Calgary Flying Club from 1938 to 1968. The club had been founded by several World War One veterans and other local aviation enthusiasts. Smith had earned his pilot's license in the late twenties at the old Bowness airfield in what is now Shouldice Park, Calgary's second landing strip. Smith remembered that he had to take lessons secretly. His parents were opposed to the idea of their young son messing around with aircraft, and when Smith took them out to the airstrip to show them it was perfectly safe, they immediately witnessed a crash. It happened not just once, but twice, forcing Smith to resort to subterfuge. When he proudly invited his parents to the airfield a third time to show off his new skill, the flight went well, but another aircraft landed on top of his, sending him to hospital and nearly costing Smith his arm!

Not even this mishap could dampen the young man's enthusiasm for flying. Working at the Dominion Bridge Company, he saved money for more flying lessons and earned his commercial pilot's licence in 1932. In the midst of the Depression, Smith left a good job with Dominion to barnstorm around the province, giving mini-air shows in small towns, taking locals up for rides. On bad days, he and his ground crew would go hungry. Fortunately for Smith, the Flying Club had established a training school and needed instructors. Signing on as an assistant, within two years he was made chief instructor and club manager. A year later, World War Two began, and Smith was recruited for the Commonwealth Air Training Plan with the rank of Squadron Leader and Commander of the 5<sup>th</sup> Elementary Flying Training School. The Commonwealth scheme saw pilots from throughout the British Empire training in the relative safety of Canada. Smith taught over four thousand student pilots during the war. He was awarded the Air Force Cross in 1943 for his contribution to the war effort.

After the war, Smith supervised the continued growth of the flying club. A hangar fire in 1956 was a major setback, destroying thirty-two aircraft. Smith managed to get a new hangar by dismantling one from High River and bringing it to Calgary, and slowly but surely found new aircraft. After getting the school back on its feet, he oversaw its move

from the old Renfrew airfield (the hangar can still be seen there) to McCall Field, now known as the Calgary International. When the airport became too busy, Smith installed the club at the new Springbank Airport in 1968, shortly before retiring. Over the course of his career, Smith logged over 17,000 hours flying and taught almost ten thousand students.

Smith lived at 2118 7<sup>th</sup> Street in 1951 and 1952.<sup>655</sup>

### Snowdon, Campbell C.

A pioneer of the oil industry in Calgary, Campbell Snowdon established a very successful refining and wholesale company located in East Calgary. Advertising for C.C. Snowdon was ubiquitous in the city for many years. Born in Montreal, Snowdon got his start in the industry with Imperial Oil in eastern Canada. 656 He came west in 1901 as a representative of Canadian Oil. Settling in Calgary in 1908, he began his own refining business. It was very successful, turning out lubricating oils and other petroleum products. At its height the C.C. Snowdon Company had branches in Winnipeg, Regina, Edmonton, Vancouver and Toronto. In 1929 he moved to 925 Durham with his wife, formerly Isabella Taylor of Cranbrook, and growing family. 657 One can track Snowdon's business success by his homes. His family had lived in Mission for four years before taking a larger house in Elbow Park and eventually moved to Mount Royal. Their home there was renowned for its gardens and roses, which were tended by a professional gardener from England, J.A. Spence. Campbell Snowdon died in 1935. He and Isabella had two sons, Charles and Alexander, and two daughters, Isabel and Myrtle. Isabella stayed on at the Durham Crescent home she had shared with her husband until 1945. Her son Charles lived there for two years. C.C. Snowdon & Company later became Turbo Resources. 658

# Spankie, Dr. Arthur T.

Arthur Spankie was from a Kingston medical family. His brother William also became a doctor and Calgarian, while another brother, a lawyer, practised in High River and still another was a dentist. Their father, a doctor, served as Member of Parliament for the riding of Frontenac. Born in Kingston in 1885, Arthur was educated there and graduated from Queen's University in 1907, one year after his brother William. He practised in Manhattan for a short time, becoming a ear, nose and throat specialist. Arthur came west to Calgary in 1911. Quickly establishing himself as a doctor in Calgary he was appointed as the ear, nose and throat specialist for the Calgary School Board in 1915. He and his wife Jean Beryl lived in Mount Royal from 1943 to 1948 at 2905 Wolfe. Spankie died relatively young, at only 59.

# Sproule, John Campbell

One of the now unsung heroes of Arctic oil exploration, Dr. John Campbell Sproule was a founder of Panarctic Petroleum. Jean Cretien, then Northern Affairs Minister under Pierre Trudeau, named a peninsula after Sproule on Melville Island in Canada's arctic dominions in 1971. 661 It was a tribute to his contribution to Canada's north.

Born in Edmonton in 1905, the year Alberta became a province, Sproule spent some time in Grand Prairie while growing up. 662 Attending the University of Alberta, he graduated in 1930 with a B.Sc. in geology, but decided to push on and got a doctorate degree in Geology in 1935 from the University of Toronto. In the midst of the Depression Sproule was fortunate to get a job with the Geological Survey of Canada. 663 His fieldwork took him from the Maritimes to British Columbia. After leaving the Survey, Sproule found work with several oil companies, and was senior geologist with Imperial Oil. 664 In 1951, he set up J.C. Sproule and Associates, a geological and engineering consulting firm, which is one of the largest companies of its kind in the country. Sproule was familiar with the Arctic from the Geological Survey and the oil and gas potential of the north became his pet obsession. For over twenty years, he promoted the idea of Arctic exploration. His advocacy eventually brought about Panarctic Oil, a marriage of government and private industry necessary because of the tremendous cost of looking for oil in the far north. It was formed in 1968 as a consortium of seventy-five companies and the federal government. 665 By the early 1990s, the company had drilled over a hundred wells at a cost of nearly a billion dollars, but had made large gas discoveries and by 1986, enough oil to depend on it for its operating revenue.

Some of Sproule's ideas for the Arctic had a tinge of science fiction. He envisioned giant submarine tankers to get oil from northern wells to market, and thought the Arctic would become a popular place to live in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Despite these visionary tendencies, he was immensely respected, the author of over thirty published scientific papers. Sproule was a member of fourteen organisations related to his work, including the Royal Geologic Society of Canada, the American Geological Society, and was a past president of the Association of Professional Engineers of Alberta, the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, the first Canadian to ever hold the post. In 1966, the Engineering Institute of Canada gave Sproule the Julian C. Smith Memorial Award for his part in the industrial development of Canada.

Married with two daughters, Sproule first lived in Mount Royal at 2317 Morrison Street in 1941 and 1942.<sup>668</sup> The Sproules later moved to 2209 Carleton in 1951, which has been the family home ever since. Cam Sproule, however, died relatively young, at the age of 65, in 1971.

# Sprung, Philip Dorland

Many Calgarians remember the eerie glow of the Sprung greenhouses by Deerfoot Trail during the eighties. It was the another endeavour of a Calgary company that stretched back three generations, all beginning with Philip Dorland Sprung. He was born in Mountain View, Ontario, around 1878. Perhaps inspired by the name of his birthplace, Sprung headed west in 1902. Once in Calgary, he went to work for **R.J. Hutchings** at the Great West Saddlery Company. Six years later, he joined the Western Tent and Awning Company and by 1918 was president. Sprung branched out into clothing manufacturing with a new company, Sprung Clindinin, in 1925. The management of the

companies was passed on to his son Donald when Sprung retired in the early fifties. He had tried municipal politics, and was on City council in 19--. A motoring enthusiast, Sprung took part in the first attempt to drive to Banff from Calgary by automobile. The Sprung car was one of six, out of over a hundred, that made it to the mountains.

Under the control of his grandson, also named Philip, the family firm expanded into ten different companies, with up to 2,000 employees. Philip Sprung's hi-tech greenhouse venture attracted a great deal of media attention. Using special hydroponics technology and revolutionary plastics for the structure, Sprung claimed his greenhouses would be able to produce mammoth yields of fruits and vegetables, even in the depth of a Calgary winter. Alas, the greenhouses turned out to be an embarrassing failure. The Calgary site was tainted by petrochemicals left behind by Imperial Oil's old refinery, while another complex in Newfoundland simply never produced the amount of produce Sprung expected.

Philip Dorland Sprung lived at 825 Durham Avenue, in a house he had built, from 1929 to 1948.<sup>671</sup> His son and successor Donald Sprung also resided in Mount Royal, at 2317 Carleton avenue, from 1930 to 1951.

# Stapells, Frederick

A leader in the business community of Calgary, Fred Stapells was better known for his record of community service. He was honoured with the Order of the British Empire for his work with the National War Finance Committee, a special merit award from the City of Calgary for community service in 1954 and an honorary doctor of laws in 1956 from the University of Alberta. <sup>672</sup>

He was born in Toronto to English parents. His father was a choirmaster and organist, but his mother acquired extensive and valuable real estate holdings. Although Fred showed signs of musical talent as well, he followed his mother's example and decided on a career in business. After high school he joined the Sovereign Bank in Toronto and rose to head accountant. Around 1908 his health deteriorated, and he came west the next year for the climate, homesteading near Carbon, Alberta. Without any agricultural experience, Stapells quickly realised he was not going to be a rancher and came to Calgary in 1910. The city was in the midst of a construction boom, and with two partners Stapells organised General Supply, dealing in building materials and engineering and electrical supplies. The new company immediately landed important contracts for the Calgary Municipal Street Railroad and the dam and power plant projects of Calgary Power.

When the building boom abruptly ended in 1914, General Supply diversified into the automobile business, becoming Calgary's Chevrolet-Oldsmobile dealer in 1916.<sup>674</sup> Not long afterward, General Supply sold its electrical supply business to concentrate on the car business. It became the most important dealership and auto parts supplier for General Motors in southern Alberta. In 1920, the company built a new headquarters at 1st Street and 5th Avenue SW, which eventually covered almost the whole city block. Fred Stapells was the President, Managing Director, and Secretary-Treasurer for the company. He was

on the boards of numerous other companies, including United Dairies, the Motor Car Supply Company, Canadian Western Natural Gas, and Royal Trust. <sup>675</sup> Stapells was also a president of the Calgary Chamber of Commerce and a vice president for the national body. He remained the chief of General Supply until his retirement in 1959.

Along with his business interests, Fred Stapells was a tireless community worker. The list of charities with which he was involved was enormous. Aside from his work for the National War Finance Committee, he was a founder and president of the Community Chest, a director of the YMCA, regional chairman for the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, a president of the Rotary club, on advisory committees for the Salvation Army and the Canadian Welfare Council as well a governor of Mount Royal College and a Senator for the University of Alberta. These many positions were not for show. He was universally recognised for his hard work on the part of all the organisations with which he was involved. Stapell's efforts helped the YMCA, the YWCA and the Institute for the Blind acquire new buildings. It is not surprising that he received the first Calgary Junior Chamber of Commerce Citizenship Award in 1945. The city of Calgary lost a great citizen when he died in 1962, at the age of 75. He was survived by his wife, formerly Florence Bowie of Winnipeg, and his son Richard Stapells, president of General Supplies. The family lived at 1204 Frontenac from 1928 to 1949, then at 1025 Sydenham until 1960.

## Stringer, Bert

In 1911, Bert Stringer built what is one of the most distinctive homes in Mount Royal. Anyone approaching the neighbourhood from the north on 8<sup>th</sup> Street is sure to note the picturesque brick mansion with the turret topped with a silver bell-cast roof. From Chatham, Ontario, where he was born in1880, Stringer had gone from high school in London, Ontario straight to Cuba where he worked for the United States government as an engineer. After a spell in New Orleans in the hardware business, travelling widely in Latin America, Stringer came up to Canada to recuperate from an attack of malaria. Deciding that Alberta had some good opportunities, he traded cattle in the Carbon area and after a couple of years went into real estate.

Opening an office in Calgary to sell homestead land and town lots in the Knee Hill town site, Stringer got into city real estate. Holding considerable property in the area known now as Mount Pleasant, Stringer was one of the consortium of businessmen who built the ill fated original Centre Street bridge.<sup>679</sup> The span, built to entice people into buying lots on the North Hill, became the source of much controversy. The owners, angered by heavy commercial traffic using the bridge and damaging it, necessitating major repairs, made it a toll bridge. This raised the ire of residents in Crescent Heights and Sunnyside, as well as civic officials. When Stringer and his group tried to sell it to the city, the latter refused to give them more than the value of the steel used for its construction. Slated for replacement by the existing bridge, it was washed away by the spring floods of 1915. Stringer, meanwhile, survived the real estate crash of 1913, continuing on in somewhat reduced circumstances. He was forced to set up suites in his house, presumably for the extra income.<sup>680</sup>

Stringer lived at 2003 8<sup>th</sup> up until shortly before his death in 1934.<sup>681</sup> His wife had died in 1926, and Stringer actually moved out for several years, renting the house, not returning until 1931.<sup>682</sup> His brother Arthur was a well known author who later went to Hollywood and became a successful screenwriter.

### Strong, Louis Philip

One of the earliest residents of Mount Royal, Strong was one of the Americans of "American Hill". He built his mansion at 707 Royal Avenue around 1906.<sup>683</sup> Born in Scipio, New York, the grain trade brought Strong to Calgary in 1905.<sup>684</sup> He established the Alberta Pacific Elevator Company, one the largest independent grain brokerage firms in Western Canada. By 1912, the company had built over eighty grain elevators on the prairies, and had a large terminal elevator in East Calgary. Strong sold the company to Max Aitken, Lord Beaverbrook, the same year. After selling out, he continued as a grain broker in partnership with F. A. Dowler as Strong and Dowler, retiring in 1935. Starting in the 1920s, the Strongs put suites in their house, one of the first homeowners to do so in Mount Royal.<sup>685</sup> Strong died in 1952. One of his three daughters, Genevieve, was married to air hero **Freddy McCall**.<sup>686</sup>

### Taprell, Charles D

Like neighbour **Charles Traunweiser**, Charles D. Taprell was an early hotelier in Calgary and one of the first residents of Mount Royal. He built a house at 823 Royal Avenue in 1910. Taprell was born in Brockville, Ontario in 1870 and went to work for the Canadian Pacific Railway. After ten years in Montreal he was sent to Vancouver to manage the railroad's Empress Hotel. He left the CPR for Calgary in 1907, taking over the venerable Alberta Hotel on 8th Avenue, a famous watering hole for ranchers well known for its Long Bar, reputedly the longest in western Canada. A good friend of rancher and Stampede backer George Lane, Taprell acted as the latter's business advisor after retiring from the hotel business. Taprell died in Victoria in 1945, at the age of 75.

#### Taylor, Edmund

Edmund Taylor is noteworthy for two reasons. Be was the business partner of Senator Sir James Lougheed in the financial firm of Lougheed and Taylor, he was also one of the early managers of the Hudson's Bay Company store in Calgary. Taylor came from a pioneer family, born in Manitoba in 1871 to an employee of the Hudson's Bay Co. In 1885 he joined the company of adventurers himself as an apprentice clerk, and for four years led a hard but romantic life at the trading posts. Promoted to store manager in Calgary in 1890, after seven years Taylor went to Winnipeg to run the supply department of the company. Taylor left the Hudson's Bay in 1906 to become a financier. Joining forces with Lougheed, the two established their own financial service company, providing insurance, loans and mortgages, real estate and stock investments, and managing the senator's substantial property holdings. Taylor acted as president and chief executive officer. He had his own business interests outside Lougheed and Taylor,

serving on the board of numerous local and national companies and as president of Maclin Universal Motors. A friend and associate of A.W. Dingman, the promoter who drilled the discovery well in Turner Valley, Taylor invested in the early oil industry and helped organise the Calgary Petroleum Products Company. He was also a charter member of the Calgary Stock Exchange and served as president for four years. Taylor had the good fortune to die at the beginning of October in 1929, barely a month before the great stock market crash bankrupted Lougheed and Taylor.

Taylor and his family lived at 1012 Frontenac from 1925 to 1932.<sup>690</sup>

## Taylor, Walker L

Walker L. Taylor, the manager of Imperial's western production department, moved in 1945 to the same house in Mount Royal once owned by **Dr. Ted Link**. Taylor was an old Turner Valley hand who had been with Imperial since 1919. He was a native Albertan, born in Edmonton. After attending the University of Alberta, Taylor had gone to McGill University in Montreal. With the beginning of World War One, he enlisted as a trooper in the 19th Alberta Dragoons and was sent overseas. In France he received his commission as an officer and was eventually promoted to captain. He ended the war with the Royal Air Force. After being demobilised, Taylor immediately went to work for Imperial and was put in charge of wildcat drilling in Alberta. In 1923 he was transferred to Peru, where he remained until 1928. Returning to Calgary, he went back to work in Turner Valley. Taylor joined Ted Link in Norman Wells in 1942, as the manager of development and exploration. Although not as flamboyant as his geologist friend, Taylor had an important role in Imperial's operations leading up to the Leduc strike as the manager of production in western Canada. Imperial promoted him to assistant general manager of production and exploration for Canada in 1949, transferring him to its head office in Toronto.

Taylor and his wife Gwendolyn lived at 1201 Prospect for four years.

# **Thompson, George Harry**

Beginning his career as an engineer, G. Harry Thompson became one of the giants of Canada's electric utility industry. As the president and chairman of Calgary Power he was one of the men responsible for the company's spectacular growth and its dominant position in the Alberta utility market as TransAlta Utilities.

Thompson was born in Oxford, Nova Scotia on May 11, 1889.<sup>691</sup> He attended Dalhousie University before going to McGill in Montreal, and graduated in 1913 with a degree in electrical engineering.<sup>692</sup> His first job with Canadian Westinghouse was interrupted by World War One, when Thompson enlisted in the Royal Canadian Engineers. Serving in France, he received the Military Cross, one of the most prestigious awards in the Canadian Army. Rejoining Westinghouse after the war, he came to Calgary as the company's local representative, but went to West Canadian Collieries in 1922 in the Crow's Nest Pass. Thompson started with Calgary Power as the assistant superintendent of the Seebe dam and power plant. This was the start of his rapid rise through the company. By 1931, he was general manager and directed the rapid expansion of Calgary

Power's generating facilities and delivery networks. In 1941 he was made vice-president and then president in 1959, and finally chairman of the board in 1965. Through this period, Calgary Power built many of its hydro-electric developments, including the Cascade plant at Lake Minnewanka, the Spray Lakes development, and the Brazeau River Dam and generating station, as well as its coal fired power plants, a "combined hydro-thermal system for Alberta". By 1971, two years before Thompson retired, Calgary Power was the sixth largest utility in Canada, and generated 1,500,000 kilowatts of power compared to 26,000 in 1926.

Harry Thompson's utility building was not restricted to Alberta. In 1941 he was made a vice president of Montreal Engineering, the parent company of Calgary Power and part of Lord Beaverbrook's business empire. As both an engineer and administrator for Montreal Engineering, he worked on projects in other parts of Canada, particularly in Newfoundland, but also in South America, the Caribbean, India, China and the Far East. The Engineering Institute of Canada awarded him the Julian C. Smith Medal for his role in the "development of Canada". His involvement with the energy industry was not restricted to electricity; Thompson also sat on the boards of Home Oil and TransCanada Pipelines. He finally retired in 1973, after a sixty-year career.

Aside from his professional affiliations, which included the professional engineers associations of Alberta, Quebec and Newfoundland as well as the Engineering Institute and the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, Thompson belonged to the best Calgary clubs: the Ranchmen's and the Calgary Golf and Country Club. He found time for community service with the Rotarian Club, while enjoying sailing and boating as a pastime. Along with his wife Annie, he lived in Mount Royal for several years, residing at 1035 Durham Avenue from 1937 to 1940.<sup>694</sup> Harry Thompson died in Edmonton on April 23, 1975, at the age of 85.

#### Tomlinson, David Holland

His military rank and bearing seemed somehow suitable for the man who served as the Red Cross Commissioner of Alberta and the senior administrator for Canada, capping forty years of service with the organisation. Yet Lieutenant Colonel David H. Tomlinson's work with the Red Cross had little to do with battlefields, but instead with helping the sick and needy in many different ways.

Tomlinson was born July 24, 1892 in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, the son of a choirmaster and one of ten children. After public school, the young man began an internship as an accountant at a local plumbing and heating firm. He was an avid sports fan, playing soccer, tennis and competing in track and field. Pressured by his father to give up sports for music, Tomlinson decided to join a sister living in Canada. He arrived in Calgary in 1913 and set about finding employment. Cocksure with his training as a bookkeeper, Tomlinson was surprised when he was still looking for a job several weeks later, and was glad to find work with a contractor engaged on the Cockshutt Plow building. From there he got on as a clerk in the hardware department of the Pryce-Jones department store, where he remained until the beginning of 1915.

With World War One in full swing, Tomlinson joined the 50th Battalion. He had experience as a militia soldier in Scotland, and found himself a sergeant instructor. Once overseas, Tomlinson received a field commission as a lieutenant and soon afterwards was seriously wounded at the battle of Ypres. A permanently crippled left arm saw him posted behind the lines in England, but he proved a good staff officer, and was promoted to captain and enrolled as a Member of the British Empire. He also married his nurse, Margaret Guyat, and returned to Canada with a wife and a baby boy.

Working at first for the Soldier Re-Establishment Board, helping veterans get back on their feet in civilian life, Tomlinson was asked by Brigadier Harold McDonald, who he knew from overseas, to become the paid secretary of the Calgary Red Cross. He never looked back. When the Calgary branch amalgamated with the Alberta division in 1926, Tomlinson went to work for the Motor Service Company as secretary treasurer, but he continued with the Red Cross as a volunteer. In 1931 he went back to work for the Red Cross as manager of their Depression relief program, providing food and clothing for those hardest hit by the catastrophe. Two years later he was promoted to Commissioner of the Alberta Division. Aside from presiding over the expansion of the Red Cross into all sorts of health and social welfare fields, Tomlinson was very proud of his role in transforming the small Crippled Children's hospital, maintained by the Red Cross in a old Mount Royal mansion, into the Alberta Children's Hospital.

Tomlinson never lost his interest in sports or in the military. He had helped organise the Calgary Highlanders militia regiment in 1921, serving as the first adjutant, and later became the commander in 1929 with the rank of Colonel. A member of the Alberta Military Institute, a club for military men and civilians interested in military history and theory, Tomlinson served as its president in 1934. With a number of other soccer players, he organised the Hillhurst Football club, and was on its executive for a number of years. The old soldier also enjoyed target shooting and was honorary secretary for the Provincial Rifle Association.

The Tomlinsons lived at 2747 Wolfe Street from 1930 to 1947 and at 1209 Premier Way from 1949 until 1962. David Tomlinson died in 1962, survived by his wife, two son and two daughters. One son, David "Baldy" Tomlinson, played for the Calgary Stampeders football team.

#### Townsend, R. Gordon

Calgary's second orthopaedic surgeon, Dr. R. Gordon Townsend arrived in Calgary in 1940 and assumed the practice of Dr. R.B. Deane, the city's first specialist. Townsend came to Calgary from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Born in Woodstock, New Brunswick, he went west with his parents and after finishing public school enrolled in the University of Saskatchewan. After earning his bachelor's degree, Townsend went to McGill University in Montreal to study medicine. His post graduate work, specialising in orthopaedics, was done at the University Hospital in Ann Arbour, Michigan and the Royal Victorian Hospital in Montreal.

Townsend established himself quickly through the good graces of Dr. Deane. The gruff but kindly old doctor, who had been in failing health for several years, gave Townsend free rein, recommending the new doctor to his patients, and happily giving him the benefit of his years of experience. Although supposedly selling his practice to the young doctor Deane only collecting a nominal payment of \$25 every second month. Townsend continued many of Deane's customs, especially his habit of treating all and sundry irrespective of their ability to pay. He also succeeded Deane as the chief of staff for the Red Cross Crippled Children's Hospital, and when it later became the Alberta Children's Hospital established the institution's hospital school. The doctor loved children, and was known for his special touch with his little patients. Townsend was the chief of staff for the Rockyview and was also associated with the Holy Cross, General and Foothills hospitals. The Stampede received his services as infield doctor for many years. One of his most unusual professional calls was on Max Bell. The publishing magnate's prize colt had broken its leg and he wanted a bone specialist, so Townsend played veterinarian and tended to the damaged limb. Despite his busy career, the good doctor was legendary for the many hours he gave to charitable causes.

In Mount Royal the Townsends lived at 3003 Montcalm Crescent from 1941 to 19--. Dr. Townsend died on August 7, 1998, at the age of 93.

#### **Traunweiser, Charles**

One of the most distinctive old homes in Mount Royal is at 1213 Prospect Avenue. The vast buff brick mansion was built in 1912 by Charles Traunweiser, a successful hotelier in early Calgary. He was a real pioneer, coming to Calgary in the 1880s from the United States, and was born in Ogdensberg, New York. Traunweiser went into the tobacco business, as a wholesaler and as proprietor of the Hub Cigar Store. As Calgary grew, he became involved in real estate and the hotel industry, and was proprietor of the Yale and Empress hotels. Traunweiser left Calgary in 1945 for Victoria. His house on Prospect was later the home of **Bella Singer.** Traunweiser died on the coast in 1954.

### Turner, John A. & Robert

So who was Turner Valley south of Calgary actually named after? Two different, unrelated Turners lived in Mount Royal after retiring from ranching, and the local newspapers credit them both with homesteading the valley. John A. Turner resided in Mount Royal from 1913 to 1914 at 1031 Prospect Avenue, and Robert Turner at 2702 Montcalm Crescent 1929 to 1931. 697 They were representative of many successful ranchers who retired to the city, selling their spreads or leaving them in the hands of a son or capable manager.

John A. Turner was born in Manneston, Linlithgow, Scotland in 1867 and immigrated to Canada in 1882.<sup>698</sup> He came out to Calgary in 1886 and began a ranch noted for its horses. Turner was credited with introducing pure-bred stock to Alberta. At some point,

he had a ranch in the Valley. In 1914 he retired and eventually moved out to the coast of British Columbia, where he died in 1935 at the age of 67.

Robert Turner and his wife came from Edinburgh, Scotland. Attracted to Canada by the stories of a cousin, Turner immigrated in 1886, sending for his childhood sweetheart two years later. After marriage in Quebec, the couple came to Alberta where Turner had established a substantial homestead with a large log cabin. A brother, James, had helped start the farm, but soon left for Ontario. The first homestead was near Millarville, but the Turners later sold this property for start a ranch closer to Okotoks, the Bar T. Although they lived close by the site of the Dingman discovery well, the Turners never made any money from oil. Indeed, they heard about the strike while vacationing in Italy. Their ranch, however, was very successful. After three years in Mount Royal, the Turners retired to Vancouver in 1931. Robert sold their fourteen hundred-acre ranch in 1944. The two Scots were extraordinarily long lived: Robert died in 1953 at the age of 93, his wife lived until 1963 and the age of 101.

As to which Turner has the better claim to be namesake of the eponymous valley, the reader may decide!

### Walsh, Legh A.

Although perhaps overshadowed by his father, a Supreme Court Justice and third Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, Legh A. Walsh had his own successful career as a barrister, cut short by a heart attack in 1938. 702 Ironically, Walsh died while in Victoria to settle the estate of his illustrious father William Legh Walsh, who had passed away shortly before. Walsh was born in Orangeville, Ontario in 1895, and attended Western Canada College as a boy in Calgary before going to Trinity College, an exclusive private school in Ontario. He returned west to article as a student at law in the offices of Clark, Carson and Macleod. Before he finished, World War One began, and Walsh joined the army as a lieutenant. He was wounded at the Somme in 1916. After returning to Calgary, he finished his studies and was admitted to the bar in 1920. Practising for a short time with A.G. Virtue in Lethbridge, Walsh established himself in Calgary in 1922, later going into partnership with famed criminal lawyer A. Macleod Sinclair. 703 In 1932, Walsh was made a King's Counsel, and was secretary for the Law Society, a position he held up until his death. 704 It is tempting to speculate that Walsh may have ended up on the bench like his father. In Mount Royal, Walsh lived at 1028 Frontenac from 1928 until his death. His widow remained there until 1942.<sup>705</sup>

# Walsh, William Legh

Lawyer, Supreme Court Justice and Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, William L. Walsh lived in Mount Royal for four years, 1914 to 1917, at 2415 8th Street. He was born on January 28, 1857, in Simcoe, Ontario. His father, Aquila Walsh, had been a member of the Legislative Assembly of Upper and Lower Canada and a Member of Parliament after Confederation. Walsh later tried politics himself. After attending the University of Toronto, Walsh studied law at Osgoode Hall. He returned to Simcoe briefly and then

went to Orangeville in 1881 to practice law with D'Alton McCarthy, well known barrister and politician. Marrying a woman from Barrie, Jessie McVittie, Walsh spent nineteen years in Orangeville. After three years on the local school board, he ran for mayor in 1891 and was elected for a two-year term. An unsuccessful run at Parliament followed in 1896 and another term as mayor of Orangeville in 1899.

Walsh decided to leave the comfort of southern Ontario for the Yukon. In 1900 he went to Dawson City and practised law there for four years. Although the gold rush had already crested, life as a lawyer in the Yukon was quite adventurous – and lucrative. Walsh settled the largest mining claim of the decade and pocketed a record fee for the transaction. Despite this, due to his own mining speculation Walsh never became a rich man himself. He was made a King's Counsel in 1903. The following year Walsh ran for mayor of Dawson but was defeated. Business began to wind down as the gold rush ended and Walsh decided to go south to Calgary. **Maitland McCarthy**, a nephew and colleague of D'Arcy McCarthy, had settled in Calgary in 1903 and invited Walsh to join his new firm. McCarthy also became a Justice of the Supreme Court and was a colourful resident of Elbow Park.

Walsh, McCarthy and Carson were one of the major law firms in early Calgary. Walsh himself was an active Conservative in Calgary, serving as first president of the provincial Conservative Association and running unsuccessfully in a 1906 provincial by-election. After eight years of practising law in Calgary, Walsh was appointed to the Alberta Supreme Court in 1912. An Anglican, he was prominent in the vestry of the Cathedral Church of the Redeemer, acting as the chancellor for the diocese until 1931. That year Prime Minister R.B. Bennett appointed Walsh Lieutenant Governor, replacing Liberal Dr. William Egbert. Although succeeding a popular incumbent, "Daddy Walsh" was very successful in the post. He given a Doctorate of Laws by the University of Alberta in 1932 and was the first honorary chief of the Blood Indians. His tenure was marked by an interesting constitutional problem created by the resignation of Premier John Brownlee in 1934. The disgraced premier did not choose a successor and Walsh refused to recognise the nominee of the caucus, Richard Reid, until the latter could show he was able to form a cabinet. Total carbon a cabinet.

After his term ended in 1936, Walsh decided to retire from public life. He went to Victoria where he pursued his passion for golf, but died in 1938 of a sudden heart attack at the age of 80.<sup>710</sup> Walsh was survived by his second wife and his son, barrister **Legh Walsh**. A widower himself, Justice Walsh had married a widow, Bertha Barber of Vancouver, in 1931.

# Webster, George H

He was the mayor of Calgary, a successful provincial politician and a friend to royalty. George H. Webster was born in Leicester, England, on September 25, 1868.<sup>711</sup> He came to Canada with his parents five years later, the family settling in Orangeville, Ontario. They came further west to Winnipeg in 1880. Barely more than a child when he left school in 1883, Webster was fascinated by railroads and got a job as a water boy with the

road crews building the CPR.<sup>712</sup> Only fifteen years old, he had his first look at Calgary the same year. Despite his youth, Webster soon graduated to contracting himself, working on rail lines in Maine and Washington State. For the next few years he crisscrossed the continent. Knowing Pat Burns from his days on the CPR, Webster returned to Calgary in 1900 to become the manager of the Burns meat packing company. When the Grand Trunk Pacific began building its transcontinental line in 1906, Webster went back to contracting. His largest contract was the GTP line from Calgary to Tofield, built in 1910.

Webster's last contract for railroad construction was on the scandal-ridden Edmonton and Dunvegan line to the Peace River. Shortly after World War One began, he retired from business altogether. An active Liberal, Webster threw his energy into politics, in the civic and provincial arenas. He was first elected to Calgary City Council in 1920, serving as an alderman for three consecutive years. In 1923 he became mayor, and was elected four years in a row. (municipal elections were annual until 19--) Known as the "Cowboy Mayor" for his ardent support of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede, the popular Webster left municipal office to run for the Provincial Legislature. Elected as a Liberal in 1926, he became the leader of the provincial party in 1930. Long having problems with a chronic abdominal ailment, poor health forced Webster out of politics in 1932. 713

While mayor of Calgary, Webster had met Edward Prince of Wales when the heir to the throne visited Calgary. The Prince was quite taken by the blunt railroad man, and the two became good friends: Webster stayed with Prince several times at his famous EP Ranch near High River, and was invited to Buckingham Palace while on a trip to England. An ardent outdoorsman and horseman, the mayor had a great deal in common with the English aristocrat.

After leaving politics, Webster's health rapidly worsened and he died in November of 1933. His wife May Amanda, who he married in Winnipeg in1895, continued to live at their home in Mount Royal at 2726 Montcalm Way, where they had moved in 1930. They had previously lived 1316 Prospect Avenue from 1914 to 1928. She was on the board of the YWCA, past president of the Mount Royal Educational Club and the Women's Liberal Club. The

### Wills, Ernest

The first citizen of Mount Royal was Dr. Ernest Wills. It was the good doctor who built a tuberculosis sanatorium in 1904 on what was later Morrison Street. He had acquired ten acres of land from the CPR in the heart of Section Nine, where only a few years later the company decided to lay out its new exclusive subdivision, Mount Royal. Wills was originally from England, where he earned his medical degree from the University of London in 1885. He specialised for many years in mental disorders, what contemporaries referred to as "lunacy". At one point, shortly after coming to Calgary, he even gave expert testimony on the subject at a murder trial. Before arriving in western Canada, Wills had immigrated to Pretoria, South Africa, where he met and married his wife. The couple moved next to Colorado, and Wills developed an interest in the

treatment of tuberculosis. The disease was incurable to the medical science of the day, but among the treatments to hold it in check doctors recommended dry, cool climates. Many sufferers of lung ailments came to western Canada seeking relief

Wills decided Calgary as an excellent site for a sanatorium. He and his family arrived in the city in the summer of 1903 and Wills registered as a physician in the Northwest Territories on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 1903. (Alberta was two years away from becoming a province). The sanatorium was completed by the following summer. It consisted of a large mansion, with dining and sleeping quarters for patients and quarters for Wills and his family. A collection of canvas-walled cabins surrounded it, where patients would sleep in fair weather to fully benefit from Calgary's crisp air. Perched as it was near what is now the corner of Prospect and Morrison Street, it commanded an excellent view from the top of "American Hill".

The hill was to prove the undoing of Dr. Wills. He was in the habit of riding his bicycle down a steep footpath to the city below and his downtown office. On September 20, 1904, he left the sanatorium shortly after noon and did not return. An employee of the doctor, Thomas Kitt, found him at 8:30 that evening, unconscious by his bicycle. Although it seemed clear that he had a mishap descending the steep trail, several people claimed to have seen him in town during the day, which created a minor mystery – how could he have injured himself so severely going *uphill* to his home? It was later decided that the witnesses must have been mistaken. Suffering from severe brain injuries, Wills was taken back to the Sanatorium. Despite the efforts of half a dozen fellow physicians, Wills lapsed into a coma and died the next day.

The Sanatorium survived Wills' death, and was taken over by Dr. Richard L. Morrison. The Sanatorium survived Wills' death, and was taken over by Dr. Richard L. Morrison. The Sanatorium sell off the grounds, the widow Wills sold the land to Morrison, namesake of the present-day street. The Sanatorium became a convalescent home in 1911, operating until 1932.

### Woodman, Frank Leslie

The idea of a teacher's salary buying a house in Mount Royal today would probably provoke laughter in today's real estate market. Yet over for three decades, educators could be found among the residents of Mount Royal. One of these teachers was Frank Woodman. He spent thirty-eight of his forty-five year career in Calgary schools, and was a beloved figure among city sports fans. Known as the dean of Calgary's High School Principals, Woodman Junior High in Haysboro was named in his honour.

Woodman was born in Grand Pre, Nova Scotia, in 1888. His father was a farmer, but Woodman went to Acadia University where he earned a bachelor's degree in science in 1909. After graduating, he drifted into teaching, taking a job at a boy's school in Horton, Nova Scotia before succumbing to wanderlust and going to Boston, Massachusetts. He continued to teach in the nearby town of Peabody, supplementing his education with courses at a local teacher's college. Returning to Canada, Woodman ended up in Regina at the provincial normal school, leaving for Calgary when he saw an advertisement for

teachers in the paper. Arriving in 1915, he got a job teaching physics at Crescent Heights High School. Four years later Woodman went to Central, where he taught for sixteen years before going to Western Canada High. It had just been organised as a composite school, combining a technical and academic school with the students from the Commercial High School downtown and the East Calgary High School. When Woodman was made provisional principal in1937, he had the daunting task of trying to weld together several disparate student bodies and faculty into one school.

The easy going, good-humoured Woodman succeeded brilliantly. Although under his regime Western was not the academic power house it is today, his able direction of the school made him one of the most respected principals in the city, loved by both parents and students. The affection was partly inspired by Woodman's dedication to sports. He had been an athlete himself, playing hockey, rugby, and football and when he got older, curling and golf. Woodman coached Calgary's high school football teams and acted as a referee for the professional Western Interprovincial Football League and as a timekeeper at a whole range of athletic events. The Calgary Booster Club named him 'Sportsman of the Year three times.

Woodman retired in 1954, after nearly twenty years at Western. He raised his own family in Mount Royal. He met and married his wife, Stella Macdonald, in 1915: she was a newspaper reporter. They had one son, Frank Jr. who later became a doctor. The Woodmans lived at 2326 Morrison Street from 1926 until 1932, and then moving to a new house at 1316 Montreal in 1933, where they remained until 1940.

# Young, David Jackson

A pioneer businessman in Calgary, D.J.Young came to the city in 1896 at the behest of his older brother John. John Jackson Young, an experienced newspaperman, had bought the struggling *Calgary Herald* two years before, and wanted his brother to come help him run it. D.J. Young had also done some work on newspapers and took up the position of city editor at the *Herald*. After only about eight months, however, the news of gold in the interior of British Columbia had David packing his bags. He opened a book and stationery shop in the booming mining town of Kaslo, selling all types of paper products as well as doing a good business supplying the local bordellos with pianos and sheet music!

Young had been born in Newark, Nottinghamshire in England, in 1875. The family immigrated to Canada and came to Regina in 1884. David Young went to work at the age of thirteen as a printer's devil at the *Regina Leader-Post*, where his brother was working for publisher and Member of Parliament Nicholas Davin. D.J. Young's foreman was Walter Scott, who would become the first premier of Saskatchewan. Young left the newspaper trade to work in stationery stores in Regina. When his brother bought the Moosomin Spectator, he opened a stationery store there before coming to Calgary. After six years in Kaslo, the mining boom collapsed, and Young, who had been an alderman and member of the Kaslo police commission, realised the local economy would quickly

implode. With his new bride, he returned to Calgary and the *Herald*, to take over as business manager.

D.J. soon struck out on his own again, opening a stationery shop on 8th Avenue. His first location burnt down, but in later years he reckoned this had been to his advantage, for his new store near the Hudson's Bay took off. Young went into real estate as well, and by 1909 had amassed enough money to build a substantial home at 2101 8th Street. An early motoring enthusiast, he bought a Cadillac touring car in 1911 with the first electric headlights seen in Calgary. Young was excited by the oil discoveries in Turner Valley and became an investor, eventually founding Commonwealth Petroleum. Considered a leading businessman of the city, Young belonged to Board of Trade. In the late thirties, Young began divesting himself of his business interests, selling his stores in 1935 and his oil investments in 1938. After his retirement, he kept busy with real estate deals and acting as the Federal electoral returning officer from 1941 to 1952.

While his brother J.J. was active in all manner of musical and theatre societies in early Calgary, David Young's interests ran more to sports. He played soccer and hockey, entered bicycle races, and golfed. Along with a number of other local enthusiasts, Young set up a rough course along Seventeenth Avenue south of downtown. He was the first president and a founder of the Calgary Golf Club, which became the Calgary Golf and Country Club. Among his other golfing accomplishments, Young won a dollar from the Prince of Wales in a game when the latter visited Calgary. When not hobnobbing with royalty, Young was involved with different community groups. During the First World War, he headed up the Navy League in Calgary and worked for the Red Cross as chairman of the local finance committee. Young was on the board of Directors for the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede for thirty years, including a two-year stint as president. He also sat on the board of governors for Western Canada College. A lifelong liberal, Young served as president for both the Calgary and Alberta Liberal Associations. Young recalled working in the Herald offices while his brother and R.B. Bennett discussed strategy for an upcoming election. When J.J. jokingly cautioned Bennett to be careful because his brother the Liberal might be listening, the future prime minister walked across the office and asked "Is it true you're a Grit?" When Young said yes, Bennett stormed out of the office and wouldn't speak to him for years!

Young lost his wife in 1928. He continued to live in his mount Royal house at until 19--, later moving in with his daughter Helen, who also lived in the neighbourhood. Young had lived in the area since 1913, first at 2101 8<sup>th</sup> Street up to 1929, then at 2105 8<sup>th</sup> Street from 1935 on. He died in 1961, at the age of 86.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The City of Calgary now does its own census as well as using the Federal census to provide information on different communities

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> GAI, Elbow Park Oral History Project, Methodology

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Donald J. Bogue, *Principles of Demography*, New York: John Wiley and Sons, 1969, pg. 252

<sup>4</sup> Ibid, pgs. 429 to 437 for an excellent discussion on the use of occupations to indicate social status. This is just one work in a large literature on the subject, but good for the layman and the historian!

<sup>5</sup> Women are often listed in the directories as principle residents, but until the thirties it is fairly rare for them to have an occupation listed as well. This, of course, does not mean they did not work outside the home. Later more women have their own employment listed, and occasionally a woman resident of the home, even if not the primary householder, is also listed in the alphabetical index of the directories. Generally, even into the 1950s, not enough women were listed in Elbow Park with occupations to make comparisons with the census useful or valid. My limited search did not find any good discussions of finding sources for this information. In Hugh Dempsey, Calgary: Spirit of the West, Saskatoon: Fifth House, 1994, pgs. 97-102, the author talks a bit about women and work in early Calgary. The reader may also want to try Marjorie Norris, A Leaven of Ladies: a history of the Calgary Local Council of Women, Calgary, Detselig Enterprises, 1995 <sup>6</sup> Donald G. Wetherell & Irene Kmet, *Homes in Alberta: building, trends and design*, 1870-1967, Edmonton: University of Alberta Press, 1991, pgs. 113-116, 174-175 <sup>7</sup> land titles or city taxation rolls are usually used to show home ownership <sup>8</sup> David Mittelstadt, A Social History of Cliff Bungalow and Mission, unpublished paper for the Cliff Bungalow-Mission Community Association, 1997; A Social and Biographical History of Elbow Park, unpublished paper for the Elbow Park Resident's Association, 2000 Hugh Dempsey, Calgary: Spirit of the West, Saskatoon: Fifth House, 1994, pg. 4 <sup>10</sup> Kenneth Hardy and Michael C. Wilson, "The Archeology of the Calgary Area, Alberta" Geology of the Calgary Area, Calgary: Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists, 1987, pg. ?? <sup>11</sup> Hugh Dempsey, "Native Peoples & Calgary" Centennial City: Calgary 1894 to 1994, Calgary: University of Calgary, 1994, pg. 27 <sup>12</sup> Dempsey, *Spirit*, pg. 8 <sup>13</sup> find source – Melnyk? Corbet pg. 1 <sup>15</sup> Calgary Herald, September 22, 1904, "Accident to Dr. E. Wills Terminates Fatally Today" <sup>16</sup> Calgary Herald, September 21, 1904, "Dr. Wills is Hurt" <sup>17</sup> Corbet & Simpson, pg. 7 <sup>19</sup> Harold D. Kalman, *The History of Canadian Architecture*, Vol. 2, Toronto: Oxford University Press, <sup>20</sup> Max Foran, Calgary, Frontier Metropolis, pg. ? <sup>21</sup> check Kalman <sup>22</sup> Corbet, pg. 8 <sup>23</sup> Henderson's - double check Melnyk, pg. ? <sup>26</sup> According to Corbet, pg. 26, sidewalks were started in 1908, water lines in 1909 and sewers in 1910, and reached south Mount Royal by 1911 <sup>27</sup> Corbet, pg. 22 <sup>28</sup> Corbet, pg. 11 <sup>29</sup> Ibid, pg. 12-13 <sup>30</sup> Melnyk, pg. ? <sup>31</sup> Colin K. Hatcher, Stampede City Streetcars, Montreal: Railfare Industries, 1975, pg. ? <sup>32</sup> Corbet, pg. 28 <sup>33</sup> Corbet, pg. 33 <sup>34</sup> Ibid, pg. 31 <sup>35</sup> Foran, pg. ? <sup>36</sup> At the time of this writing, that describes 1213 Prospect and its neighbouring houses. <sup>37</sup> Corbet, pg. 15 <sup>38</sup> corbet, pg. 29-31 <sup>39</sup> Earl Grey Golf Club, 1919 –1994, by Robert Buchanan, Club Historian, in GAI Library clipping file Calgary - Mount Royal 40 Corbet, pg. 15

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<sup>43</sup> Kerry Banks, "The Right Side of the Tracks", Western Living, December 1983, pg. 24; Corbet, pg. 44
<sup>44</sup> GAI, Cliff Bungalow-Mission Oral History Project, interview with Dolores Woolrich.
<sup>45</sup> Ibid, interview with Bernard Despins
<sup>46</sup> GAI, Elbow Park Oral History Project, various interviews
<sup>47</sup> Dempsey, Spirit..., pg. 131
<sup>48</sup> Wetherall & Kmet
<sup>49</sup> Ralph Hubele, A Community Plan for Elbow Park, Master's Thesis, University of Calgary, December,
1981, pg. 87
<sup>50</sup> City of Calgary, Community Profiles, 1994, pg. ?
<sup>51</sup> Henderson's
<sup>52</sup> Census of Canada, 1911, volume 1, pg. ?
<sup>53</sup> Foran, pg.
<sup>54</sup> Census of Canada, 1921, volume ?, pg. ?
<sup>55</sup> Max Foran, Calgary: Frontier Metropolis, Calgary: Chamber of Commerce, 1982, pg. 176-177; Henry
Klassen, A Business History of Alberta, Calgary: University of Calgary Press, 1999, pg. 114-116, 134-135.
These sources amply reinforce my own subjective impressions gleaned from the city directories
<sup>56</sup> GAI, Cliff Bungalow-Mission Oral History Project, interview with Bernard Despins
<sup>57</sup> Ibid, interview with Evelyn Bohannon, see also GAI, M7773, the Calgary Bar Association Oral History
Project, particularly interviews such as Spencer Cumming and Gordon Allen
<sup>58</sup> GAI, Elbow Park Oral History Project, uncatalogued. Interviews with residents
<sup>59</sup> Ibid, interview with F. Richard Matthews
<sup>60</sup> GAI, Elbow Park Oral History Project, uncatalogued. Interviews with residents present during World
War Two supports this contention
<sup>61</sup> Foran, op.cit. pg. 268
<sup>62</sup> Census of Canada, 1951, 1961
<sup>63</sup> To certain extent, this figure is misleading. One of the difficulty with brokers is how to classify them –
do those who own a brokerage firm get called business proprietors or brokers. I have as a rule chosen the
former route, consistent with other fields like contracting. However, there is a very clear drop in the
number of men employed as brokers by brokerage firms, so we are safe in saying that this type of
occupation dropped off very dramatically.
<sup>64</sup> Henderson's. I have not tried to measure this, but several cases have been noted.
65 Mittelstadt, Elbow Park, pg. 10
<sup>66</sup> Corbet, pg.
<sup>67</sup> Banks, pg. 28?
<sup>69</sup> Census of Canada, Vol. 1, pg. 6-2, 1951; vol. 1, bulletin 1.3, pg. 83-3
<sup>70</sup> Joffe et al, pg. 246 and Calgary Herald, Sept 29, 1965, "J.B.Barron Dies Here at Age 77"
<sup>71</sup> GAI, H.Gordon Love fonds, M693, File 71
<sup>72</sup> Dorothy Field, ed. Stephen Avenue and Area Historical Walking Tour Alberta Community Development,
Calgary, 1995, pg. 44
<sup>73</sup> Henderson's
<sup>74</sup> Albertan? October 11, 1972, "Max Bell Estate Totals $22 Million" and Calgary Herald, October 13,
1972, "Bell Foundation to aid charities"
<sup>75</sup> Gray, The Great Canadian Oil Patch, pg. 238
<sup>76</sup> Ibid, pg. 238
<sup>77</sup> Bobrovitz, Jennifer Max Bell: The Albertan, unpublished paper, 1987
<sup>78</sup> Calgary Herald, July 20, 1972, "Max Bell Dies; headed Albertan"
<sup>79</sup> Gray, pg. 238
80 Gray, pg. 240
82 Albertan, July 20, 1972, "G. Max Bell, publisher, dies aged 59"
<sup>83</sup> Gray, pg 242
84 Albertan, ibid
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<sup>41</sup> Henderson's <sup>42</sup> Corbet, pg. 24,-25

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<sup>85</sup> Albertan, July 21, 1972, "Bell left behnd million-dollar breeding establishment"
<sup>86</sup> Gray, pg 244
<sup>87</sup> Bobrovitz, pg. 11
88 Gray, pg. 237
89 Gray, pg. 237-238, also Albertan, ibid
<sup>90</sup> Gray, pg. 242
91 Bobrovitz, pg. 6
<sup>92</sup> Calgary Herald, July 20, 1972, "Max Bell Dies; headed Albertan"
93 Bobrovitz, pg. 7
<sup>94</sup> Henderson's, Bobrovitz, pg. 11
95 Calgary Herald, December 4, 1944
<sup>96</sup> Henderson's
<sup>97</sup> Albertan, Jan. 7, 1976 and Alberta Report, Apr. 26, 1993
98 Calgary Herald, Feb. 24, 1983
<sup>99</sup> Calgary Herald, June 19, 1940, pg. 11, "Head of Local Building Firm Dies At Coast"
100 Henderson's
<sup>101</sup> Macrae, pg. 599
<sup>102</sup> Calgary Herald, October 4, 1928, "Thos. Beveridge Dies Thursday"
103 Henderson's
<sup>104</sup> MacRae, Archibald Oswald. History of the Province of Alberta. The Western Canada History Co.,
1912, pgs 570-571
<sup>105</sup> Calgary Herald, Aug. 23, 1973.
<sup>106</sup> Calgary Herald, Feb. 20, 1955.
<sup>107</sup> Black, David E Fonds M98, Glenbow-Alberta Institute Archives, File 86 &88. various
                                                                                                                undated
newspaper clippings.
<sup>108</sup> Calgary Herald, July 22, 1955.
<sup>109</sup> M98, File 6, various correspondence
<sup>110</sup> M98, File 3, File 24.
111 Calgary Herald, Oct.1, 1960.
112 Henderson's
<sup>113</sup> Albertan, February 20, 1941, "Dies in Vancouver"
Edmonton Bulletin, February 17, 1917, "F.M. Black to Succeed John Stocks"
115 Henderson's
<sup>116</sup> Macrae, pg. 636
<sup>117</sup> Calgary Sun, December 28, 1997, pg. S7, "Blow aimed at Edmonton"
<sup>118</sup> Macrae, pg. 636
<sup>119</sup> Albertan, December 28, 1932, "Dr. Blow Death Causes Sincere Regret in City"
<sup>120</sup> Macrea, pg. 637
Macrae and Calgary sun
<sup>122</sup> Macrae, pg. 638
Robert Bott, The University of Calgary: A Place of Vision, Calgary: University of Calgary Press, 1990,
pg. 18 <sup>124</sup> Calgary Herald, December 27, 1932, "Heart Seizure At Coast Fatal to Dr. T. H. Blow"
125 Henderson's
<sup>126</sup> Calgary Herald, July 24, 1944, "Hundreds Pay Last Tribute to Dr. Bouck"
<sup>127</sup> Calgary Herald, July 20, 1944, "Funeral Saturday for Dr. C.E.Bouck"
<sup>128</sup> Calgary Herald, July 21, 1944, "Charlie Bouck. MD"
129 ibid
130 Henderson's
<sup>131</sup> Bredin, E.M. "Calgary's Silver Tongued Solicitor", in Citymakers, Calgarians after the Frontier, Max
          Foran and Sheilagh S. Jamieson, ed. Historical Society of Alberta, Calgary, 1987, pg. 85.
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<sup>133</sup> Albertan, September. 16, 1966
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<sup>134</sup> Calgary Herald, November 11, 1985

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<sup>135</sup> Globe and Mail, September 26, 1966
<sup>136</sup> Albertan, January 25, 1956, "Gas Company Head, F.A. Brownie Dies"
<sup>137</sup> Record of Service, pg. 144, and Albertan, January 26, 1956, "A Shock"
138 Henderson's
139 Calgary Herald, October 5, 1929
<sup>140</sup> Henderson's
<sup>141</sup> Calgary Herald, October 5, 1929
<sup>142</sup> Carter David, Where the Wind Blows: A history of the Anglican Diocese of Calgary, 1888-1968, np.
1968, pg. 36 and Albertan, April 29, 1967, "Expansion marks bishop's story"
<sup>143</sup> Calgary Herald, March 20, 1976, "Former Anglican bishop dies"
<sup>144</sup> Calgary Herald, May 20, 1967, "Bishop's Wife to Make 12th Move Following Husband's Retirement"
<sup>145</sup> Albertan, June 2, 1967, "Calgary Honors Calverts On bishop's retirement"
<sup>146</sup> Herald, January 6, 1962, "Anglican Bishop Asks Man To Bridge Gap In Thinking"
147 Ibid, "Expansion marks bishop's story", "Calgary Honors Calverts On bishop's retirement"
Calgary Herald, December 16, 1966, "Anglican Bishop of Calgary to Retire on August 31"
149 Henderson's
<sup>150</sup> Calgary Herald, April 14, 1943, "Noted Criminal Lawyer, McKinley Cameron, Dies"
<sup>152</sup> James Gray, Talk to my Lawyer, pg. ?
153 Henderson's
<sup>154</sup> Cameron, Stewart No matter how thin you slice it, Calgary: Calgary Herald, 1938, pg. 1
<sup>155</sup> Calgary Herald, December 12, 1970, "Former Herald Cartoonist, Aberhart Caricaturist Dies"
<sup>156</sup> Albertan, December 16, 1970, and Cameron, pg. 1
<sup>157</sup> Ibid, Albertan
158 Henderson's
<sup>159</sup> Albertan, April 16, 1932, "J.W. Carlyle Is Taken By Death On Coast Visit"
<sup>160</sup> Morrison, pg. 38
<sup>162</sup> Henry Klassen, "Family Businesses in Calgary to 1939", Citymakers, pg. 311
<sup>163</sup> Albertan, op.cit
164 ibid
<sup>165</sup> Henderson's
<sup>166</sup> Ibid, pg. 312
<sup>167</sup> Ibid, pg. 313
168 Henderson's
<sup>169</sup> Calgary Herald, January 29, 1955, "Personality of the Week"
<sup>170</sup> Law Society Interview, M????
<sup>171</sup> Herald, ibid
<sup>172</sup> Saucier, npg
<sup>173</sup> Interview
<sup>174</sup> Calgary Herald, May 21, 1965
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<sup>179</sup> Calgary Albertan, May 27, 1980, "Chapin's tractors made history". This article derives its dates from
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180 Calgary Herald, January 28, 1948, "O.S.Chapin, Early Calgarian, Dies"
<sup>181</sup> Merchants & manufacturers record, pg. 36
<sup>182</sup> Herald, ibid
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<sup>184</sup> Herald, ibid
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<sup>187</sup> Klumpenhouwer & Knafla pg. 27-28
<sup>188</sup> Calgary Herald, January 30, 1942
<sup>189</sup> Henderson's
<sup>190</sup> Alberta Report, July 23, 1990, pg. 38, "A legacy of generosity"
<sup>191</sup> Calgary Herald, November 22, 1968, "Personality of the Week"
<sup>192</sup> Alberta Report July 23, 1990, "A legacy of generosity" and Calgary Herald, December 4, 1985, "Family
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193 Calgary Herald, July 12, 1974, "Sony coup sparks spread of Cohens"

194 Calgary Herald, July 10, 1990, "Philanthropist Harry Cohen dead at 78"
<sup>195</sup> Calgary Herald Sunday Magazine, June 21, 1987, pg. 11
196 Primelife, January 1991, pg. 19
<sup>197</sup> Primelife, January 1991, pg. 19
<sup>198</sup> Primelife
<sup>199</sup> Record of Service, pg. 2
<sup>200</sup> Victor Lauriston, Blue Flame of Service, Chatham: Union Gas Company, 1961, pg. 10
<sup>201</sup> Ibid,pg.12
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<sup>203</sup> Proceedings of the Geological Society of America, June 1941, pg. 186-7
Pearl Wilson, unpublished paper, pg. 4, Chatham, 1945 - see Coste, Eugene clipping file, GAI
<sup>205</sup> Service, pg. 3
<sup>206</sup> service, pg. 4
<sup>207</sup> Globe and Mail, January 24, 1940, "eugene Coste, Gas pioneer, Dies In Toronto" makes the claim the
pipeline was longest in the world, whereas Service, pg. 5, says it was third longest in north america. The
latter claim is probably correct.
<sup>208</sup> Henderson's
<sup>209</sup> Albertan, January 24, 1940, "Eugene Coste Dies Pioneered Gas System"
<sup>210</sup> Calgary Herald, March 19, 1968, "Former Manager Of Airport Dies
<sup>211</sup> Calgary Herald, date?, Personality of the Week
<sup>212</sup> Henderson's
<sup>213</sup> Calgary Herald, July 28, 1934, "Calgary Resident, Retired Minister, Is Noted Inventor"
<sup>215</sup> Albertan, August 6, 1957, "Ex-Stamped Official Dies"
<sup>216</sup> Calgary Herald, July 10, 1954, "personality of the Week"
<sup>217</sup> Rocky view News, August 7, 195 7
supra note seven
<sup>219</sup> supra note six
Albertan, October 6, 1959, "Oilman, Rancher C. C. Cross Dies"
<sup>221</sup> Calgary Herald, July 14, 1955, "Personality of the Week"
<sup>222</sup> Calgary Herald, July 15, 1955, "Stampede Snapshots"
<sup>223</sup> Calgary Herald, July 8, 1959

<sup>224</sup> Elbow Park Oral History Project, interview #?? Ed Marshall
<sup>225</sup> Albertan, Ibid
<sup>226</sup> Henderson's
<sup>227</sup> Calgary Herald, April 29, 1969, "Former Chamber Head Dies"
<sup>228</sup> Henderson's
<sup>229</sup> Macrae, pg. 565
<sup>230</sup> Morning Albertan, March 25, 1913, "Calgarian Who Was With Peary Talks of Arctic Travel
<sup>231</sup> Calgary Herald, July 19, 1933, "Jas.W. Davidson, Popular Rotary Official, Passes"
<sup>232</sup> Macrae,pg. 566
<sup>233</sup> Ibid, Calgary Herald, supra note 3
<sup>234</sup> Ibid
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Alberan, July 20, 1933, "James W. Davidson"Calgary Herald, supra note 3
<sup>238</sup> Henderson's
<sup>239</sup> Herald Magazine, March 29, 1958, "Profile"
<sup>241</sup> Okotoks Western Wheel, August 2, 1989, "Valley Gas Company founders continue community support"
<sup>242</sup> Calgary Herald, May 18, 1967, "Alberta Oil, Gas Pioneer, Lt.-Col. S.J. Davies, Dies"
<sup>243</sup> Henderson's
<sup>244</sup> Calgary Herald, June 27, 194, Funeral Services for Dr. Deane Are Held Here"
<sup>245</sup> Baker, William M ed. Pioneer Policing in Southern Alberta: Deane of the Mounties 1888-1914, Calgary:
Historical Society of Alberta, 1993, pg. vi <sup>246</sup> Douglas Harkness & Glen E Edwards, Life Near the Bone, Calgary, 1991, pg. 165
<sup>247</sup> Calgary Herald, June 24, 1941, "Dr. R.B. Deane, Veteran Calgary Surgeon, Passses"
<sup>248</sup> Harkness, op.cit., pg. 165
<sup>249</sup> Henderson's
<sup>250</sup> Harkness, op.cit. Pg. 25
<sup>251</sup> Harkness, op.cit. Pg. 24
<sup>252</sup> Harkness. Op.cit.pg. 27
<sup>253</sup> Henderson's
<sup>254</sup> Macrae, pg. 943
<sup>255</sup> Macrae, op.cit, also Calgary Herald, September 6, 1985, "Don't raise Titanic with jaded woman"
<sup>256</sup> Henderson's
<sup>257</sup> Albertan, April 24, 1960, "Titanic Disaster Recalled By Two Calgary Survivors"
<sup>258</sup> Calgary Herald, April 11, 1999, "a date with destiny"
<sup>259</sup> Albertan, op.cit.
<sup>260</sup> Calgary Herald, supra note 5
There are several versions of the story, at least two from the Dicks themselves. Vera allegedly refused to
leave the ship without her husband. In one version, they are pushed aboard by the crew. In another, Bert
was ordered on board to act as crew for the lifeboat. See Albertan, op.cit; also the Calgary News-Telegram,
April 20, 1912, "Mrs Dick Simply Made Her Husband Get Into Boat With Her Because There Was Lots of
Room"
<sup>262</sup> Calgary Herald, supra note 5
Henderson's. It is a reasonable supposition that Dick, described as wealthy in 1912, must have had
business setbacks if he was willing to work for other companies
<sup>264</sup> Henderson's
<sup>265</sup> Calgary Herald, March 16, 1987, "Rugged Hall of Famer..."
<sup>266</sup> Calgary Herald, August 14,1978, "Hockey's Legendary Red Dutton lives up to tough public image"
<sup>267</sup> Calgary Herald Weekend Magazine, Vol. 10, no. 26, 1960, pg. 27
<sup>268</sup> Calgary Herald, August 14,1978, "Hockey's Legendary Red Dutton lives up to tough public image"
<sup>269</sup> Ibid
<sup>270</sup> Calgary Herald, March 16, 1987, No task too big for Red Dutton to tackle"
<sup>271</sup> Calgary Herald, March 2, 1959 "3-Year Stint Enough"
<sup>272</sup> Calgary Herald Weekend Magazine, Vol. 10, no. 26, 1960, pg. 27
<sup>273</sup> Henderson's
<sup>274</sup> Calgary Herald, March 17, 1987
<sup>275</sup> Albertan, March 31, 1966, "Judge's funeral Saturday"
<sup>276</sup> Henderson's
<sup>277</sup> Henderson's
<sup>278</sup> Hart, E.J. And Leave the Driving to Us: A History of Greyhound Lines of Canada Calgary: Greyhound
Lines of Canada, 1986, pg. 9 <sup>279</sup> Ibid, pg. 10
<sup>280</sup> Ibid, pg. 11
<sup>281</sup> Ibid, pg. 12
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<sup>282</sup> Ibid, pg. 13

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<sup>283</sup> Ibid, pg. 22
<sup>284</sup> Ibid, pg. 31
<sup>285</sup> Ibid, pg. 35-37
<sup>286</sup> Ibid, pg. 37
<sup>287</sup> Ibid, pg. 43
<sup>288</sup> Ibid, pg. 26-28
<sup>289</sup> Ibid, pg. 54
<sup>290</sup> Ibid, pg. 58
<sup>291</sup> Ibid, pg. 67
<sup>292</sup> Henderson's
<sup>293</sup> Knafla, pg. 43
Albertan, February 24, 1961, "Looking Back at 50 Years in Law"
<sup>295</sup> Knafla, pg. 44
<sup>296</sup> Blue, pg. 526
<sup>298</sup> Henderson's
<sup>299</sup> Calgary Herald, March 9, 1996, "Chief Justice was proud of his rural roots"
<sup>300</sup> Knafla, pg. 44
Calgary Herald, January 10, 1923, "Rural Radio Fans Hear C.J. Ford,K.C., Citizens' Candidate". I was
not able to look into the use of radio by politicians very deeply, but radio had not been in Alberta for very
long in 1923, so Ford may have been one of the first to use it to broadcast a speech
<sup>302</sup> Knafla, pg. 44; Albertan, supra note 12
<sup>303</sup> Knafla, pg. 44
304 Calgary Herald, February 23, 1959, "Prominent Couple Married Saturday" 305 Albertan, October 1, 1955, "Mrs. C.J. Ford Dies In Calgary"
<sup>306</sup> Albertan, supra note 12
<sup>307</sup> Calgary Herald, January 29, 1974, "21 years an alderman, F. R. Freeze dies at 90" and Albertan,
January 29, 1974, "Pioneer Alderman dies, 90"
<sup>308</sup> GAI, Frank Freeze Fonds, M3973 File #1, Interview with Frank Freeze
309 Supra note 294, Calgary Herald
310 Supra note 295
311 Supra note 294, Albertan
312 Henderson's
313 Albertan, January 28, 1954, "Former Publisher, 55, P.C. Galbraith Dies"
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Merchant's and Manufacturer's Guide, Calgary: Jennings Publishing Co., 1911, pg 110
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