

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES IN NOVA SCOTIA

D. C. HARVEY

It is the custom in civilized countries to perpetuate the memory and to record the virtues of those who have rendered eminent service to the state; and even among barbarous nations some rude cairn marks the spot where sleeps the warrior whose voice was respected at the council—whose arm in battle was strong. To the dead such memorials are of little worth, but they are of value to the living. The rising generations study the history of their country in the monuments which grace its surface; they emulate the virtues which their forefathers have regarded it as a sacred obligation to record.—Joseph Howe, in 1851.

A wise nation preserves its records, gathers up its muniments, decorates the tombs of its illustrious dead, repairs its great public structures, and fosters national pride and love of country by perpetual reference to the sacrifices and glories of the past.—Joseph Howe, in 1871.

THE purpose of this article is to describe briefly the organization and work of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada; to indicate some of the difficulties with which it had to contend in formulating a national policy that would do justice to all the component parts of the Dominion while not being unjust to those sections which had a longer and more varied history; and to sketch the contributions of the Board to historical consciousness through the marking and preservation of historic sites in Nova Scotia. The two extracts from speeches of Howe have been placed at the beginning of this article, not only because they are stimulating in themselves, but also because they state precisely what the Board has been trying to do: the first, but least, known expresses fully the ideas with which the Board set out, while the second and so frequently quoted embraces the ultimate in the evolution of its policy. Thus early did this great Nova Scotian foresee the scope and significance of such an organization to propagate historical knowledge and to perpetuate national sentiment: by 1851 he had developed a sane national consciousness in his native province; and by 1871 he was trying to expand that sentiment from Sea to Sea.

Though various local historical societies had been founded in Canada between Confederation and the Great War, none

of these had interested itself in national as distinct from local history, or in historic sites outside its own locality. It was not until the Historic Landmarks Association of Canada was formed that these wider aims were considered. It was founded in May, 1907, at a joint meeting of Sections I and II of the Royal Society, primarily to assist in the celebration of Canada's tercentenary at Quebec in the following year, but it continued to promote public interest in the study, marking, and preservation of historic sites throughout the Dominion, as far as its limited resources permitted, and it brought influence to bear upon the government to the same end, until the Historic Sites and Monuments Board was created to promote that phase of historical work. It then devoted its attention to more general historical problems and, since 1922, has carried on as the Canadian Historical Association. It, therefore, should be doubly remembered, as one parent of both the Canadian Historical Association and the Historic Sites and Monuments Board.

The Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, although projected in 1914, was not organized until 1919: after the Great War had shown the Canadian government how much latent national feeling existed throughout the Dominion in spite of its sectional interests and rivalries, and how great was the need of encouraging the different sections to think in national terms. This was no easy task: for in addition to that romantic history common to both the eastern and western geographical divisions of the country, the people of the five eastern provinces had had a long period of proud achievement in self-government to record before the western provinces were organized as colonies or territories. Moreover, as the history of the Dominion itself was comparatively brief, the Board had to encourage each section and province to take an interest in its own history and thus, paradoxically, to foster national consciousness by reviving sectional interests. None the less, the organization of the Board was tangible evidence that Canada had become conscious of herself as an entity in world organization, that she wished to trace the road by which she had come, and to erect milestones along that road, in order that her citizens and other citizens of the world might be stimulated to read her story and estimate the degree of civilization to which she had attained.

The Board was created to act in an advisory capacity to the National Parks Branch of the Department of Interior—now the Department of Mines and Resources—and, as all funds for marking or preserving historic sites were appropriat-

ed in that Department, its executive officers were the officers of the National Parks Branch of the Department. The advisory members of the Board were to be historians or antiquarians of repute, who would give their services without remuneration and endeavor to think in national terms.

As first constituted, the Board consisted of only four members, besides the executive officers, two for Ontario and one each for Quebec and the Maritime Provinces; but, when it was reorganized four years later, two more members were added, one for Western Canada and another for the Maritime Provinces. The objects of the Board were to stimulate interest among Canadians in the history of their own country, to commemorate the deeds of those who had made a significant contribution to the exploration, settlement, defence and general development of Canada, and to preserve as national property sites of historic interest. Perhaps it would be truer to say that the chief aim of the Board was the stimulation of interest in Canadian history by the marking of historic sites and the commemoration of historic achievement, and that, as this was the first conscious move of the federal government in the direction of systematic definition and marking of historic sites or events, it was clearer as to ends than as to means. In any event the Board, which met once a year in full session and carried on a voluminous correspondence between meetings, spent the first three or four years in establishing contacts with local historical societies, making historical surveys, formulating a policy and clearing the ground for future constructive effort. Consequently its first memorials were not erected until 1923.

Apart from the type of memorial to be erected and the kind of tablet to be used, the chief problem of the Board was to discover some canon of criticism or standard of measurement by which the relative importance of persons or events in the different sections of Canada could be estimated. Could an event that happened in Nova Scotia before Confederation be of greater national importance than a similar though later event in Quebec? Canadian historians had treated the history of Canada as if it were only an expansion of Quebec and Ontario eastward and westward through the annexation of certain outlying sections that were happy in having no history; and the tercentenary of the beginning of Canadian history had been celebrated in Quebec in 1908, in spite of the fact that the beginning of settlement in what is now Canada had been made at Port Royal in 1605, three years earlier than the founding of

Quebec. It is not surprising, therefore, that the Board at first was more vividly aware of the number and importance of historic sites and events in the two central provinces, that many historic debates were waged in an attempt to arrive at a satisfactory definition of national importance, and that at an early meeting of the Board it was agreed that there were no sites of national importance in Prince Edward Island. However, the Board has made honest if heroic efforts to distinguish between events or sites of national or provincial or purely local importance, and to interest various historical organizations in the commemoration of the latter, while it advises the federal government to mark or commemorate the former. At the same time it has adopted two types of tablet and three types of standard to carry the tablet, has dealt with about 1200 historic sites, events or personages, and has marked or approved for marking some three hundred of these; and as the years have passed, its activities have broadened to include the restoration or repair of various historic structures and the erection or restoration of several museums.

The number of unsolicited suggestions that now pour in to the Secretary of the Board from every locality in every province of Canada is evidence that it has succeeded in stimulating historical interest to an extent which is almost embarrassing, while the tasteful museums at Beauséjour and Louisbourg demonstrate what can be done when historical interest has been thoroughly aroused. In 1919 both these historic sites had fallen into private hands and were totally neglected from an historical point of view, the former being used as a cow-pasture, the latter as a sheep-run; but to-day the grounds of both are carefully marked and intelligently cared for, the museums are well filled with exhibits that are competently displayed by permanent curators, and these joint attractions bring thousands of visitors annually from all provinces of Canada and all states of the Union. Similar illustrations of the Board's success in this respect might be given from Quebec and Ontario, but space forbids.

Naturally there is considerable competition among localities to have a monument of national importance. Apart from the pardonable self-esteem which a monument brings to a locality, it provides a distinct stimulus to teachers and pupils of a community to study their local history, for adults an incentive to local patriotism or civic pride, and in days of depression all are reminded that great things were done in the past

under even harder conditions than those which exist at present, while in days of rejoicing all find something to point to with pride as worthy of emulation.

In the fifteen years between 1923 and 1937 the Board has placed 265 tablets on monuments, cairns, boulders or permanent public buildings throughout the Dominion of Canada, distributed as follows: Prince Edward Island, 7; Nova Scotia, 31; New Brunswick, 26; Quebec, 58; Ontario, 86; Manitoba, 14; Saskatchewan, 7; Alberta, 15; British Columbia, 20; and the Yukon, 1. Practically all of these are the standard tablet first adopted by the Board, but in future years a secondary tablet of simpler design will be placed on public buildings, or an iron standard to commemorate those persons or events of less conspicuous yet national importance.

The panel of the standard tablet is 21 inches high and 15½ inches wide and capable of carrying an inscription of five hundred letters. The frame is 33½ inches by 20, and is surrounded by a border of pine cones and pine needles symbolizing our northern climate. It is surmounted by a crown as the bond of union in the British Empire; below the crown a cluster of maple leaves stands for Canada, and below the maple leaves "Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada" or "Commission des Sites et des Monuments Historiques du Canada" is printed in accordance with the decision of the Board as to whether the English or French form of tablet is to be used. On the upper left of the tablet a circular relief depicts the arrival of Jacques Cartier, as the beginning of Canadian history; on the upper right another circular relief depicts in the foreground a harbour with grain elevator, docks and shipping, in the centre a city, and in the background a well-developed agricultural country, the whole suggesting the development of Canada along agricultural, industrial and commercial lines; and both reliefs are surrounded by a rose, thistle, shamrock, lily and leek, representing the principal races from which the Canadians are descended. At the bottom of the frame on either side is a shield: that on the left bears the first coat-of-arms used in Canada and represents its early status as a French colony; that on the right bears the present arms of Canada and reveals it as a self-governing Dominion of the British Commonwealth. The tablet as a whole, when adequately interpreted, gives a pictorial summary of Canadian history; and the various inscriptions compress into a few sentences the significant facts about the events or personages commemorated. In the unveiling ceremonies, at which

the Board and Department are always represented, it is expected that both the design of the tablet and the significance of the inscription will be elaborated by the different speakers, so that all who are present will carry away a deeper knowledge of their history and a more vivid impression of its importance.

To bear the tablets the Board early expressed its preference for a boulder or cairn, and gradually evolved a design of cairn that has given satisfaction to many localities, although it has not always escaped rather severe criticism. It is in the form of a truncated pyramid eleven feet high, standing on a concrete base seven feet square. The boulder, of course, could be used only when found of suitable size near to the site, but the cairn could be constructed wherever field stones were available. However, as in many instances cut-stone monuments could be constructed at no greater cost than a cairn, especially if the field stones had to be transported from a distance, the Board has adopted this form of standard also, and in recent years has been erecting it exclusively in towns or cities as well as in localities where boulders or field stones were not available. But for the secondary tablet, when there is no permanent public building in the vicinity, the Board uses a simple iron standard set in a concrete base and erected on the actual site. In Nova Scotia one tablet has been placed on a boulder, one on an iron standard, seven on public buildings, sixteen on fifteen cairns and ten on cut-stone or other monuments.

The location, date of erection, form of standard, and inscriptions of the thirty-five tablets that have been erected in Nova Scotia to date are as follows:

SHELBURNE. THE LOYALIST TOWN OF NOVA SCOTIA.

Settled in the years following the close of the American Revolution, by men and women determined to remain under the flag and rule of Great Britain rather than become citizens of the United States. The Harbour was first known as Port Roseway, the site chosen by the Port Roseway Associates of New York. First Fleet of settlers arrived 4th May, 1783. The town was laid out in same year. It was officially named Shelburne, 22nd July, 1783, by John Parr, Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia.

(Tablet affixed to boulder at Shelburne, 1923.)

FORT LAWRENCE.

Erected in 1750 by Major Charles Lawrence, afterwards Lieut.-Governor of Nova Scotia, for the defence of the Isthmus of Chignecto; garrisoned by British troops until after the capture of Fort Beauséjour in 1755, when it was abandoned.

Immediately south of the fort was the village of Beaubassin, one of the oldest French settlements in Nova Scotia, founded by Jacques Bourgeois and others from Port Royal in 1672, evacuated and burned by the French in 1750, prior to the erection of Fort Lawrence.

(Cairn erected on site, 1923.)

[CHAMPLAIN'S HABITATION.]

Site of the first fort or "Habitation" of Port Royal. Built by the French under De Monts and Champlain, 1605. Attacked and partially destroyed by a British force from Virginia, 1613. Restored and occupied by Scottish colonists, 1629. Laid waste on their retirement from the country, 1632. Home of the "Order of Good Cheer". Birthplace of Canadian literature and drama.

(Inscription also in French. Cairn erected at Lower Granville, 1924.)

FIRST PRINTING PRESS IN CANADA.

Nearby is the site of the First Printing Press in what is now British North America, established in 1751 by Bartholomew Green, Jr., who was succeeded in 1752 by John Bushell. On it was printed on 23rd March, 1752, Canada's first newspaper "The Halifax Gazette", later known as "The Nova Scotia Royal Gazette", and which has been regularly issued since that date.

(Tablet erected in Province House, Halifax, 1924.)

HIS MAJESTY'S NAVAL YARD.

Site secured to the Crown in February, 1759. The first Royal Dockyard in (present) British North America. Here Captain James Cook, the famous navigator and discoverer, was stationed in 1759, and superintended the erection of the first buildings. The birthplace of Sir Provo Wallis, Admiral of the Fleet. Of special importance during the American Wars 1775-81 and 1812-15, and played a prominent part in the Great War 1914-18.

(Monument erected on Site 1924.)

[LOUISBOURG.]

On this site was erected by France, in 1731, the first Lighthouse Tower, constructed of fire proof materials, in North America.

Near here the British erected batteries to silence the defensive works erected by France on the island opposite the entrance. In 1745, these batteries were commanded by Lt. Col. John Gorham; in 1758, by Brigadier-General James Wolfe.

(Inscription also in French. Tablet affixed to lighthouse tower, 1925.)

This tablet commemorates the valour and endurance displayed against overwhelming odds by the French forces, who, in 1745 and again in 1758, garrisoned the defensive batteries on the island opposite the entrance to the harbour of Louisbourg and facing this spot.

Inscription also in French. Tablet affixed to lighthouse tower, 1925.

FORT EDWARD.

Erected in 1750 by Major Charles Lawrence for the protection of Piziquid (Windsor) and the surrounding district, and as a symbol of British sovereignty in western Nova Scotia. Of special importance during the war with France 1755-1762, and the American Wars of 1775-1782 and 1812-1815.

Was closely associated with the tragic incidents of the deportation of the Acadians in 1755.

Garrisoned by Imperial troops for about a century. A rallying point and training ground for Canadian and Newfoundland forces during the Great War 1914-18.

(Cairn erected at Windsor, 1925.)

KING'S BASTION.

This marks the entrance to the King's Bastion or Citadel of the Fortress of Louisbourg, containing the Governor's Residence, the Barracks and the Chapel. Adjoining it was the Place d'Armes. Partially demolished by the British, 1760-1763.

(Inscription also in French. Cairn erected at Louisbourg, 1926.)

DAUPHIN'S BASTION.

Near this place stood the Dauphin's Bastion and West Gate to the Fortress of Louisbourg. Erection begun by France in 1738. Demolished by Britain, after its capture in 1758.

(Inscription also in French. Cairn erected at Louisbourg, 1926.)

JOSEPH FREDERICK WALLET DESBARRES.
1722-1824.

A distinguished military engineer, who served in the mid-eighteenth century wars in America. Afterwards employed by the British government to survey and chart the eastern coast of North America, he gained great fame as an oceanographer.

First Lieutenant Governor of Cape Breton, 1784-87, founder of Sydney, Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island, 1804-12. Erected in recognition of his public services.

(Tablet affixed to Post Office Building, Sydney, 1927.)

SHANNON AND CHESAPEAKE.

In Honour of Captain Philip V. Broke, officers and crew of H. M. S. Shannon, who gained a glorious victory over the United States frigate Chesapeake off Boston Harbour, 1st June, 1813. The Shannon brought her prize into Halifax Harbour on 6th June.

(Cut stone monument erected on Admiralty House grounds, Halifax, 1927.)

CANSO.

First developed as an important fishing station by the French in the 16th century.

Fortified by the British in 1720, scene of several combats between them and the French and Indians, captured by Duvivier, 1744, rendez-

vous of the expedition of Pepperrell and Warren against Louisbourg in 1745.

(Inscription also in French. Cairn erected on Public School grounds, Canso, 1928.)

FIRST POST OFFICE.

In 1755 a line of packets was placed on the route between Falmouth and New York. This was part of a general scheme for closer and more regular communication between the colonies and the mother country. These packets called at Halifax. In that year and in this City was established the first Post Office in the Dominion of Canada as now constituted.

(Tablet erected on Post Office Building, Halifax, 1928.)

KING'S COLLEGE.

Upon this hill for many years stood King's College, the oldest University in the King's overseas Dominions, from whose halls have gone forth many distinguished men, leaders in Church and State.

Founded in 1789 by the Rt. Rev. Charles Inglis, D.D., First Bishop of Nova Scotia, and other United Empire Loyalists. Granted a Royal Charter by King George III in 1802.

(Tablet affixed to chapel on King's College grounds, Windsor, 1928.)

SAMUEL VETCH.

Adjutant-General of the Force under Colonel Francis Nicholson which captured Port Royal, capital of Acadia, in 1710. First Governor and Commander-in-chief. A notable figure in colonial history, an able soldier and administrator. With imperial vision he strove to extend the realm of Britain beyond the seas.

(Inscription also in French. Cut stone monument erected at Annapolis Royal, 1928.)

LE CAMPMENT DU DUC D'ANVILLE.

In the autumn of 1746 Duc d'Anville's formidable but storm-shattered expedition, sent from France to recover Acadia, encamped along this shore. While at Chebucto d'Anville died, and many of his men fell victims of fever. Owing to storms and disease the enterprise utterly failed.

(Inscription in French and English. Cairn erected on site, 1929.)

LA HEVE.

Following the Treaty of St. Germain-en-Laye in 1632, France determined to establish permanent settlements in Acadia. Isaac de Razilly was appointed Lieutenant-General. Here he built a fort and established the capital of the colony.

(Inscription also in French. Cairn erected on site, 1929.)

CANADA'S COAL INDUSTRY.

Two thousand feet south-easterly from this place are the remains of the first regular coal mining operations in America, established

by the French in 1720. From the modest beginnings of those early days this industry has become one of national and imperial importance

(Inscription in French and English. Cairn erected at Port Morien, 1930.)

SAINTE-ANNE.

Settled, 1629, by Captain Charles Daniel, and site of an early Jesuit mission. Selected, 1713, as a naval base and one of the principal places in Isle Royale, named Port Dauphin and strongly fortified. Its importance declined with the choice, 1719, of Louisbourg as the capital.

(Inscription in French and English. Cairn erected at Englishtown, 1930.)

WOLFE'S LANDING.

Here, 8th June, 1758, the men of Brigadier General James Wolfe's brigade, after having been repulsed with heavy loss by the French troops entrenched westward, made their gallant and successful landing.

Thus began the operations which ended on 26th July by the capitulation of Louisbourg.

(Inscription in English and French. Cairn at Kennington Cove, 1930.)

JEAN PAUL MASCARENE.

1684-1760

Commemorating the long, arduous, and faithful service of Jean Paul Mascarene, a French Huguenot in the army of Britain, who for forty years served in this garrison where he mounted the first guard, 6th October, 1710. With insufficient troops, and fortifications in partial ruins, he sustained two sieges and preserved Nova Scotia to the British flag.

(A cut stone monument erected at Annapolis Royal, 1930.)

ST. PETERS.

Site of Denys' port and trading post, built 1650. Selected in 1713 as one of the three principal ports in Isle Royale, named Port Toulouse, and fortified by works at Point Jerome.

Destroyed by Pepperrell's troops, 1745, re-occupied by the French, 1748, evacuated 1758.

(Inscription in French and English.)

ST. PETER'S CANAL.

Connecting St. Peter's Bay with the Bras d'Or Lakes, it follows substantially the portage of the old French trading days and materially shortens the distance to the eastern coasts of Cape Breton.

First surveyed in 1825. Construction commenced 1854, but suspended 1856; renewed 1865 and completed 1869, enlarged 1875-1881; 1912-1917.

(Cairn for both tablets erected at St. Peters, 1931.)

BLOODY CREEK.

Commemorating two combats between British garrisons of Annapolis Royal and allied French and Indians in the half century of conflict for possession of Acadia; on the north bank of the Annapolis River, 10th June, 1711; and here, 8th December, 1757.

(Inscription also in French. Cairn erected at Bridgetown, 1932.)

CAPE BRETON NEWFOUNDLAND CABLE.

This tablet commemorates the successful laying in 1856 of a submarine telegraph cable between Cape Breton and Newfoundland as part of a plan for speedier ocean communication which later developed into the Atlantic cable.

(Tablet affixed to Cable Building, North Sydney, 1934.)

SIMON NEWCOMB.

1835-1909

Marking the birthplace of Simon Newcomb, who, self-taught, in the face of adversity, became one of the world's greatest scientists. Migrating to the United States at the age of eighteen, he devoted his life to astronomy.

For his contributions to science he was awarded the Copley Medal of the Royal Society of London, made a foreign associate of the French Academy of Sciences, and honoured by many universities and learned societies throughout the world.

(Cut stone monument erected at Wallace Bridge. 1935.)

FIRST AGRICULTURAL FAIR IN CANADA.

Commemorating the first agricultural fair in Canada, authorized on the creation of the township of Windsor in 1764, and held at Fort Edward Hill, 21st May, 1765. Prizes were awarded for creditable exhibits of cattle, horses, sheep, hogs, grain, butter, cheese, and homespun cloth.

In 1766 the trustees of the fair received a royal charter which was renewed in 1815. Since that date the fair has had an uninterrupted existence.

(Cut stone monument erected at Windsor. 1935.)

LIVERPOOL PRIVATEERSMEN.

In memory of the privateersmen of Liverpool Bay, who maintained and defended their trade with the West Indies, and waged successful war upon the enemies of Great Britain in ships fitted and armed at their own expense.

Foremost among them were: Alexander Godfrey of the brig "Rover", who routed a Spanish squadron off the Spanish Main and captured its flagship, September, 1800; and Joseph Barss, Jr., of the schooner "Liverpool Packet" who, in nine months of the War of 1812, captured more than 100 American vessels on the coast of New England.

They upheld the best traditions of the British Navy.

(Cairn erected at Liverpool, N. S., 1935.)

THOMAS CHANDLER HALIBURTON.
1796-1865

Commemorating the publication in 1836 of "The Clockmaker; or, The Sayings and Doings of Samuel Slick, of Slickville", the first in that series of humorous and satirical works which won for Haliburton international fame in the world of letters.

(Cut stone monument erected at Windsor, 1937.)

FORT SAINT-LOUIS.

In 1630 Claude de la Tour arrived here with an Anglo-Scottish expedition, and strove in vain to induce his son Charles to surrender this last foothold of France in Acadia. From the consequent displeasure of the Scots at Port Royal, Charles later offered him refuge near this fort.

(Inscription in French and English. Cairn erected at Port La Tour, 1937.)

MOHAWKS IN ANNAPOLIS ROYAL.

Site of fort built in 1712 by Mohawk Indians under Major Livingston, employed as allies of the British to intimidate the Miamaes.

(Secondary tablet on iron standard erected at Annapolis Royal, 1938.)

BATTLE OF GRAND PRÉ.

On 11th February, 1747, New England troops, under Colonel Arthur Noble, were surprised and defeated by French and Indians under Coulon de Villiers, who had made a forced march from Beau-bassin in a blinding snowstorm. The British commander was killed and the French leader died later of his wounds.

(Inscription in both languages. Cut stone monument erected at Grand Pré, 1938.)

FIRST PICTOU ACADEMY.

Site of the first Pictou Academy, which was erected in 1818 and demolished in 1932. Under the leadership and example of Dr. Thomas McCulloch, it opened the door of opportunity to a hitherto neglected element of the population of the Maritime Provinces and gave many prominent men to Nova Scotia and the Dominion of Canada in journalism, literature, science, theology, education, and government.

(Cut stone monument erected at Pictou, 1938.)

HALIFAX AND CASTINE.

In September, 1814, a British military and naval expedition from Halifax, under Lieutenant General Sir John Coape Sherbrooke and Rear Admiral Edward Griffith, occupied the portion of Maine between the Penobscot and St. Croix Rivers. Major General Gerard Gosselin governed that district, from Castine, until April 26, 1815. The Customs duties collected during this period were utilized by Governor Dalhousie for the endowment of the Garrison Library and Dalhousie College.

(Cut stone monument erected on Dalhousie University campus, Halifax, 1938.)

An analysis of these inscriptions shows that four of them deal with the beginnings of settlement French or English, eleven with military sites or incidents chiefly in the long struggle between the French and the English for control of Acadia, three with naval engagements, exploits or tragedies, nine with the economic development of the province or the establishment of communications with the outside world, five with the deeds of important historical figures, and three with the origin and influence of educational institutions. Now that the romantic military history of the French régime has been fully dealt with, both by memorials as indicated above and by museums such as those of Fort Anne and Louisbourg, the Board may feel free to devote more attention to the social, cultural, economic, and political history of Canada. Already it has approved a long list of distinguished Canadians, including the Fathers of Confederation, whose birthplaces are to be marked by secondary tablets in the near future, and other aspects of our history are being explored with a view to repairing any omissions that may have been made. Profiting alike by its own experience and by such constructive criticism as it has received, it still hopes to stimulate a cumulative interest in our history and, thereby, to encourage an increasingly national outlook.