

Remarks by John A. Russell

Director of the School, on the occasion of the opening of the new School of Architecture building

MR PRESIDENT, MR MINISTER, FATHER LEVESQUE, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, AND FRIENDS:

There have been many events in the history of the School of Architecture since its establishment in 1913 which have been significant milestones in its development, but none has given us so much cause for profound gratitude and joyful thanksgiving. Our fondest dreams in the early years, and our hopes and faith during more recent years are today realized in the tangible form we see about us — a building designed to provide both the space required for the programs of instruction and practical work and the environment which will stimulate creative endeavour on the part of students and staff.

We in the School are pleased indeed to have so many of our friends and colleagues with us today on this memorable occasion. We are deeply grateful to the members of the Canada Council for accepting our invitation to meet in Winnipeg this past week so that they might share in this celebration. We are delighted that their presence has meant that the Council's Director, Dr A. W. Trueman, a former president of the University of Manitoba, is therefore able to be with us. Added pleasure has been brought to us by the presence of Professor Howarth of the University of Toronto, Professor Lasserre of the University of British Columbia, Professor Henning of the University of North Dakota and Professor Shelley of the University of Minnesota — all representing their respective Schools of Architecture. We are particularly proud that two of the most recent graduates of the University of Manitoba, Dr Eric Arthur and Dr Milton Osborne, are also with us today. We welcome Sir Hugh Casson, the lecturer on the Festival of the Arts program, and are happy that he too can be with us.

When our hearts are so filled with gratitude to each and every individual who has been connected, directly or indirectly, with the realization of this building, a simple "thank you" seems rather in-

adequate. Nevertheless, I can assure all that this comes from the depth of our hearts.

Specifically I want to thank the Board of Governors, the President and the Comptroller for their complete and wholehearted support which has brought this building into being. We shall never cease to be grateful; and we sincerely trust that our program of endeavour and accomplishment will always bring credit to the University, thereby justifying their faith in the School. We are equally mindful of the great debt of gratitude we owe to the architects, Smith, Carter, Searle Associates, each of whom is one of our graduates, not only for the unquestionable caliber of the building environment which they have created for us, but for the privilege of collaborating with them throughout the developmental stages of the design: the results of our harmonious and productive discussions together are evidenced on every hand. We are also most grateful to the Interior Designer, Grant Marshall, a member of our Interior Design staff, who has been responsible for the selection, design and coordination of the furnishings of the building.

My list of special thanks turns next to the graduates in Architecture and in Interior Design, who have contributed generously to a fund to furnish the student lounge on the second floor in memory of Winston Allan McKay of the class of 1953.

I wish also to refer to the two paintings presented recently to the School by the Interior Designers' Institute of Manitoba: to this professional group our sincerest thanks.

On this occasion it is fitting that we remember with profound gratitude first the founder of our School, Dr Arthur Alexander Stoughton, who, between the years of 1913 and 1929, laid its foundation and directed the school so ably through its formative years; and secondly Dr Milton Smith Osborne whose wise and capable planning and direction during the developmental period of 1929 to 1946

resulted in the establishment of a graduate program in Architecture and in Canada's only university course in Interior Design.

Yesterday and today we have received a number of congratulatory messages and expressions of best wishes from several former staff members and graduates. Unfortunately time will only allow for the reading of two special messages. First, His Excellency, the Governor General of Canada, has asked me to read the following:

"To all those who have laboured to bring this great project to reality I send my warmest congratulations. May the young architects of tomorrow, whose footsteps will soon echo in this building, find, in this present achievement, the creative inspiration which will ensure that our cities and our factories will spread and grow in harmony with the natural beauty which is our heritage.

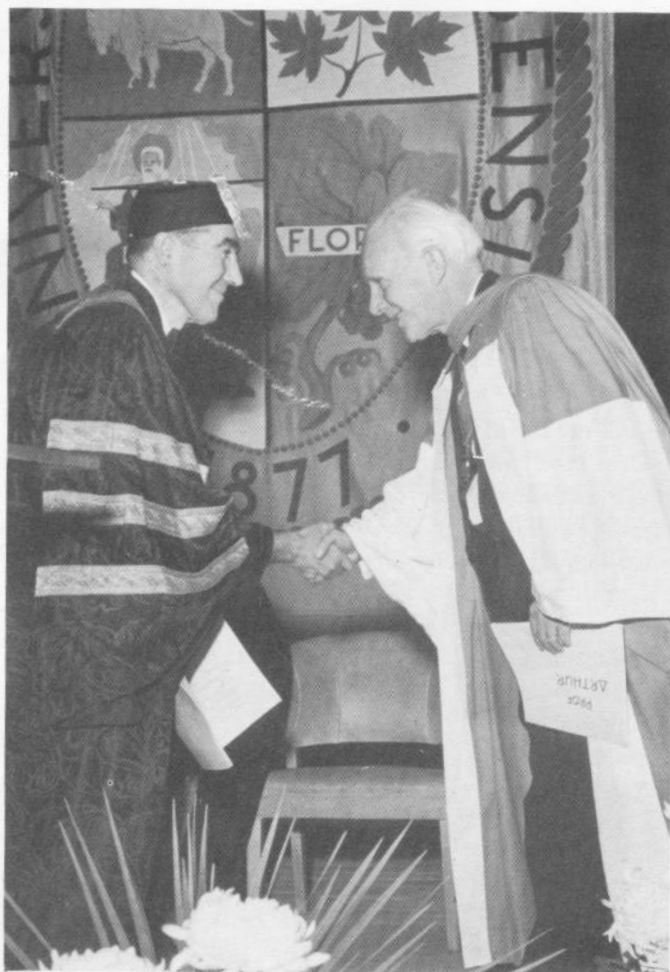
Georges P. Vanier".

The second message comes from Maurice Payette, President of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada:

"The Royal Institute conveys congratulations and best wishes to you and all those who have made this fine new building a reality."

We all know that the quality of a school is measured by the excellence of its staff, the sincerity of its students, and the performance of its graduates. The School of Architecture at Manitoba has always been proud of its staff, its students and its graduates. Today, we on the staff not only dedicate this new building, but we also rededicate ourselves to the training of young men and women to be professional architects and professional interior designers. We look to the future with the confident expectation of continued progress and achievement both for the School and for its graduates.

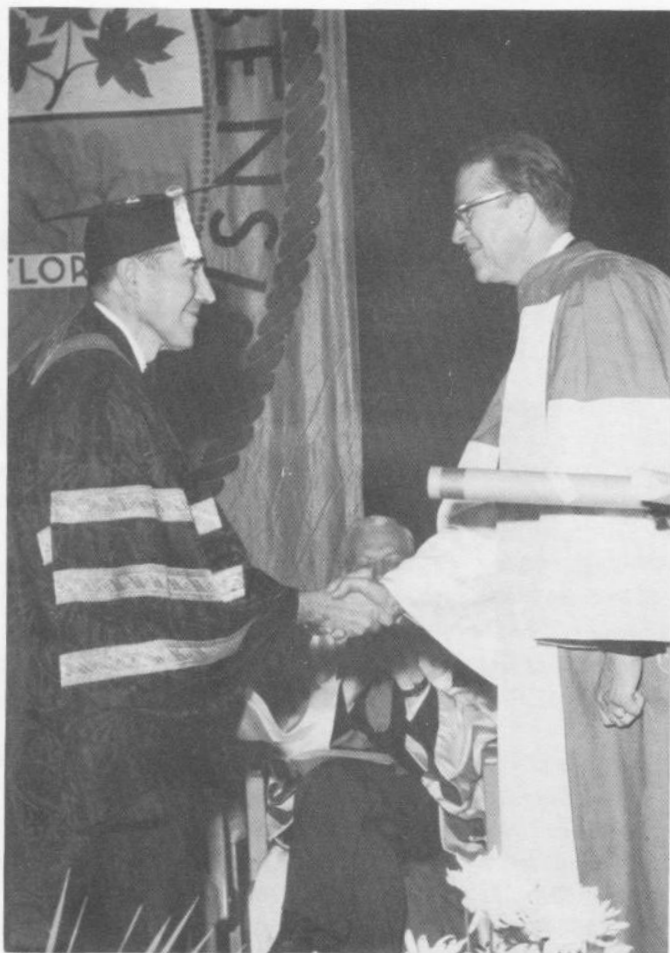
It is with profound humility, overflowing gratitude and understandable pride that I now perform the symbolic ceremony of cutting this ribbon, thereby officially opening the new Architecture Building.



W. ROSE

The honorary degree of Doctor of Laws (honoris causa) was conferred by the University of Manitoba upon Eric R. Arthur, the Hon Brooke Claxton (in absentia), and Milton S. Osborne at the Special Convocation on November 6th, 1959. Professor Arthur was presented by John A. Russell, Director of the School of Architecture; and Professor Osborne was presented by A. E. Macdonald, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture. The degrees were conferred by the Hon Mr Justice Samuel Freedman, newly installed Chancellor of the University of Manitoba.

Professor Arthur receiving his honorary degree from Mr Justice Freedman.



W. ROSE

Professor Osborne receiving his honorary degree from Mr Justice Freedman.

The Citations

Eric Ross Arthur

MR CHANCELLOR: It is my very great privilege to present Eric Ross Arthur, Bachelor of Architecture, Master of Arts, Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects and Associate of the Royal Canadian Academy. As teacher, architect, editor, author, critic and scholar, Eric Arthur serves the cause of architecture in Canada with steadfast devotion and resolution.

As professor of architectural design in the University of Toronto's School of Architecture since 1923, he might well be introduced as the dean of the architectural faculty of Canada, for he is held in the highest esteem by his colleagues. Countless architects from coast to coast acknowledge with gratitude the sound instruction, inspired direction and leadership which they found in his classroom.

Following early schooling in his native New Zealand, and service in the First World War, Professor Arthur studied architecture at the University of Liverpool where, through academic distinction, he won several prizes and a travelling scholarship. His professional training was completed in London in the offices of Sir Edwin Lutyens and Sir Aston Webb.

Since coming to Canada in 1923, he has consistently demonstrated, through the active practice of the firm of Fleury, Arthur and Barclay, the principles he has taught in his classroom.

As a critic, and as editor of the *Journal* of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada for the past 22 years, Eric Arthur has devoted himself unstintingly to the promotion and betterment of Canadian architecture and its interrelationships with the other visual arts. His frank analyses and appraisals are always enlightened, discerning and penetrating; they are forthright, uncompromising, sound in

judgment. As a result of his enthusiastic and exhaustive research into the history of Canadian architecture, he has written several books on the historic buildings of Ontario, and is presently completing a new book on 18th and 19th century architecture in Toronto. To assist with this latter project he has been awarded a special Fellowship by The Canada Council.

In 1958 the City of Toronto engaged him as Professional Adviser to conduct an international Competition for its City Hall and Square. The singularly outstanding caliber of this Competition, with its unprecedented number of entries from all parts of the world and the unquestionable significance of the results, attests to the organizational capacity and intellectual astuteness of Eric Arthur.

It is not surprising that his long and distinguished service to architecture in Canada has received deserved recognition. In 1937 the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada awarded him its Gold Medal for the outstanding building of the year, and the Toronto Chapter of the Ontario Association of Architects awarded him its Gold Medal of Honour. In 1946 he was elected to Fellowship in the Royal Institute. In 1956 the University of Alberta awarded him a Gold Medal in its annual bestowal of honours on artists. Few men have combined academic, literary and professional achievements with such distinction. It is fitting indeed that The University of Manitoba should honour him as teacher, scholar and architect.

Mr Chancellor, on behalf of the Senate of The University of Manitoba I have the honour to request that you confer upon Eric Ross Arthur the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, for distinguished service to Canada, to architecture and to the arts.

John A. Russell

Milton Smith Osborne

MR CHANCELLOR: I have the honour to present Milton Smith Osborne, honorary life member of the Manitoba Association of Architects, Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, member of the American Institute of Architects, who is professor and head of the Department of Architecture at Pennsylvania State University.

Born in Zanesville, Ohio, in 1897, Professor Osborne obtained the degree of Bachelor of Science in Architecture from Ohio State University in 1922. He then proceeded to Columbia University where he received a Bachelor of Architecture degree in 1925. The award of a fellowship and completion of further post-graduate study there resulted in Columbia University conferring on him the degree of Master of Science in 1928.

Between the academic years 1925-29, Professor Osborne was professor of architecture at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute. Coming to The University of Manitoba in 1929 as professor and head of our Department of Architecture, he was instrumental in a re-organization and improvement of its courses; in 1936, due to its increased responsibilities, in a change of its title to that of the Department of Architecture and Fine Arts; and in 1945, to that of the School of Architecture and Fine Arts, of which he became Director.

In 1946, Professor Osborne resigned as professor and director of the School of Architecture and Fine Arts, as it then was, to become professor and head of the Department of Architecture at Pennsylvania State College. Since this last appointment, a recent interlude has been an academic session spent as professor and acting-director of the School of Architecture at the University of Toronto.

Professor Osborne was one of the original members of our Metropolitan Planning Commission, serving from 1943 to 1946. He has made many contributions to professional journals. He contributed to *Manitoba Essays*, published in 1938. His sketches of early American and early Canadian architecture have been exhibited in many galleries; the Library of Congress has a permanent collection of some of these sketches.

In recognition of his contribution to the cultural life of this community and to the profession of architecture in Canada, especially in the field of architectural education — Mr Chancellor — On behalf of the Senate of The University of Manitoba, I have the honour to request that you confer upon Milton Smith Osborne the degree of Doctor of Laws (*honoris causa*).

A. E. Macdonald