

Mr. Berkeley was a fellow of the Society of American Archivists and was active in numerous other professional organizations. He held several honorary memberships, including the Massachusetts Historical Society and, since 1962, the American Antiquarian Society.

Charles F. Bryan, Jr.

WILLIAM KAYE LAMB

William Kaye Lamb, who was instrumental in creating a national library for Canada in the late 1940s, and, after the National Library Act came into effect on January 1, 1953, served as the first national librarian, died on August 24, 1999, at the age of ninety-five.

He was born in New Westminster, British Columbia, on May 11, 1904, and liked to recall that his first memory of a book was that Canadian icon, the Eaton's catalogue. He graduated with first-class honors in history from the Faculty of Arts at the Fairview Campus of the University of British Columbia (UBC) in 1927. Awarded a fellowship for three years of postgraduate study in Paris at the Sorbonne and the *École libre des sciences politiques*, he returned to take his M.A. in 1930 from UBC, followed by the Ph.D. in 1933 from the London School of Economics. Most of his research was conducted at two great libraries, the British Museum and the *Bibliothèque nationale*, experiences on which he would draw in future years. He began his career in libraries shortly afterwards, returning to British Columbia as provincial librarian and archivist. In 1936 he was appointed superintendent of the British Columbia Public Libraries Commission during a period in which regional library services were being extended throughout the province. Four years later, he was appointed university librarian at UBC. In that position he oversaw the expansion of both buildings and collections, adding materials on British Columbia and the maritime history of the Pacific Northwest.

As the second president of the Canadian Library Association in 1947-48, Dr. Lamb was deeply involved in the fledgling association's campaign to convince the government of Canada to found a national library. He was appointed to the position of dominion archivist 'with the special assignment of preparing the way for the establishment of a National Library in Ottawa.' As chair of the National Library Advisory Committee, he oversaw the founding of the Canadian Bibliographic Centre, which commenced work immediately on two major projects, the compilation of a current national bibliography and a union catalogue of the holdings of major Canadian libraries. He served with distinction as national librarian from 1953 until 1968. His retirement followed by a year the opening of a new building for the National Library and Public Archives. As dominion archivist, he established a systematic program for the collection, retention, and organization of government records, and created the Record Centre to deal with the increasing flow of federal documents. He collected the papers of Canada's prime ministers, many of which had been dispersed. Since many important documents dealing with early Canadian history are held in institutions in England and France, he established a program of microfilming as a means of repatriating Canada's historical record.

In addition to his twin careers as an archivist and librarian, Dr. Lamb pursued those of a scholar and writer. His first historical article was published before he entered university; later, as part of the revitalization of the British Columbia archives, he founded and edited the *British Columbia Historical Quarterly*. During his years at the National Library and Public Archives, he authored numerous articles for journals and encyclopedias and edited manuscripts for publication, including the papers of Daniel Harmon, Simon Fraser, Gabriel Franchère, and Alexander Mackenzie. He was also the chief editorial consultant for the *Encyclopedia Canadica*. His astonishing productivity increased after his retirement, during which he published major books on Canada's history, over a dozen more articles, and the four-volume edition of the voyages

of George Vancouver. Until his last days he remained a serious and constant reader, with a lively interest in current events and in developments within his several professions.

Dr. Lamb was a member of many professional and academic organizations including the American Antiquarian Society to which he was elected in 1964. He was elected to the Royal Society of Canada in 1949 and served as its president in 1965. He was the recipient of many honors and awards, among them appointment as an officer of the Order of Canada in 1969.

In 1939 he married Wessie Tipping of Vancouver. Their daughter, Elizabeth Lamb Hawkins, and two grandsons are their survivors.

Basil Stuart-Stubbs

Copyright of Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society is the property of American Antiquarian Society and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.