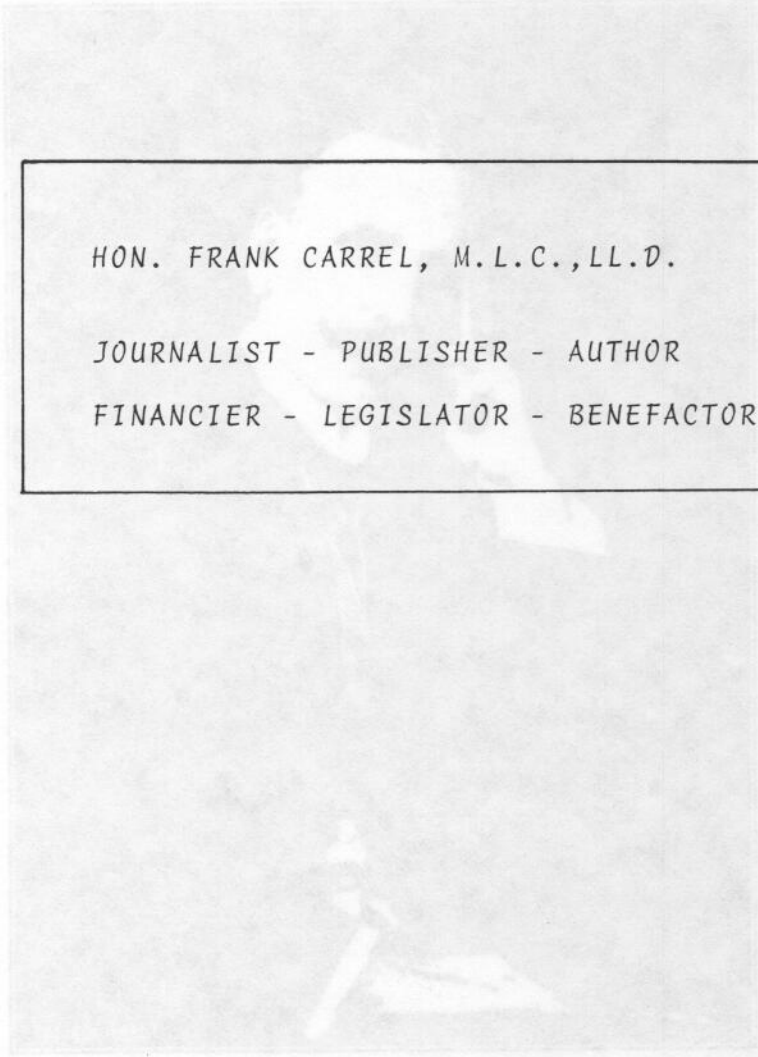


GASPÉ OF YESTERDAY



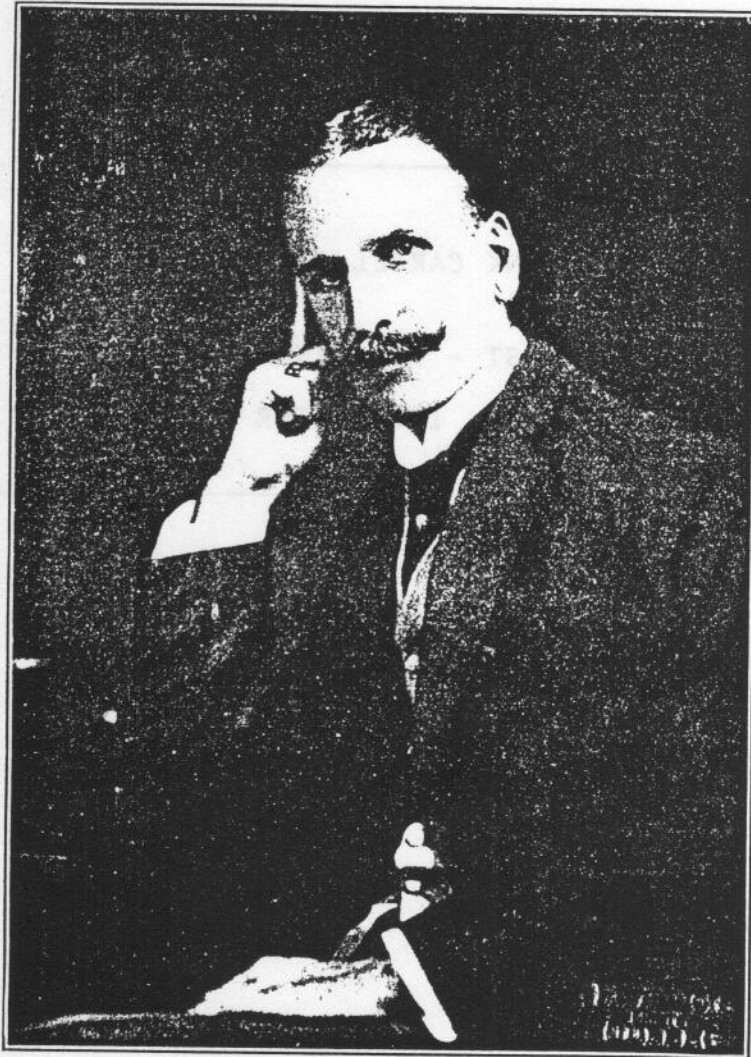
HON. FRANK CARREL, M.L.C., LL.D.

JOURNALIST - PUBLISHER - AUTHOR

FINANCIER - LEGISLATOR - BENEFACTOR

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Ken Annett
May 31, 1979



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FINANCIER, JOURNALIST AND AUTHOR

Legislative Councillor for the Gulf Division.—President: Quebec Telegraph Printing Co. and of Frank Carrel Limited.—Director: Canada Steamship Lines Limited; Prudential Trust Co'y; Canada Securities Corporation, etc.—General Honorary Patron, Quebec and District Society of Workmen Incorporated.—Author of *Tips, Canada West and Farther West, Around the World Cruise, Impressions of War, Etc., Etc.*

HONOURABLE FRANK CARREL

When the Telegraph Printing Company of Quebec published Mrs. Margaret Grant MacWhirter's "TREASURE TROVE IN GASPE AND THE BAIE DES CHALEURS" sixty years ago, one of the leading publishers and personalities of the city of Quebec was the Honourable Frank Carrel, LL.D., member of the Quebec Legislative Council for the Gulf Division, including the Gaspé Peninsula.

The career of Frank Carrel as a journalist, publisher, author, financier, legislator, and public benefactor was remarkable and is worthy of recall. His interest in and concern for Gaspesia, preserved for posterity by the provisions of his Will, is ample justification to remember his outstanding life and influence in this GASPE OF YESTERDAY series of SPEC.

Though no published biography of Frank Carrel has been located and no Carrel family history found to date, we have the contemporary record of Mrs. MacWhirter that the Carrel family was Huguenot by descent and that the grandfather of Frank came out to Canada from Jersey in the Channel Islands. This has found more recent support in the pages of Mrs. Marion Turk's book "THE QUIET ADVENTURERS IN CANADA" where the presence in Gaspesia of members of the Carrel family of Jersey is attested. The Huguenot connection is indicated further by Cochrane in his "MEN OF CANADA" Volume II where he states that the Carrel family of Quebec descended from General Armaugh Carrel of France.

James C. Carrel, Frank's father, was born in the St. Roch ward of Quebec city in 1844. As a youth he found employment with the "MERCURY", a noted Quebec newspaper of that era. He married Josephine Gertrude Butchart of Quebec and their son, Frank, was born in the Old Capital in September, 1870. In that same year James Carrel founded his own newspaper, the "SATURDAY BUDGET" and four years later he began publication of the "DAILY TELEGRAPH".

As a young lad Frank Carrel went to elementary school in Quebec and began his secondary studies at the Protestant High School. He continued his education at Stanstead Wesleyan College where he edited the College journal. Following business courses at the Commercial Academy of Quebec, and while still in his teens, he began work in the lowest position of his father's newspaper, the "DAILY TELEGRAPH". There he proceeded to acquire and perfect the demanding arts and crafts of journalism and publishing.

In March, 1891, James C. Carrel, at the early age of 47 years, died suddenly at his home on Maple Avenue in Quebec. Shocked and saddened, the Quebec community expressed its respect and sympathy in one of the largest, most representative and impressive funerals that Quebec had known. More than 2000 citizens from all walks of life joined in the funeral service at St. Matthew's Anglican Church and the procession to Mount Hermon Cemetery.

The premature death of his father placed immediate and heavy responsibilities on his son, Frank Carrel. At once he assumed the role of editor and publisher of the Carrel newspapers. Not only did he meet the challenge of maintaining his father's work but he proceeded, during a brilliant personal career, in extending the Carrel name and influence into wider domains. The following summary attempts to reflect some of his varied accomplishments and interests:

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| <u>JOURNALIST</u> | . Editor and Publisher of the "SATURDAY BUDGET" and the "DAILY TELEGRAPH" of Quebec City. |
| <u>AND</u> | |
| <u>PUBLISHER</u> | . Vice-President of the "CHRONICLE-TELEGRAPH PUBLISHING CO. " and of "QUEBEC NEWSPAPERS LTD." from 1925 until 1932 and President from 1932 to 1939. |
| | . President of "FRANK CARREL LTD." |
| | . Represented Canada and the Canadian Press at the League of Nations International Press Conference at Geneva, Switzerland in 1927. |
| | . Representative at the British Empire Industrial Fair in Buenos Aires, Argentina - 1932. |

Member of the Imperial Press Conference in London, England and South Africa in 1935.

AUTHOR

An avid traveller throughout Canada and abroad, Frank Carrel's books reflected both his national and international views and opinions. His published works include:

"TIPS ON AN OCEAN VOYAGE"

"CANADA WEST"

"FARTHER WEST"

"AROUND THE WORLD CRUISE"

"IMPRESSIONS OF WAR"

The Legislative Library of the Quebec National Assembly has a comprehensive collection of his writings. In recognition and appreciation of his public and literary work Queen's University of Kingston conferred upon him in October, 1919, an honorary LL.D. degree.

FINANCIER

In the domain of business and commerce Frank Carrel's acumen and ability led to his participation as an officer or director in a wide range of enterprises. These included:

- . The Real Estate and Mortgage Discount Co. Toronto
- . The Quebec Bridge Realty Co.
- . The Prudential Trust
- . National Industrial Bankers - New York
- . The Spokane Portland Cement Co.
- . Twin City Rapid Transport Co. Minneapolis
- . Canadian Insurance Ltd. Toronto
- . Canada Steamships
- . The Quebec Quarry Co.
- . Canada Securities Corp.

LEGISLATOR

Appointed in 1918 to the Legislative Council of Quebec to represent the GULF DIVISION, in succession to the Hon. R. Turner, the Hon. Frank Carrel was influential in support of his eastern Quebec district including the Gaspé Peninsula. His particular ability and experience in trade led him to assist in the development of his district's resources. As his contemporary, Mrs. MacWhirter, noted in her writings:

" . . . The further advancement of Gaspé and Bonaventure is dear to the heart of the Legislative Councillor for this division (GULF) of which this district (GASPESIA) is a part . . . "

Particular reference is made by Mrs. MacWhirter to the interest of the Hon. Frank Carrel in the development of the fishing industry of the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Gaspé Coast and to his support of improved roads for the Gaspé district.

It was in March 1916 that Frank Carrel married Anna Maud Spiller, daughter of Robert Spiller of Bexhill, Sussex, England. Mrs. Carrel survived her husband for more than three decades following his death in 1940.

The scope and variety of his community activities and membership in clubs and associations bear witness to the remarkable range of Frank Carrel's interests. Professionally he was a member of the Provincial Press Association and of the Press Gallery of the Quebec Legislature. He served the community as a member of the Quebec Board of Trade and of the Quebec City Council. Prior to 1900 he was a founding member of the Quebec Winter Carnival. In 1919 he was responsible for the founding of the Quebec Rotary Club. An honorary member of the Mess of the Royal 22nd Regiment, he was also an honorary life member of the Army and Navy Veterans, Unit 33 and of the Garrison Club of Quebec. Ever an ardent sportsman, he served as Governor of the Province of Quebec Association for the Protection of Fish and Game and participated in the Carrel and the Tourilli Fish and Game Clubs. The Quebec Turf Club had his support. The Quebec branch of the alumni of Queen's University elected him as President and Stanstead Wesleyan College named him

a Trustee. He served as a Director of the Quebec Industrial School and of the Canadian Social Hygiene Council. In Montreal he was a member of the Reform and St. Denis Clubs, in New York of the Friar's Club, in London, England, of the Author's Club and in Paris, France, of the Cercle Interalliés. One of his last addresses prior to his death was delivered before the Empire Club of Toronto.

The death of the Hon. Frank Carrel which occurred at his home in Quebec City at the end of July 1940 was marked by a remarkable outpouring of sympathy and regret in the Press of that period. The funeral service at historic St. Andrew's Church on August 1st was attended by representatives of Government, community leaders and people from all walks of life. Like his father before him he was laid to rest in Mount Hermon Cemetery.

The public spirit of Frank Carrel found final expression in the terms of his Last Will and Testament. He specified that his estate provide for his widow and his sister during their life-time following which the major residual funds be used to provide scholarships for Protestant boys, resident in the Gulf division, accepted for study at Queen's University and for Catholic boys accepted at Laval University.

In June, 1974, in an unusual action, the scholarship provisions of the Will of Frank Carrel were modified by the Quebec government through Bill 104 (Private) AN ACT RESPECTING THE ESTATE OF FRANK CARREL. When the discussion that took place in the Justice Commission prior to adoption of this Bill became known through publication in the JOURNAL DES DEBATS, (NO.108, 26 juin 1974) vigorous and indignant protests were lodged with the Government Ministers of Education and Justice by the Protestant Committee of the Superior Council of Education and other interested parties. The protests were to no avail and the dispositions of Bill 104, which modify significantly the terms of Frank Carrel's Will, now prevail. This is reflected by the first section of the GENERAL REGULATIONS of Queen's University for Frank Carrel Scholarships which reads:

GENERAL REGULATIONS

1. Recipients must for at least one year prior to their application and until the expiry of their scholarship have been and remain domiciled in the Province of Quebec and as far as possible in the City or County of Quebec or in the Gulf Division of the Legislative Assembly of Quebec as constituted at 30 July 1940 (including the counties of Bonaventure, Rimouski, Gaspé-est, Gaspé-ouest, Iles de la Madeleine).

Despite such posthumous alteration of the provisions of Frank Carrel's Will ~~the~~ opportunity will continue for the youth of the vast Gulf division, including Gaspesia, to benefit from its financial support for higher education. Gaspesians have good reasons to recall the spirit and vision of the Hon. Frank Carrel and the potential of his legacy.