

## Death Claims "Janey Canuck"

Was Leader of Campaign  
to Allow Women to  
Sit in Senate

BORN IN ONTARIO

Famous as Jurist and  
Writer; Had Resided  
Here Since 1907

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which pen name she had written several books.

Mrs. Murphy came from a legal family. The late Mr. Justice W. N. Ferguson of the Ontario bench was her brother, while two prominent Toronto barristers, Harcourt Ferguson, K.C., and T. R. Ferguson, both of whom are now dead, were brothers.

She is survived by her husband, Rev. Arthur Murphy, her daughters, Miss Evelyn Murphy and Mrs. John Cleve Kenwood, Edmonton, a sister, Mrs. Ferguson Burke, Toronto, and a brother, Dr. Gowan Ferguson of Great Falls, Montana.

Her only grandchild, Emily, daughter of Mrs. Kenwood, was named after her.

Funeral arrangements are being made.

Resigned in 1931

Police magistrate in and for the Province of Alberta since 1913, Mrs. Murphy resigned as women's police magistrate for the city of Edmonton in November, 1931. She was the first woman to be appointed to such a post in the British Empire. At the same time she vacated her post of judge of the juvenile court for the Province of Alberta, retaining, however, her office as police magistrate for the province so that she might give relief service if needed.

To Emily Murphy has been conceded the distinction of being the "first" in so many fields of activity, not only those that are classified as feminine fields of modern endeavor, but also progressive movements of many kinds, world peace, public health, child welfare, fairer laws governing women and children and protecting them, improvements in the conduct of modern education, education, literature, many branches of social service; all these have claimed her attention and profited by her constructive effort. Canada, her native land, as a part of the Empire, was her creed. In 1915 his majesty the king decorated her a Lady of Grace of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem for patriotic services, and in 1927 she was decorated by the Most Noble Order of Crusaders for "imperial service," the nature of which she never divulged.

Native of Ontario

Born in Cookstown, Ontario, the daughter of Isaac and Emily Gowan Ferguson, Mrs. Murphy came of a family distinguished in the legal history of Canada. She is the grand-daughter of Lieut.-Col. Ogilvie R. Gowan, member of the old parliament of Canada, and founder of the Loyal Orange Order at Brockville in 1830. Lieut.-Col. Gowan was father, founder and first grand master of the Orange association in Canada, formed in 1830, and has had many distinguished descendants.

In the home of Reverend Arthur Murphy and his wife, Emily Ferguson, moved to Edmonton in 1907, many pieces of furniture, books, pictures and other mementoes and friendships that are entwined with the history of Canada since the days of Colonel Gowan. Mrs. Murphy's grandnephew, Ferguson was a kinsman of Lord Roberts, Britain's famous "Bob."

Mrs. Murphy inaugurated an effort and for 13 years worked to establish the right of women to sit in the Canadian senate under the provisions of the British North America act, the right, upon the appeal of five Alberta women, of whom she was one, being won by decision of his majesty's privy council in 1929.

Has Written Books

Domination wide distinction first came to her in the form of success as an author, under the name of "Janey Canuck." Her books are: "Janey Canuck in the West," "Open Trails," "Seeds of Pine," "The Black Candle," "Little Canadian Cousins of the Great North-Western Provinces." Throughout her life she has been a contributor to Canadian, British and American magazines. She was literary editor of the Canada Monthly from 1902 to 1904 and literary editor of the Winnipeg Telegram from 1904 to 1910.

She was president of the Canadian Women's Press club from 1913 until 1920 and honorary president from 1920 to 1923, and historian from 1923 until 1929. "The Edmonton branch of the club esteemed her its most beloved member always. She was honorary secretary for Canada of the Society of Women Journalists of England from 1913 to 1925; a member of the Imperial Press conference of 1920 and a councillor of the Canadian Authors' association from 1921 to 1927. In 1931 she was made a member of the board of governors of the Canadian Authors' Trust foundation, an honor of which she expressed herself as being very proud.

Because president of the Canadian Women's Press club she kept

the press women of Canada working for prisoners of war throughout the great war, Mrs. Murphy received "Le Vêtement du Prisonnier de Guerre," and exquisite little bronze plaque showing a Polish prisoner writing home—a poignant reminder of war.

Member of War Conference

She was a member of the war conference of women held at the invitation of the war committee of the dominion cabinet in 1918, and since the war her efforts have been directed toward world peace. She was convener of the National Committee of Peace and Arbitration from 1914 to 1915 and a member of the general committee, Canadian society of the League of Nations from 1923 to 1925.

Mrs. Murphy was the first president of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, holding office from 1919 to 1921. She was vice-president of the National Council of Women of Canada from 1918 to 1919. She was the organizer of the Women's Canadian club of Edmonton and its first president, in office from 1911 to 1913.

She inaugurated the movement for the establishment of the Victorian Order of Nurses at Edmonton in 1910, and was a prime mover for the establishment of municipal hospitals in Alberta also in 1910. She was the first woman member of a hospital board of the city of Edmonton.

Her civic activities include membership in the charter committee of the city of Edmonton in 1914, inauguration of a movement to reclaim playgrounds in Edmonton, and efforts which resulted in a campaign for the election of women as school trustees in Alberta in 1912.

Services Were Sought

The Alberta provincial government sought her services in several capacities. She was appointed by order of the lieutenant-governor-in-council to report on public institutions operated by the government and served on this board from 1926 to 1931. In 1926 she also was appointed by the government of Alberta to a special committee to report on international property law relating to women. She was instrumental in inaugurating the movement for the enactment of the Dower law in Alberta in 1910.

Mrs. Murphy organized in Alberta and Saskatchewan the first branches of the Canadian Council of Women in 1910 and was a member of the national board of directors from 1918 to 1925.

For these and many other services to Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, the British Empire, and to the advancement and welfare of women throughout the world, Mrs. Murphy won the respect, admiration and love not only of women, but of the public in general. Her hospitable home was a gracious rendezvous for many friends and her two charming daughters, Miss Clara Kenwood and Miss Evelyn Murphy attested her success as a mother.

When a vacancy occurred in the Canadian senate in 1930 there was a strong movement among women in both eastern and western Canada to appoint Mrs. Murphy to the upper chamber. Patrick Burns of Calgary, however, received this appointment.

Devotes Time to Writing

With her resignation as police magistrate in 1931, Mrs. Murphy declared her intention of devoting the major portion of her time to her writing. Her study, she said, was filled with interesting material she had collected and a great deal of unfinished work.

With a twinkle in her blue eyes she once told an audience: "Who lives by the pen, dies by the pen. Nevertheless, one keeps on writing. One has only to keep on with literary work to become 'dangerous' within the meaning of the insanity plea; to catch the snappers of the hiccoughs, horse glanders, to get high blood pressure, a sunstroke or snake bite."

Expressions of Regret  
Are Voiced by Friends

Leaders in all walks of life Friday paid tribute to Mrs. Emily Murphy in 1931. Mrs. Murphy expressed deep regret at her death.

Premier Brownlee: "I deeply regret the very sudden death of Mrs. Emily Murphy. In her capacity as one of the magistrates of the Edmonton police court, she performed excellent service for this province. As a writer under the pseudonym of 'Janey Canuck' she was widely known throughout Canada. Her greatest contribution to the public was a book, however, was as one of a group of women who were foremost in Canada in the women's movement and played a very important part in securing many of the legislative and constitutional changes for the betterment of the position of women both in the home and in public affairs. "I join with her wide circle of friends in expressing deepest sympathy to the family in their bereavement."

D. Walter Thomson, president of the Authors' association: "In the passing of 'Janey Canuck' not only this city and province, but Canada and the empire have alike sustained the loss of a great and good woman. Her distinguished contribution to the literature of this dominion possesses an appeal to readers in all parts of the British commonwealth. Devotion to the highest ideals in every effort and constant warm-hearted encouragement to talkative writers appeared as her most out-

standing characteristic to those associated with her in literary activities."

Mrs. W. J. Ross, president of the Local Council of Women: "I am shocked beyond expression. We all knew she was not strong, but her cheerfulness and activity gave no indication of her early death. In her, Edmonton and Canada have lost a wonderful worker for women's rights. Perhaps her greatest achievement was her success in the agitation to have the privy council declare that women are persons within the interpretation of the British North America act. As a result of this the Canadian government passed what is called 'The Sex Inequality Removal Act.' "I am deeply grieved at the news of her death and she will be greatly missed."

Mrs. E. L. Hill, former president of the Local Council of Women: "The cause of women has lost a great leader. In almost every attempt to raise the status of woman she was widely known to those in authority everywhere. Her accomplishments in placing women in her rightful place is well known and her death will be mourned by many people everywhere."

Hon. J. F. Lymburn, provincial attorney-general: "I am shocked by the news of Mrs. Murphy's death. She played a large part in the life of the province and her passing leaves a blank, especially in the field of women's work and in all humanitarian activities, which it will be difficult to fill."

Mrs. James C. Richardson, president, Edmonton branch Canadian Women's Press club: "Mrs. Murphy was the beloved doyenne of the Edmonton Press club. Her interest in this small group of writers never failed up to the time of her death and every individual member has occasion to recall her kindness and humor. Her quiet sympathy and the helping hand she so often held out endeared her to aspiring young writers and to the younger generation of press women."

Magistrate Primrose: "It was quite a shock when I was advised of Mrs. Emily Murphy's death, for we have known her for many years—over since 1917 when our court was on the ground floor of the civic block—and she left us only in 1931. Only a matter of two days ago she told me she never felt better in her life."

"Mrs. Murphy was a woman of outstanding ability and did many, many things, both in getting laws passed for the betterment of women and children in this western country, and working wholeheartedly on their behalf."

"That, I imagine, was one of the causes of her sudden passing. She was always a tremendous worker on behalf of other people. My sympathies go out to Rev. Mr. Murphy and their two daughters."

Magistrate McLeod: "It was with deepest regret that I learned of Mrs. Murphy's death. As police magistrates, we have been in close association for many years and those associations have always been most pleasant."

"In the passing of Mrs. Murphy, the city lost one of its most highly respected citizens and in many circles there will be a vacancy to fill. "I personally feel I have lost a very close friend."

Chief Shute: "It was with deepest sorrow and regret that I learned of Mrs. Murphy's death. Magistrate Murphy has been one of the most prominent women in the domain. For 13 years she presided over women's police court, discharging her duty in a most efficient manner and being willing to cooperate with the police at any time during the night and day she was called upon. "She always had a cheery word for all of the police and only Thursday morning she was in my office, apparently in excellent health."



Mrs. Emily Murphy, woman police magistrate in Edmonton for many years, and who led the fight for the right of women to sit in the senate, died suddenly at midnight Thursday at her residence, 88 ave. She was in previous good health.

## Death Claims Emily Murphy At Home Here

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Sit in Senate

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Mrs. Emily Murphy, first woman magistrate in the British empire, prominent in women's affairs in Edmonton and in the dominion, and a leader of the successful drive to allow women to sit in the senate, died at her home at midnight Thursday.

Death came as a result of a stroke after she had retired for the night and after she had cried out to her daughter, Miss Evelyn Murphy. She was dead when doctors reached the house.

She was the "Janey Canuck" known to thousands of book lovers, several volumes coming from her pen.

Born in 1868 at Cookstown, Ontario, Mrs. Murphy came to Edmonton with her husband, Rev. Arthur Murphy, and children, in 1907.

Mrs. Murphy apparently was in good health when she retired shortly after 10:00 p.m., Thursday. During the day she had been to the city centre, had attended the police court session in the morning and had talked to her old acquaintances there. She had luncheon uptown, and in the afternoon went to the library to search for information.

Called To Daughter

In the evening she inquired about the score in the Grads' game at the arena, and retired. At midnight she called to her daughter, Miss Evelyn Murphy, but was dead when she arrived.

Mrs. Murphy was known to thousands as "Janey Canuck," under

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