

Notes and Communications

Second Annual Winner of the W. Kaye Lamb Prize

The General Editor and Editorial Board of *Archivaria* are pleased to announce that Gordon Dodds has been awarded the second W. Kaye Lamb Prize for his article, "Canadian Archival Literature: A Bird's-Eye View," which appeared in No. 17, the Winter 1983-84 issue of the journal. The Prize is given each fall to the author of "the article which by the quality of its research, reflection, and writing most advances archival thinking and scholarship in Canada." The Prize was established in 1983 to honour the important contributions to archives made by Dr. Lamb and to promote excellence in scholarly writing on Canadian archival matters. The winner receives a certificate and a cash prize, and is chosen by a ballot sent to over thirty archivists across the country. Any article in Nos. 17 and 18 was eligible for this year's award.

In lively, pointed, and colourful prose, Gordon Dodds has penned a provocative article that not only analyzes Canadian archival literature, but also sets that literature within the historical development of the archival profession in Canada since the late 1950s. Given Dodds' prominent role in some of those developments, his piece is necessarily partly autobiographical, certainly personal, and not infrequently controversial. Yet his article is no mere personal reminiscence or bibliographic overview. In surveying the *Canadian Archivist*, *Archivaria*, and various reports and books on Canadian archives over a twenty-five-year period, Dodds' focus is to point to trends, themes, and turning points, the valleys as well as the peaks, and most importantly the significance of such scholarly writing to the development of our youthful profession. His conclusion is anything, however, but a Whiggish pat on the back for that profession. Rather, it is a reminder that only now have Canadian archivists reached the threshold where the serious scholarly study of records can begin to offer unique insights into the nature of societies, communications, and human behaviour — a reminder that is coupled with a sobering warning that the profession may turn away from rather than cross that threshold. It is hoped that Gordon Dodds' challenge will be accepted and then reflected in the future pages of this and other journals.

The third W. Kaye Lamb Prize will be awarded in the fall of 1985 for the best article in *Archivaria* 19 and 20.

Tom Nesmith
General Editor