

## *Notes and Communications*

### *Third Annual Winner of the W. Kaye Lamb Prize*

The General Editor and Editorial Board of *Archivaria* are pleased to announce that Bill Russell has been awarded the third W. Kaye Lamb Prize for his article "The White Man's Paper Burden: Aspects of Records Keeping in the Department of Indian Affairs, 1860-1914," which appeared in number 19, the Winter 1984-85 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-five archivists across the country. Any article in numbers 19 and 20 was eligible for this year's award, although members of the Editorial Board who had articles in these issues requested that they be deemed ineligible.

In an article characterized by exhaustive research and an exemplary knowledge of the subject matter, Bill Russell provided an informative and immensely readable study of the records of the Department of Indian Affairs between 1860 and 1914. In what is undoubtedly the first substantial study of a department's records and their uses, Russell has demonstrated conclusively that the history of the records is often as important (and in some circumstances even more so) as the records themselves. Extensive research, an impressive personal knowledge, and an obvious sensitivity to both the records and their contents have been combined in the article to make a truly unique contribution to archival scholarship. In an equally laudable fashion Russell has transcended the archivist/historian debate by convincingly demonstrating that the record itself is paramount, and that its subsequent care and interpretation is the domain of *both* the historian and the information manager. While records keeping may have been described as "donkey work," Russell has rewarded his readers with a study that not only reaffirms the value of properly preserved records as administrative tools but also as the raw material of administrative, political, and social history.

The fourth W. Kaye Lamb Prize will be awarded in the fall of 1986 for the best article in *Archivaria* 21 and 22.

**David A. Walden**  
Editorial Board  
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