

Cornerstone Is Laid At Halifax Memorial Library

Cornerstone for the Halifax Memorial Library was laid yesterday by Mayor Gordon S. Kinley at an impressive ceremony at Grafton Park.

Hundreds of citizens, war veterans and representatives of various units in the Remembrance Day parade crowded the site of the new library to join in the ceremony.

Deeds Be Not Forgotten

The stone was laid by Mayor Kinley under the auspices of the Halifax branches of the Canadian Legion. Chairman was Lieut. Col. J. B. Dunbar. Rev. D. M. Sinclair, minister of Fort Massey United Church, led in prayer.

His Worship said the library was constructed to "the honor and glory of those sons and daughters of our citizens who gave their all—so that their glorious deeds be not forgotten and their sacrifices not in vain."

He expressed hope that the Memorial Library would serve as a living force in the community.

In his address at the cornerstone laying ceremony Premier Angus L. Macdonald said that "education of the proper sort is an essential ingredient of a truly democratic system of government."

Fundamental Necessity

Premier Macdonald, in referring to the 100th anniversary of the coming of responsible government, said it was significant that when the struggle for responsible government was being waged the leaders in the movement looked on education as a fundamental necessity.

"If in those far-off times the great leaders in public life felt that education was important, how much more important must it be today," Premier Macdonald said.

"The public library that is well stocked with good books and well run by trained librarians who can guide and direct those that need help and advice in the selection and reading of books — such a library can play a very vital part in upholding and strengthening the democratic theory of government.

"I would not have it believed that this library should be a place only for the storing and lending of weighty books on government and history and economics, and other topics of that weighty, and sometimes dull, sort.

"I hope that this library, under the guidance of a skilled and sympathetic staff, will be a place to which all classes of our citizens will resort, to seek and to find the pleasures and benefits that books can bring. The learned and the unlettered, the professional man and the laborer, the rich and the poor, those of mature age and those who are still in their childhood and youth, all of these ought to be able to find here the type of book that will delight the soul and stimulate the mind."