
WILLIAM MALCOLM DRUMMOND, 1897–1965

Dr. W. M. Drummond, distinguished and internationally respected Canadian economist, died in Ottawa on April 7, 1965.

Dr. Drummond was born in Bristol, Quebec, in 1897, and, throughout an outstanding career as both a theoretical and practical economist, maintained a strong interest in his family farm and in the problems of agriculture. He received his BA degree from Queen's University in 1923, his MA from the University of Toronto, and, after one year at the Ecoles Libres des Sciences Politiques in Paris, proceeded to Harvard where he received his PhD degree.

He lectured for five years at the University of Alberta and for eight years at the University of Toronto. In 1937 he left the University of Toronto to become Professor and Head of the Department of Agricultural Economics at the Ontario Agricultural College in Guelph, a position which he held for the following fifteen years. During this period Dr. Drummond created a strong undergraduate program in agricultural economics at OAC, and made his department respected in academic and rural leadership circles alike. His publications and lectures made him the outstanding authority on agricultural policy in Ontario and Canada and he served with various policy-making bodies including the Ontario Royal Commission on Milk.

In 1952 he resigned from the Ontario Agricultural College to serve with a United Nations economic mission on the rehabilitation of South Korea. Thereafter he was a member of a Royal Commission on Newfoundland Agriculture, economist with the Royal Commission on Canada's Economic Prospects, and a member of the Royal Commission on Price Spreads. In 1959 he was appointed Economic Advisor to the Agricultural Stabilization Board in Ottawa, and in 1963 he joined the Agricultural Economics Research Council. His untimely death occurred as he was working on a comprehensive review of agricultural policy from the early days of British North America to the present.

Dr. Drummond's outstanding contribution to economics, and particularly to agricultural economics, was recognized when he was made a Fellow of the Agricultural Institute of Canada in 1958. His wide knowledge and thoughtful approach made him a valued colleague and teacher to his many friends and associates.

R.C.