

OBITUARY

Harald Smith Patton, 1889-1945

The many friends in Canada of Dr. Harald S. Patton were shocked to learn of his sudden death in Washington, D.C. on September 1. Dr. Patton was fatally injured in a bus accident when crossing from a parking area to his office in the Pentagon, where he was engaged in military service. He had previously been seriously injured in Washington in 1938 when struck by a bus when crossing a street intersection. At that time he was serving as adviser on international economics in the State Department.

Harald S. Patton was born in Minnedosa, Manitoba and attended the University of Toronto where, in 1912, he took an honours degree, in English and History (Moderns option). Later he gained his Ph.D. degree at Harvard University where he was also made a member of Phi Beta Kappa honorary scholastic fraternity. He was a lecturer in the Department of Political Economy in the University of Alberta, 1921-5; Assistant and Associate Professor of Economics in the University of Cincinnati, 1925-9. In the latter year he became Professor and Head of the Department of Economics in Michigan State College. Dr. Patton continued to hold this position but was absent from the college on military service at the time of his death.

In the First World War he served with the Canadian forces overseas between 1915 and 1919. Enlisting as a private in the "Princess Pats" he subsequently obtained his commission and was promoted to Captain in 1917. In 1916 he was wounded at Ypres. In World War II he was granted military leave from Michigan State in 1943 and went to Washington where he became a Major in the Finance Department of the United States army headquarters, acting as Assistant Chief, Foreign Fiscal Affairs Branch. In July, 1945 he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of the Branch. The duties of this branch concerned the planning of the use of military currencies, the establishment of official exchange rates, and providing for foreign or military currencies as required by the armed forces.

Although the greater part of Dr. Patton's professional career was spent in the United States, where he became a recognized authority on international finance and international agricultural co-operation, he always retained a deep and sympathetic interest in Canadian affairs, particularly in the fortunes of the western grain producers. His fine study of Grain Growers' Co-operation in Western Canada, for which he gathered material while at the University of Alberta, was published in the Harvard Economic Studies in 1928. A glance at the list of his published writing reveals his continued interest throughout the years in this field. His last paper on Canadian war-time wheat policy appeared in this JOURNAL in November, 1942. In 1937 he was asked to appear as a neutral witness before the Royal Grain Inquiry Commission at Winnipeg. One of Dr. Patton's suggestions on this occasion was that the Dominion government should maintain a guaranteed initial price for wheat.

The writer remembers him as a keen and loyal colleague at the University of Alberta and in meeting him from time to time after he went to the United

States was struck by the closeness with which he followed the trend of Canadian affairs. While he had a very full and successful career south of the line, he would have been particularly happy had a suitable opportunity presented itself to him to occupy a post in a Canadian university. [D. A. MacG.]

SELECT LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

- Grain Growers' Co-operation in Western Canada*, Harvard Economic Studies, no. 32, (Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 1928).
 "The Canadian Wheat Pool in Prosperity and Depression" in *Commodity Controls in the Pacific Area*, W. L. Holland, ed. (Stanford, Stanford University Press, 1934).
 "The Canadian Wheat Pool in Prosperity and Depression" in *Economics, Sociology and the Modern World: Essays in Honor of T. N. Carver*, Norman E. Himes, ed. (Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 1935).

BULLETINS

- The Midwest and the Trade Agreements Program*, Commercial Policy Series no. 27, United States Department of State (Washington, 1936).
 With R. J. Burroughs, *Experience of Michigan Rural Banks with Short Term Loans to Farmers* (Michigan Agricultural Experimental Station, Special Bulletin, no. 311, Aug., 1941).
The Canadian Wheat Pool in Prosperity and Adversity, Canadian Co-operative Wheat Producers (Winnipeg, 1935).

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- "Canadian-American Reciprocity: The Canadian Viewpoints" (*Quarterly Journal of Economics*, August, 1921).
 "Hydro-Electric Power Policies in Ontario and Quebec" (*Journal of Land and Public Utility Economics*, May and August, 1927).
 "Market Influence of Canadian Wheat Pool" (*Proceedings of American Statistical Association*, March, 1929).
 "Public Ownership of Hydro-Electric Utilities in Canada" (*Michigan Academy of Science, Arts and Letters, Proceedings*, 1930).
 "The Canadian Trade Agreement and Michigan Agriculture" (*Quarterly Bulletin of Michigan Agricultural Experimental Station*, vol. 18, no. 3, February, 1936).
 "A Decade and a half of American Agricultural Policy" (*Michigan Academy of Science, Arts and Letters, Proceedings*, 1936).
 "Observations on Canadian Wheat Policy Since the World War" (*Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science*, May, 1937).
 "Impact of Defense Program on Migration in Michigan", prepared for Michigan Council of Defense, Tolen Committee, Detroit Hearings, 1941.
 "The War and North American Agriculture" (*Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science*, Aug., 1941).
 "Wartime Wheat Policy in Canada" (*Journal of Farm Economics*, Nov., 1942).
 Completed but not published, "Military Currencies" requested for the *Military Review* (Command and General Staff School).