

IN MEMORIAM
DÉCÈS

Mr. J.G. Crean, member of the CHA since 1950, passed away on March 16, 1995.

Ian Drummond, economist and historian, born in Vancouver in 1933, died in Toronto on 13 November 1994. A long-time (indeed permanent) member of the CHA, Drummond, in his writing and teaching, was a rare bridge between history and economics, and at the University of Toronto he was proud to belong to both departments, and to political science as well.

Drummond was educated in Vancouver schools, and at the University of British Columbia, before heading east to the University of Toronto for an MA and then onward to Yale for a PhD. He taught at Yale as a junior faculty member, but was lured back to Toronto in 1960. His academic career followed the usual pattern from assistant to associate to full professor, but his publishing record was much more than the usual. Drummond seemed to have an inexhaustible supply of both knowledge and energy. He edited the *Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science* and then its successor, the *Canadian Journal of Economics*. He served on the editorial board of *Canadian Forum*. He worked as an adviser to undergraduates and as a resident faculty member at Trinity College. On top of which, he travelled extensively and became a figure about town as he cruised the roads in his Morgan and, later, his Alvis.

Though he started as a Russian specialist (he taught for years a course on the Soviet economy) he became more

and more interested in the economic history of the British Empire. He published several books in the field, and worked as well on currency wars and the gold standard during the 1930s. He had very little sympathy for the pseudo-revolutionary hi-jinks of the late sixties and early seventies, and was delighted at the opportunity, offered in the late 1970s, to set down his views of what was important in Canadian history. As co-author of the first post-war history text, *Canada since 1945*, Drummond was able to tackle, and lambaste, the intellectual pieties and doctrinal foolishness of his day -- and to do so from the perspective of someone who knew and understood the Canadian economy. As Drummond liked to point out, academics are trained to criticize, and he was happy to fulfil his predestined role.

As a teacher Drummond was greatly admired, and he had a considerable influence on a whole generation of students. He believed strongly in undergraduate education, and deplored attempts to reconstitute his university in the direction of graduate study or faculty research. Equally, he deplored the increasing specialization and obscurantism of his fellow academics, whether in economics or political science or history. A good academic, he believed, should be able to explain his or her work without reaching into a reservoir of bafflegab. That, certainly, was a point that Drummond tried to exemplify through his own work and academic life.

Robert Bothwell