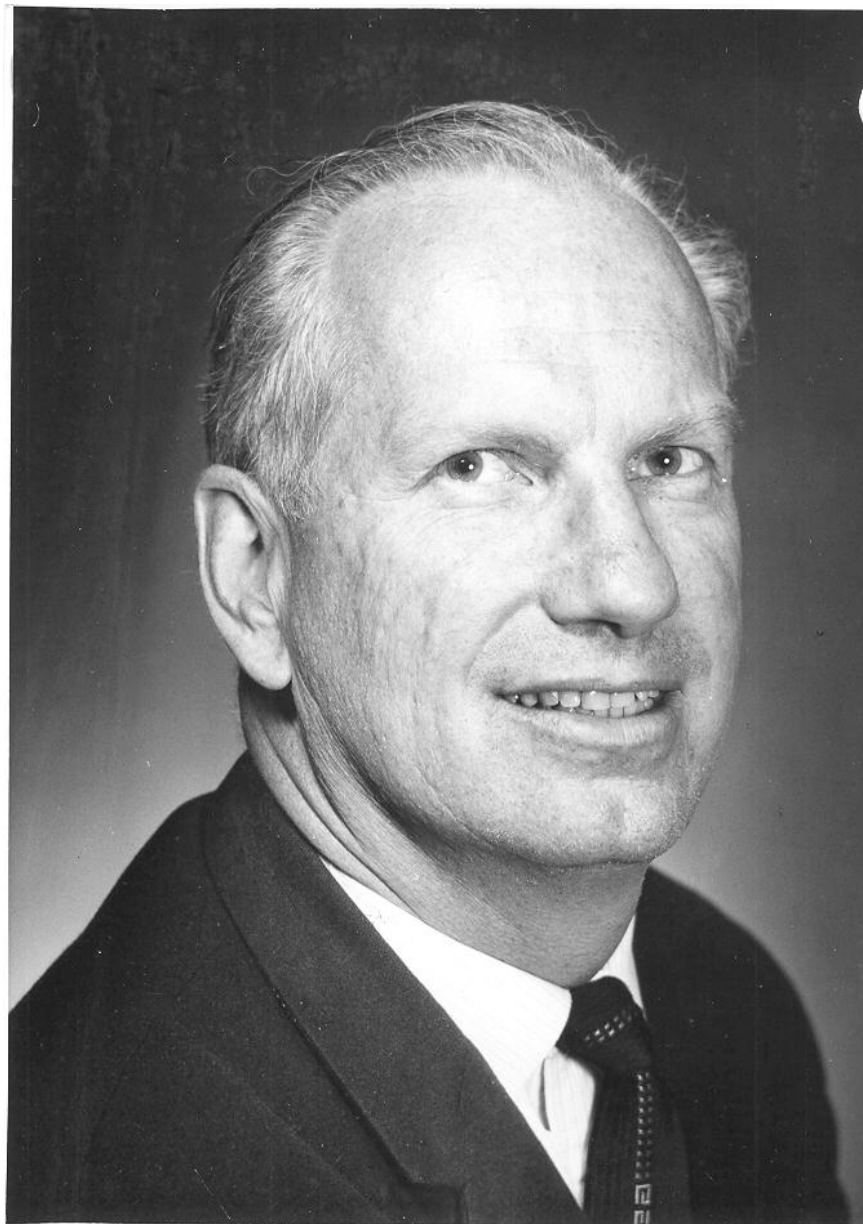


FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE, MCGILL UNIVERSITY

Allister Clark Blackwood
1915-2008



Allister Clark Blackwood passed away at Qualicum Manor, Qualicum Beach, BC on March 21, 2008, at the age of 92. Predeceased by his wife, Mildred Marsh-Blackwood, Clark is survived by his children, Alan (Marie), Marsha (Marcel) and Susan, and grandchildren, Kyle, Darcy, Patrick and Tyler.

Clark was born in Calgary in November, 1915. High school, Provincial Normal School, and a year at Mount Royal College, all in Calgary, were followed by two years as a teacher in an elementary school in Topland, Alberta. He then returned to his own education - attending the University of Alberta, he graduated B.Sc. in Agriculture in 1942, and M.Sc. in 1944.

Following two years with the National Research Council in Ottawa, Clark returned to university and pursued doctoral studies in the Department of Bacteriology in the School of Agriculture at the University of Wisconsin. He graduated Ph.D. in June, 1949, by which time he was employed at the Prairie Regional Laboratory in Saskatoon.

Clark came to Macdonald College, from Saskatoon, in 1957, to assume the position of Chair of the Department of Agricultural Bacteriology. He was still Chair in 1966 when the name of the Department was changed to Department of Microbiology, and he remained as Chair until 1968.

As an educator, Clark always had concern for and interest in all students. He instilled in undergraduates tremendous interest in the field of microbiology and at the postgraduate level, he mentored and directed the research of some thirty-one M.Sc. and Ph.D. students as well as several Postdoctoral and Professional Associates. He served on many committees, at both the Faculty and University level, and in 1972, his administrative and organizational skills were put to the test when he was appointed Dean of the Faculty, and Vice-Principal, Macdonald College. During his time as Dean and Vice-Principal, he guided the Faculty through some difficult times and was instrumental in directing the Faculty into our present teaching and research quarters.

Clark's contributions to his profession were also admirable. He was a founding member, and later, President of the Canadian Society of Microbiologists, and served as an Associate Editor, and then, Editor, of the Society's official publication, the Canadian Journal of Microbiology. He was a member, also, of several other Professional Societies including the Society for General Microbiology, the American Society for Microbiology and the Society for Applied Bacteriology. In recognition of his various contributions and his stature as a scientist, he was awarded the Centennial Medal of Canada in 1967, the Queen's Jubilee Medal in 1977, and in 1968, he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

Clark retired in 1981 and in recognition of his many contributions to this Faculty, the University, and Society in general, the title of Emeritus Professor was conferred upon him at the Convocation in June of that year. Clark was truly a distinguished colleague and will be remembered by all who knew him not only for his pipe and bow ties but also as a true people-person and proud supporter of everything Macdonald.