

DALHOUSIE REVIEW

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Dalhousie Review is published quarterly by Dalhousie University Press Limited. The Press, the Editors and the Editorial Advisory Board gratefully acknowledge the support of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Annual Subscription \$21.00. Single issues \$8.50. Three years \$53.00.

Dalhousie Review invites contributions of articles in such fields as history, literature, political science and philosophy as well as prose fiction and poetry from both new and established writers. Articles and works of fiction should not normally exceed 5000 words, while the preferred length of poems is less than forty lines. Materials should be double-spaced except for quoted matter. Footnotes should be numbered consecutively and typed together at the end of the article. Articles on floppy disk, particularly those using IBM and IBM-compatible systems with WordPerfect, are preferred. Other systems are often acceptable. Material submitted on diskette should be accompanied by hardcopy. Return of diskettes and manuscripts cannot be expected unless accompanied by a self-addressed envelope and return postage in Canadian stamps or International Reply Coupons.

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The contents of *Dalhousie Review* are listed in the *Canadian Index* and *Index to Periodical Fiction*. *Dalhousie Review* is indexed in the *Canadian Magazine Index* by Micromedia Limited, the *Book Review Index* and the *Canadian Periodical Index*.

Dalhousie Review is supported by a grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and receives further assistance from Dalhousie University.

Dalhousie Review is a member of the CELJ Council of Editors of Learned Journals and of the Canadian Association of Learned Journals/Association canadienne de revues savantes.

Dalhousie Review is set inhouse in Times Roman with desktop publishing software. The artwork is prepared at Dalhousie Graphics and the printing in Halifax by McCurdy Printing + Typesetting Limited.

Board of Directors of Dalhousie University Press Limited: C.B. Havey (President), Alan Andrews, Zilpha Linkletter, H.C. Clark, William H. McCurdy, G.B. Robertson.

ISSN — 0011-5827

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Fall 1993

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EDITORIAL

In this issue of *Dalhousie Review*, we are very pleased to publish the edited texts of three distinguished lectures given at different times and places, all of which bear on the experience of minority groups in Canada. In the cases of both Blacks and Acadians, minority has historically be-tokened persecution and suffering, the question of remedies for which must still trouble all Canadians. One small step, which at least has the merit of overcoming ignorance, is the recognition in Canadian universities of the need to study and debate the experience of our fellow citizens. The lectures on which the articles by Peter Paris and Glenda Simms are based were given to inaugurate the James Robinson Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies at Dalhousie University.

In 1898, James Robinson Johnston was the first Nova Scotian Black to graduate in Law from Dalhousie. He went on to a distinguished career in legal practice and remained a proponent of social justice throughout his short life. He died in 1915 at the age of 39, shortly after being appointed a judge of the Nova Scotia Supreme Court. The purpose of the chair, which has been established in his name, is to promote research into the history of Black Canadians and record their history.

Naomi Griffiths was the distinguished lecturer at the annual meeting of the Canadian Historical Association in 1992. Her article, like those of Paris and Simms, is both personal, insofar as it recounts Griffiths's own involvement with Acadian history and experience, and professional. Notably, and unlike the distinguished Johnston lecturers, Griffiths arrived at her understanding from outside the community to which she has committed her scholarly career.

A. R. A.