

OBITUARY

The Canadian Political Science Association records with deep regret the death of Professor R. W. Murchie on April 20, 1937, in his fifty-fifth year.

Mr. Murchie joined the Faculty of the Manitoba Agricultural College in 1915 as lecturer in English and rural sociology. Prior to this he had served for some years in the rural ministry where his outstanding success in social work attracted wide attention. Along with Dr. Riddell he had completed surveys and published reports on two social problem areas in rural Manitoba. These surveys are pioneer works in their field in Canada. In 1921 he was Secretary-Director of the Agricultural Survey of Manitoba and at the end of 1926 he completed the Ph.D. requirements in Sociology at the University of Minnesota.

In 1931, Dr. Murchie left the University of Manitoba to become Professor of Sociology at Minnesota. At that institution he not only continued to inspire young life in the classroom but also projected searching inquiries into the rural problems of his adopted state and assumed heavy administrative responsibilities in connection with federal rural rehabilitation projects. Shortly before his death he visited some of his old friends in Winnipeg and spoke with characteristic enthusiasm of the new opportunities that were opening up in the field of rural sociology.

His most important contributions to the literature of Canadian economics and sociology are the following:

The Unused Lands of Manitoba (with H. C. Grant, 1926).

Seasonal Unemployment in Manitoba (1928).

The Settlement of the Peace River Country (Canadian Frontiers of Settlement, vol. VI, with C. A. Dawson, 1934).

Agricultural Progress on the Prairie Frontier (Canadian Frontiers of Settlement, vol. V, with William Allen and J. F. Booth, 1936).

[H. C. G.]