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**HENRY GEORGE, MD, MRCS  
1864-1932**

## HENRY GEORGE, MD, MRCS 1864-1932

*“The bushes rustled,  
the trees parted,  
and the familiar face  
of Alberta’s pioneer amateur naturalist  
appeared from the Michener thicket.”<sup>(1)</sup>*

### Introduction

Dr. Henry George was a tall, forthright physician who held strongly to his opinions.<sup>(2)</sup> Along with Dr. (Sir) John Richardson and Dr. John Rae, he was the only physician to write authoritatively on the flora and fauna of Alberta before the end of the 19th Century.<sup>(3)</sup>

Henry George’s father (Charles Frederick) and grandfather (Henry Sr.) were both physicians. They practiced in Kirton, England and St. Thomas in London. Henry George followed in their footsteps as the third Dr. George in succession. Mindful of their places in the George and Barnard family constellations, both Henry George<sup>(4)</sup> and his wife Barbara<sup>(5)</sup> wrote autobiographies from 1924-1926. In 1932, at the request of Dr. H.C. Jamieson, Dr. George forwarded to him the twenty medical certificates held by the George family.<sup>(6)</sup> (Appendix I)

### From youth to MD in England 1864-1889

Henry George was born in Kirton, Lincolnshire, England on August 10, 1864. After meeting the entrance requirements, he was accepted at St. Thomas’ medical school and hospital. As a student he would travel the 150 miles to London on bicycle.<sup>(7)</sup> Dr. George received an LRCP in 1886 and an MRCS in 1887. He worked as an assistant to a Dr. Lloyd in London until September 1888 when he mar-

ried Barbara Bernard. He then joined his father Charles in practice in Kirton, England.

### Calgary 1889-1893

In 1888 Barbara’s father, lawyer William L. Bernard made a business trip to Calgary. Impressed by the opportunities, William Bernard decided to move his family to Calgary from Ireland. The Bernard legal office, which became the respected Bernard and



*Dr. George upon graduation, circa 1886/87* 14-2

1. Dawe, G. Harold      Personal communication, July 20, 1993. The year was 1919.
2. Wood, E.A. (Kerry)      Personal communication, July 20, 1993. A not-so-flattering description of Dr. George was written by Mr. Wood, September 7, 1995, as part of the research of Elsie Cassals by Ernestine Crossfield for her Ph.D. thesis *A Natural Adaptation, Elsie McAllister Cassals 1889-1938*, March 1997, Concordia University, Montreal.
3. Jamieson, Heber C.      *Early Medicine in Alberta, the First 75 Years*, pages 3, 114-116.
4. George, Henry      “First Impressions of Calgary, September 1889.” Dr. George’s two page manuscript was attached to Barbara George’s autobiography *A Record of My Life*. No date was given. His manuscript was started after October 20, 1926 and was completed sometime after December 9, 1926.
5. George, Barbara      “A Record of My Life,” an autobiography by Barbara M. George. Manuscript of sixteen pages plus a six page attachment. The autobiography was started May 24, 1924, but was not completed until after October 20, 1926. A copy was deposited in the Red Deer Museum and Archives.
6. Jamieson, Heber C.      Dr. Jamieson requested the George medical certificates (1824 & 1913) in letters to Dr. George circa February 1 and April 17, 1932. They were sent to Dr. Jamieson shortly before May 26, 1932. The Medical Certificates are in the possession of the Alberta Medical Foundation. They were found in a desk on the top floor or attic of the 1921 Medical School at the UofA and were given to the AMF by Dr. R.S. Fraser in January 1994. See Appendix I for a list of the twenty certificates.
7. George, Henry      “Doctor H. George.” This second undated, unsigned manuscript written circa 1924-1926 was attached to the Barbara George autobiography, “A Record of My Life,” as pages 16-18. A copy was deposited in the Red Deer Museum and Archives.

Bernard partnership, opened in 1888.<sup>(8)</sup> In 1889 Mr. Bernard notified Birdie and Harry, that there was a doctor in Calgary, Dr. N.J. Lindsay, who wanted a partner immediately. Barbara was anxious to join her family. Henry jumped at the chance too. The young couple decided to seek their fortune in the youthful Dominion. On August 16, 1889 the Georges sailed from England and arrived in Calgary on September 1, 1889. Their arrival was three weeks after the 22nd annual CMA convention in Banff.<sup>(9)</sup>

There were only three physicians in Calgary in 1889: Drs. E.M. Rouleau, N.J. Lindsay and J.D. Lafferty plus the NWMP physician Dr. P. Aylen. Dr. H.G. Mackid arrived soon afterwards in 1889.

Dr. Lindsay had agreed to assist Dr. J.D. Lafferty to provide medical care for CPR employees on the mainline between Medicine Hat and Donald, B.C. Lindsay had also acquired the Indian medical contract to provide monthly visits to the Blackfoot (Gleichen), Sarcees (Sikaniska) and Stony (Morley) Indians. Any prior agreement between the Drs. George and Lindsay was confirmed the day after Dr. George arrived in Calgary. Their partnership lasted for three years, or until 1893 when Dr. George moved to Innisfail. Like Dr. Lindsay, Dr. George was appointed an assistant surgeon for the NWMP from 1890-92.<sup>(10)</sup>

Dr. George's life in Calgary was eventful from the start. Barbara George recounted how house calls, particularly those out of town were the most challenging.<sup>(11)</sup> In January 1890, Dr. George traveled to High River to set a patient's broken leg. It required an overnight stay. When Dr. George awoke in the morning, his hair was frozen to the floor. The week before, the George's own dog had frozen to death on the neighbour's steps. On his way back from a trip to an Indian school, Dr. George's dog started running

ahead of the buggy. Looking backwards Henry saw a wolf trailing them. It followed them for the next mile or so, despite a run for it.

In July, 1890 three thousand Calgarians including the George family watched as Mayor (Dr.) J.D. Lafferty and invited dignitaries turned the sod for construction for the CPR operated C&E railway from Fort Macleod to Strathcona.<sup>(12)</sup>

On another occasion the George family hastened down to the CPR Depot to watch the Indians perform a Grub Dance. By the summer of 1890 the NWMP had outlawed the Sun Dance, but one was held anyway at the Weasel Head. Indian Wickiups on roadsides were not uncommon, for sweat baths were the cure for many evils. Often Indians would come to the George home waiting for "Sukenaiki" or the doctor. When he was not in, Mrs. George would put some tea in a paper bag and give it to them. They would go off quietly, but often returned.<sup>(13)</sup>

After attending a NWMP sick parade, Dr. George was told the fleet-footed Deerfoot was in the Police cells and was dying. As he approached Deerfoot's cell another Indian commented, "if [Dr. George] said he would die then he [Deerfoot] would, just as he has said Crowfoot would die and he did". Dr. George found Deerfoot's vital signs normal. He concluded Deerfoot was holding his breath and said to him. "If you don't stop dying I will take you out and put you under the hose. What are you dying for?" Deerfoot laughed and answered "for a smoke".<sup>(14)</sup>

### The Death of Crowfoot 1890

The Georges moved in the spring of 1890 to a more central home which had electricity, lighting, and a telephone. While doing a locum for Dr. Brett, in April 1890, Dr. George was asked by Dr. Lindsay to go to the Blackfoot Indian Reserve at Gleichen and attend Chief Crowfoot.<sup>(15)</sup> "Doc" Lauder the former

8. Stanley, George D. "Dr. Henry George," CACHB 2(2): 8-10, August 1937.

9. Lampard, Robert "CMA meeting in Banff, 1889." Alberta Doctors Digest 29(4): 4-9, July/August 2004.

10. George, Barbara A Record of My Life, pages 6-7, 17, 18. Also see G.D. Stanley's "Dr. Henry George," CACHB 2(2): 8-10, August 1937.

11. George, Barbara "A Record of my Life," pages 7-8.

12. George, Barbara "A Record of my Life," page 9.

13. George, Barbara "A Record of My Life," pages 7-8, 17.

14. George, Ernest S. Letter to Dr. G.D. Stanley, August 10, 1949, with a three page manuscript attached to it. Ernest S. George (1893-1962) was the long term Treasurer (1952-1962) of the Historical Society of Alberta. He was the second HSA Award of Merit recipient in 1962, after Eric Harvie and before Hugh Dempsey. Ernest George wrote two articles for Alberta History: Ranching in Southern Alberta 3: 33-39, and An Old Time Winter 16: 27-28. Three unpublished articles: Early Innisfail Police News, (two pages) 1901, Anecdote (one page) and Farms on the Track (one page), were deposited in the Red Deer and District Archives, along with the Barbara and Henry George autobiographies. The Deerfoot story was recorded in Barbara George's "A Record of my Life," page 9.

15. George, Barbara "A Record of My Life," page 9. Repeated in the Calgary Herald of July 4, 1925. Copy deposited in the Red Deer District Museum and Archives.



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Dr. Nevitt's 1875 sketch of Crowfoot

Indian agent to the Blackfoot accompanied him. On their arrival at the Blackfoot Crossing, there were seventeen medicine men in attendance and eight tom-toms going full blast. Crowfoot, then age fifty-nine, had not been in good health. Dempsey listed Crowfoot's known diagnoses as erysipelas, probable TB, and vision loss.<sup>(16)</sup>

After the examination, Dr. George diagnosed Crowfoot as having left lung congestion, a fever and headache. Brandy and eggnog were offered, but refused because they might make the Chief drunk. Dr. George then made a linseed poultice and gave him ten grains of Dovers (sleeping) powder. He asked for the tom-toms to stop so Crowfoot could sleep.<sup>(17)</sup> Lieutenant Governor Dewdney ordered Dr. George not to leave so he stayed for another three days.<sup>(18)</sup> Crowfoot's condition continued to deteriorate and he died on April 25, 1890.<sup>(19)</sup>

Dr. George described Crowfoot's death in 1925.<sup>(20)</sup> In his description, he did not mention Crowfoot giving any dying speech. Years later the story of Crowfoot giving a dying speech was attributed to Dr. George by his son Ernest George in 1938.<sup>(21)</sup> The attribution raised serious questions about the accuracy of the Henry and Barbara George recollections, particularly

since parts of the reputed dying speech were actually written five years before Crowfoot's death, by Ryder Haggard (1885) in *King Solomon's Mines*.<sup>(22)</sup>

The dying speech was one of five historical inconsistencies that surrounded the death of Crowfoot. A second question was whether Crowfoot's horse was shot when he died, as was the custom. Were his fingers cut off for his three wives following the Indian tradition? Did Crowfoot lapse into unconsciousness on April 24 and then revive and pass away on April 25?, and did Dr. George stay three or five days? For further analysis see Appendix 2.

### The Smallpox Outbreak of 1892

Two years later Calgary faced a serious racial test. The CPR's *Empress of Japan* docked in Vancouver in April of 1892<sup>(23)</sup> and smallpox was diagnosed in a Chinese passenger. Within a few months there were seven smallpox deaths on the Pacific Coast. In June 1892 a Chinese Calgarian returned from Vancouver, to his laundry on Stephen Avenue in Calgary. On June 28 he was positively diagnosed as having smallpox.

Sir,  
 Up to the present there has been no attempt at a disturbance re. the Chinamen, but I understand it is said by the hot headed ones that they will gain their ends in spite of the Mounted Police, this however may be only idle talk.  
 There are no new cases of small-pox & sixteen persons are to be allowed out of quarantine this evening.  
 The chinaman who was allowed out from quarantine on the 2nd inst and who ran away during the riot was found by us at Langdon & brought in last night. At his own request he has been provided with a ticket & certificate of health by the Board of Health & leaves tonight for Vancouver.  
 The Mayor after his absence yesterday returned this a.m. and I presume will disappear again tonight.  
 The Council are ignoring him however & the respectable inhabitants speak of taking decided & vigorous measures in dealing with him.  
 All possible steps in so far as the strength of the Division will allow have been taken to deal with a disturbance.  
 I have etc. etc.,  
 (Sgd.) A. Ross Cuthbert, Insp.  
 N.W.M. Police,

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Letter to the NWMP Commissioner from Insp. Cuthbert

16. Dempsey, Hugh A. *Crowfoot, Chief of the Blackfeet*. Hurtig, pages 207, 209, 211, 1972. Dempsey said he was coughing up blood, which was probably from tuberculosis, evident from 1886 onward. Crowfoot was increasingly confined to his tent from 1888-1890 and his vision was failing by 1889. Crowfoot had been under Dr. R.B. Nevitt's care at Fort Macleod in the spring of 1878 for sciatica.
17. George, Barbara "A Record of My Life," pages 9-10.
18. George, Barbara "A Record of My Life," pages 9-10.
19. Dempsey, Hugh *Crowfoot, Chief of the Blackfoot*, page 213.
20. George, Henry *Calgary Herald*, July 4, 1925.
21. George, Ernest S. "Crowfoot Chief of the Blackfeet," *Scarlet and Gold* 38: 6-18, RCMP, 1938.
22. Carlisle, R.S. "Crowfoot's Dying Speech," *Alberta History* 38(3): 16-17, Summer 1990. The Dr. George Family still have the complete set of original H.R. Haggard books, as confirmed in a letter to the author from his grandson Michael George, November 11, 2002.
23. Dawson, J.B. "The Chinese Experience in Frontier Calgary, 1885-1910" in *Frontier Calgary*, pages 124-140, UofC/M&S, 1975. This topic was presented to the History of Medicine students at UofC by Dr. R. Lampard and Jennifer Gerritsen on January 18, 1994.

Victoria, B.C.  
May 24, 1924

*I have often thought my children would like to have a record of my life in years to come when perhaps I am no longer with them. I know how interested we always were in our Parents's lives, and how few of the little intimate happenings we knew of them. So for a long time I have contemplated jotting down an outline of memories, but alas in my busy life time an opportunity has been lacking and on this day May 24th, I am alone, and in bed, as I was not well enough to go to see the festivities, it seems a good chance to begin.*

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From "A Record of My Life," by Barbara George, 1924

The Municipal Board of Health quickly established a Nose Creek quarantine camp for any smallpox contacts. The NWMP were assigned to guard the camp.<sup>(24)</sup> The town ordered the Chinese laundry shack burned.<sup>(25)</sup> Potentially infected laundry had already been distributed. When Dr. George made a house call to see Albert Keast who lived across the Elbow bridge, he found Keast had smallpox. Dr. Mackid visit the patient and agreed with the diagnosis.<sup>(26)</sup> The government asked Dr. George if he would take charge of the quarantine camp to which he agreed.<sup>(27)</sup> It meant quarantining himself. Two Grey Nuns also volunteered to help. Sister Claire and Dr. George stayed in the quarantine camp for about two months.<sup>(28)</sup>

Despite the quarantine, Calgary police Chief English drove into the camp and delivered a wagonload of supplies on July 4. The NWMP had been ordered to stop any persons who entered, and if they did enter, to quarantine them. When English tried to leave the police stopped him. He was released by the NWMP on the guarantee of Mayor Lucas who agreed to assume responsibility for him. Chief English was also

charged with disobeying the NWMP order. The relationship between the city officials and NWMP, which was already tense, continued to deteriorate. Chief English left town July 23 on an extended vacation, as did Mayor Lucas.<sup>(29)</sup>

By mid-July there were five confirmed cases of smallpox, all in quarantine.<sup>(30)</sup> But by the end of July three more cases were diagnosed. Two pregnant mothers and one baby died.<sup>(31)</sup> Town tension reached resentment level. On August 2 the first quarantined Chinese patient was released. It triggered a riot, following a cricket game, by a drunken mob of two hundred.<sup>(32)</sup> The NWMP were called out. Three citizens were arrested. Ten Chinese citizens sought NWMP protection. Property damage was considerable. The mob threatened Mrs. George, at home alone with her two children. Inspector Cuthbert of the NWMP personally came to her home and gave her a 44 mm revolver, loaded it, and showed her how to use it. The NWMP policed the streets until 4:00 am that morning.

The quarantine was lifted on the evening of August 16. Dr. George closed the Nose Creek camp and burned all his clothes before leaving.<sup>(33)</sup> Inspector Cuthbert complimented Dr. George for his help. Privately he wrote that Dr. H.G. Mackid had not been so helpful.

On August 17 the outcry and riot, brought an anti-Chinese agitator and orator to Calgary from BC. Locksley Lucas, no relation to the Mayor, tried that evening to rally followers to incite another riot. He failed, so he attempted suicide with a dose of morphine.<sup>(34)</sup>

The NWMP vaccinated forty-five members and patients and probably quarantined about the same number.<sup>(35)</sup> Trains were stopped at Banff and Winnipeg for quarantine inspections. Foot movement

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|---------------------|---|
| 24. Beahan, William | "Mob Law could not Prevail," Alberta History 29:1-7, Summer 1981.   |
| 25. Foran, Max      | "Racism in 19th Century Calgary. The smallpox scare of 1892" in <i>Great Stories from the Frontier</i> , pages 51-55, Antonson Publishing 1979.   |
| 26. George, Barbara | "A Record of My Life," page 10.   |
| 27. George, Barbara | "A Record of My Life," page 10.   |
| 28. George, Barbara | "A Record of My Life," page 11.   |
| 29. Beahan, William | "Mob Law could not Prevail," pages 2, 4.  |
| 30. Foran, Max      | "Racism in 19th Century Calgary," page 52.  |
| 31. Cuthbert, Ross  | "Annual Report of Inspector A. Ross Cuthbert," Commanding Officer "E" Division, 1892. Appendix J, Report of the Commissioner of the North-West Mounted Police, pages 126-129, 1892.   |
| 32. Beahan, William | "Mob Law could not Prevail," page 4. NWMP Insp. Cuthbert's letter of Aug. 3, 1892 to the Businessmen of Calgary outlined the police response. It was reprinted in L.H. Thomas' <i>The Prairie West to 1905</i> , pages 203-207, 1975. |
| 33. George, Barbara | "A Record of My Life," page 11.   |
| 34. Beahan, William | "Mob Law could not Prevail," pages 5-6.   |
| 35. Cuthbert, Ross  | Letter of August 3, 1892 in <i>The Prairie West to 1905</i> , pages 206-207, OUP, 1976.   |

### The First of June in Alberta.

For some weeks my friend Dr. George and I had been looking forward to a nesting trip to six small lakes about twelve miles southwest of Innisfail, the special object of his trip being to secure eggs of the Canada Goose, that of mine being those of the Sandhill [?—Ed.] Crane, not of course limiting our take to these; but the Doctor's professional duties and a rush of work on the ranch had kept us both at home, but at length we were off, leaving "Linden Lodge," Doctor's place, at 4:45 a. m., Monday, June 1, 1896.

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*An Oologist outing with W. Geary, 1896*

in and out of Calgary was strictly controlled.<sup>(36)</sup> The stringent measures stopped the spread of smallpox to any nearby towns. The outbreak totaled nine or ten confirmed cases, of whom three died. It never reached Vancouver proportions.

### Innisfail 1893-1906

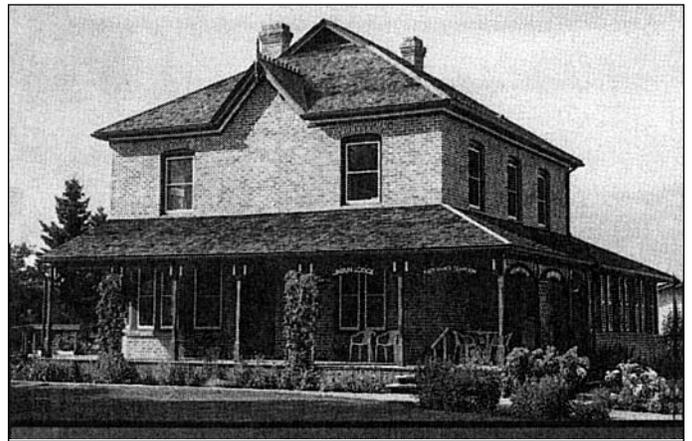
The smallpox experience must have unsettled the George family. Later in 1892 the Georges' received an inheritance from Henry's grandfather. In March 1893 Dr. George decided to assess the prospects for the town of Innisfail, on the recently completed CPR operated C&E railway. The town was ninety miles north of Calgary and provided an opportunity to raise a few animals on an acreage. The family decided to move in May. They began by building the spacious and now historic Dr. George/Kemp House overlooking Dodds Lake. Because it was not finished until the fall of 1893 the family lived in a hotel.<sup>(37)</sup> Ernest developed a cold followed by peritonitis, but fortunately survived.<sup>(38)</sup> Mrs. George later recorded some of the illnesses that affected her family including the septicemia that killed her son Ewan, typhoid fever, convulsions, infantile paralysis, the flu, and infantile cholera.

With his arrival, Dr. George became Innisfail's first physician. It was pioneering work. Out of town house calls required a horse and buggy. Crossing or fording swollen rivers in the spring led to falls through the ice and buggy breakdowns. Rural calls

stretched thirty miles to the west to the Icelanders at Markerville, and thirty miles to the east to the homesteaders at Pine Lake.

On one rural house call Dr. George passed a bird's nest high in the trees. An amateur oologist, he stopped to climb the tree and examine its contents. George lingered long enough to forget where he was heading. Later he was discovered by the pregnant lady's frantic relatives, up a tree. On an organized egg hunt in 1895, he found thirty-one eggs from eleven different species of birds.<sup>(39)</sup> Dr. George published his observations and findings in articles on, 1) the Pocket Gopher, in the Canadian Entomological Society of Canada's 1899 Annual Report, 2) Birds of Prey of Alberta in 1903, and 3) the Rodents of Alberta, in the Department of Agriculture Annual Reports of 1903 and 1904.<sup>(40)</sup>

Dr. George's interest in nature led to a display of his artifacts as early as 1893. Wanting to share and broaden his knowledge in natural history, Dr. George became a charter member of the NWT Entomological Society in 1899. Four years later in 1903, he was appointed Branch Director (Ornithology) of the Territorial Natural History Society. In 1905 Dr. George opened the first natural history museum in Innisfail. It was the second such museum in Alberta and was open to the public. The first was the Rocky Mountain Park Museum, which was opened in Banff in 1895 by Norman Sanson.<sup>(41)</sup> Sanson was Calgarian Dr. R.D. Sanson's brother.



*Dr. George/Kemp House, built in 1892 in Innisfail* 14-7

36. Cuthbert, Ross Letter of August 3, 1892, page 206.  
 37. Kemp, Ruth, Walter, Janet "Innisfail's Dr. George/Kemp House," Central Alberta Historical Society Newsletter 6(1): 1, Winter 2002.  
 38. George, Barbara "A Record of My Life," page 12.  
 39. Geary, W. "The First of June in Alberta." The Oologist 14: 23-25, February 1897.  
 40. Harper, A. "Pioneer Alberta Naturalist – Dr. Henry George." Manuscript. Four pages. Deposited in the Red Deer Museum 1981.  
 41. Wonders, K. "A Sportsman's Eden" Part II. Beaver: 30-37, December 1999/January 2000.



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*The George House and Museum, in Red Deer, circa 1910*

Dr. George and Norman Sanson were founding members of the 1905 Alberta Naturalist Society. The first meeting of the society was held in Innisfail, where Dr. George was elected as the President. He occupied the President's chair in 1906-10, 1912, 1916 and was Vice President in 1911 and 1917.<sup>(42)</sup>

### **Red Deer 1906-1923**

In 1906 Dr. George moved his burgeoning family of eventually twelve children, to Red Deer to improve their schooling. As part of the move to Red Deer, Dr. George traded his Innisfail house for some agricultural land. He then bought another house in Red Deer. The house was too small for his natural history collection, so he built a two floor annex onto it. The George house and museum were located across the street from the present day United Church.

By 1907 Dr. George was the medical officer for Red Deer's 15th Light Horse and later the 35th Central Alberta Horse. In July 1907 he organized Red Deer's first cadet course and personally supervised the training of the cadets.<sup>(43)</sup> Dr. George was also the Medical Officer to the Red Deer Sea Squadron and the 12th Mounted Rifles under Major H.L. Gaetz. After the outbreak of WWI, three of his sons enlisted. One son, Desmond, was killed in the trenches in France, while taking rations to colleagues who had been

stranded for three days in shell holes. Desmond lived long enough to "tell them I died like a soldier". It was an unexpected sentence for an articling law student.<sup>(44)</sup>

During WWI, Dr. George was the Medical Officer for the 89th, 187th and 191st Battalions which were raised in Southern Alberta. They all trained in Red Deer. Later in the War, when he could not enlist, Dr. George was assigned to a traveling medical board to examine new recruits in Southern Alberta. His association with the military continued for thirty-three years, ending in 1923.

Dr. George was the Red Deer coroner for thirty-one years, an anesthetist, and a general practitioner. He was the Red Deer Medical Officer of Health and the doctor responsible for managing the 1918-1919 flu epidemic. He was also the Medical Officer for the RCMP, the Fire Brigade, and the Indian Residential School. Dr. George started the first Library in Red Deer with a donation of five hundred books in March 1909.

In 1922 Dr. George suffered a heart attack and was advised by his physician to move to the Coast.<sup>(45)</sup> His naturalist collection represented a major dispersal problem. On January 1, 1923 an inventory of the collection was made in preparation for the move to Victoria. It contained twenty-seven whole specimens, sixty-three mounted birds, several hundred wild bird's eggs most of which were collected personally,



*George Museum collection, circa 1910*

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42. Harper, A.

"Pioneer Alberta Naturalist," pages 1-4, circa 1981. For a sample of the members' struggles with nomenclature, see the correspondence between Henry George, Mr. Horsborough and Ottawa's P.A. Taverner, 1916-1918. In the research documents gathered by Tina Crossfield for her book on Elsie Cassals, she politely indicated Dr. George could be dictatorial and not open to the points of view of others. Elsie Cassals and Dr. George were contemporary Red Deer Naturalists.

43. Gallant, A.M.

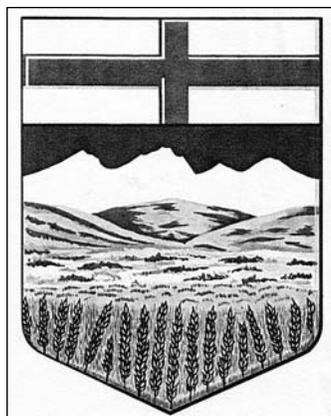
*Pride. The History of 1390 RCACC*, 234 pages, Red Deer Canadian Legion, 1990.

44. George, Barbara

"A Record of My Life," page 14.

45. George, Barbara

"A Record of My Life," page 16.

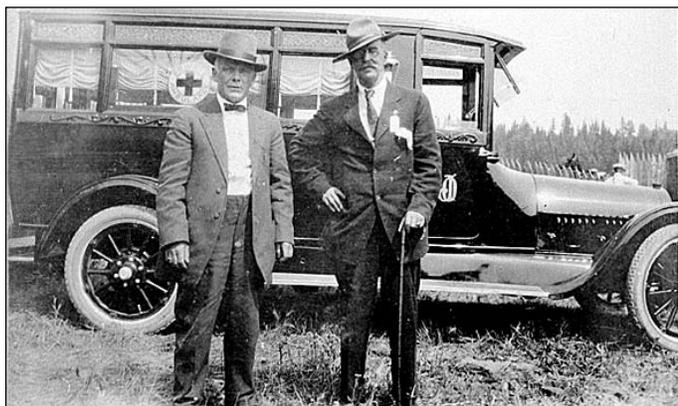


14-10

*Alberta Coat of Arms*

twenty-nine bird's nests, twenty-two skulls, seven sets of horns, and a number of newspaper first editions from Alberta and as far away as Johannesburg, South Africa. He also had a collection of guns and swords, souvenirs from the Great War, and other trophies from the Plains of Abraham and Spanish Armada. The collection contained three thousand Canadian Army badges.

The George family took the smaller collections with them to Victoria, including the stamps, coins and the family Breeches bible printed in Geneva in 1557.<sup>(46)</sup> The larger collections were donated to the Old Timers' Association of Calgary. Some of Dr. Henry George's memorabilia including Barbara's artwork,



*Mr. Orme, funeral and ambulance operator and Dr. George, circa 1920* 14-11

were later acquired by the Glenbow Foundation. Years later the artwork was transferred to the restored Dr. George/Kemp Historic House in Innisfail, where it was placed on display.<sup>(47)</sup>

Dr. George's health stabilized in Victoria following the 1923 move. He lived another decade and passed away on August 13, 1932 at age sixty-eight a few months after surgery to repair a hernia. Mrs. George passed away on November 10, 1936.

### The George Family

Barbara was a noted wildflower painter. She was thought to have designed the wheat fields, foothills, mountains and blue sky scene on the Alberta Crest. The inspiration for the design was said to be the westward view from the upstairs bedroom of their Innisfail home. Alberta's Armorial Bearings (crest) were approved August 31, 1907.<sup>(48)</sup> Barbara George's talent as a designer was confirmed when she won the crest design competition, for the City of Strathcona, circa 1911.<sup>(49)</sup>

The George's twelve surviving children included seven boys and five girls. Henry B. (Todd) was born in 1889, Charles L.L. in 1891, Ernest S. in 1893, Desmond St. C. in 1894, and Frederick M. in 1895, followed by Barbara (Molly) B.K. in 1896, Nora H. in 1898, Ewen E. in 1899, Vivian L. in 1901, Henrietta C.A. in 1904, William G.S. in 1907, and Yule C.H. in 1910. Ewan died at age three in 1902 from a scarlet fever. Three served in WWI. Desmond St. Clair was killed in action at St. Eloi April 4, 1915.<sup>(50)</sup>

**Related Profiles:** Rae, Lindsay, Lafferty, Mackid

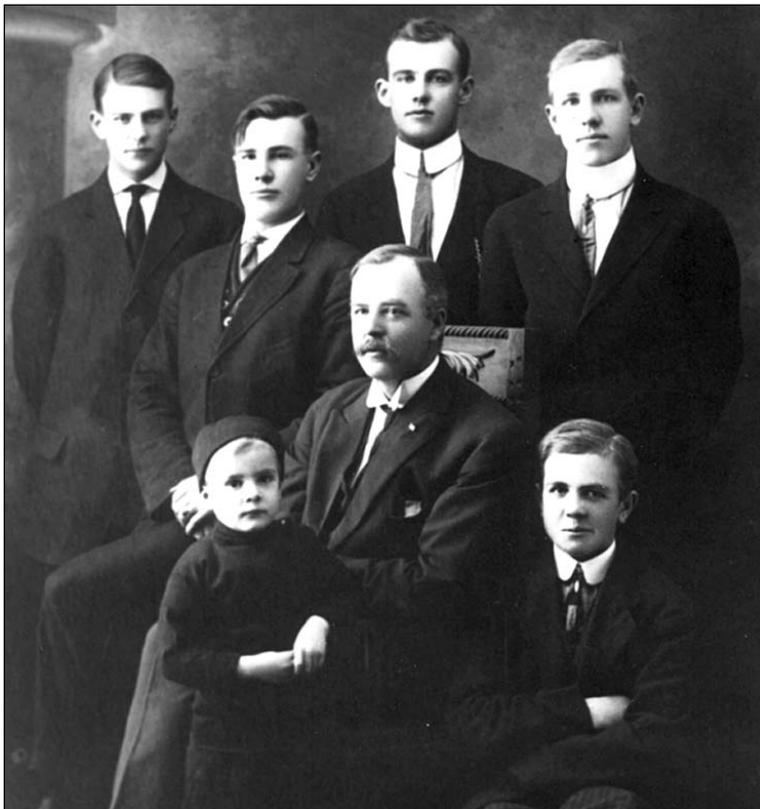
**Key Words:** Death of Chief Crowfoot, Smallpox outbreak in Calgary in 1892, NWT physician, NWMP physician, WWI physician, NWT and Alberta Naturalist, second museum in Alberta (Red Deer)

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46. George, Henry Catalogue of Dr. Henry George's Museum dated January 1, 1923. Eleven pages. Deposited in the Red Deer Museum and Archives.
47. Kemp, Ruth, Walter, Janet "Innisfail's Dr. George/Kemp House," page 2.
48. George, Michael Letter to Robert Lampard, March 20, 1993, with twelve attachments. One letter entitled The Alberta Coat of Arms, (four pages) by Paul Stolee of the Alberta Legislature library dated August 1978, concluded the artist that designed the crest was Mrs. H. (or J.A.) MacCully, the wife of the Lacombe CPR station agent, not Mrs. Barbara George. The proof was circumstantial, – a cancelled cheque that had no letter attached to it confirming the reasons for the payment.
49. George, Michael Letter to Robert Lampard, January 11, 1993 with nine attachments.
50. George, Ernest S. Letter to Dr. G.D. Stanley, August 10, 1949 with attachment.



14-12

*Barbara George and her daughters. (Clockwise) Vivian, Nora, Molly, Henrietta, Yule, circa 1912*



14-13

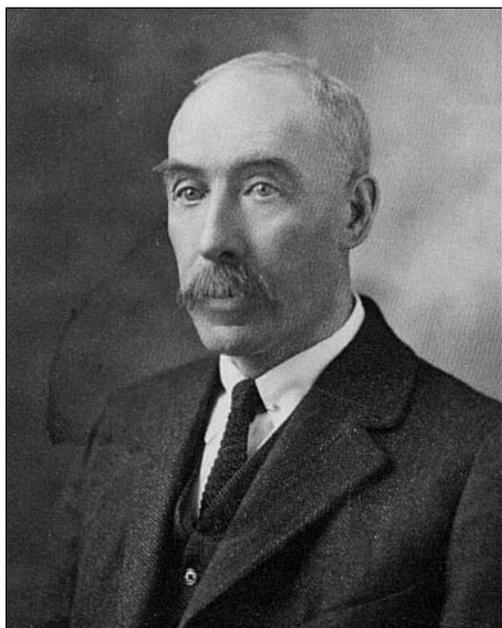
*Dr. George and his sons. (Clockwise) Charles, Desmond, Henry, Ernest, Fred, William, circa 1912*

*In the portrait of Dr. George (page 162), he is wearing a NWMP hat and CAMC Uniform.*

## Appendix 1

### The Drs. George Medical Certificates in the possession of the AMF (1824-1913)

1. The Henry George Sr. certificates include: an Apothecaries of London certificate (June 1824), another dated in the 55th year of the reign of George III from Charing Cross, for three years of surgical practice (1851), a St. Thomas midwifery certificate of honor (1855). Henry George Jr. and E.S. George, apparently possessed another Apothecaries certificate dated 1818, as referenced in a letter to Dr. D.G. Stanley August 10, 1949.
2. The Charles F. George certificates include: a St. Thomas certificates of attendance for 1854-1855, 1855-1856, 1856-1857(2) and 1857; certificates as a dresser (1856), and clinical clerk (1856); the Dr. Root's prize (1856); certificate of honor as a third year student (1857), and honor as house surgeon (1857) and an Apothecaries of London certificate (n.d.).
3. The Henry George Jr. certificates include: a LRCP (1886), MRCP (1887), NWT College of Physicians and Surgeons registration (1896), and Coroner appointment in the Province of Alberta (1913).



John D. "Doc" Lauder 14-14

TO MEET John D. Lauder, familiarly known as "Doc," is to know at once why he headed the polls when he was elected to represent the Calgary district on the North West Council in 1886.

After wintering at Fort Pelly in 1875-76, the great event for the police was getting ready for the negotiations of the Indian Treaties, Number Six in 1876 and Number Seven in September of 1877. For the latter treaty, John Lauder was chosen as one of a detachment of five to drive Governor David Laird from Battleford to Blackfoot Crossing and Fort Macleod.

He did not accumulate many worldly goods, for in his younger days he was too generous with time and energy for others to look after his own interests. But if he did not cash in on the material things of life, he was rich in friends and the loyalty of the whole countryside.

"Doc" Lauder interviewed by Elizabeth Price in 1929, *Alberta History*, Autumn 1989

## Appendix 2

### Questions about Chief Crowfoot's death

1. **Did Dr. George author the dying speech story?**

The dying or firefly speech was attributed by Ernest George to his father, in Crowfoot Chief of the Blackfeet, an article published in the annual *Scarlett and Gold* on pages 6-18, RCMP, 1938. There was no mention of the dying or firefly speech in the 1925 Calgary Herald interview with Dr. George or in the 1924-1926 autobiographies of Henry and Barbara George. There was a note that Crowfoot gave a "thank you" speech. Dr. George said he found Crowfoot talking weakly to Rev. Doucet when he arrived. Doucet then translated Crowfoot's words and said Crowfoot desired to thank his people and the government. Father Lacombe also quoted Father Doucet as his source for the thank you speech to the Federal Government, the day before he died. Dempsey agreed quoting Father Lacombe as his source. Father Doucet did not make any reference to the firefly quote.

2. ***Did E.S. George erroneously attribute the firefly speech to his father?***

He might have. Michael George, Dr. George's grandson, indicated that Crowfoot had visited Dr. George in Calgary in 1889 (personal communication, October 1, 2002). The reasons for the visit were not recorded. Dr. George wrote in his 1924-1926 autobiography that a Tom (not John) Lauder accompanied him to Crowfoot's tent, on April 24, 1890. Presumably "Tom" Lauder was "Doc" John Lauder, whose son Tom was born about 1890.

"Doc" John Lauder was an NWMP Hospital Sergeant (1875-1880) and then an Indian agent at Gleichen (1881-1885); a Calgary druggist (1885-1892); and the Calgary NWT MLA (1886-1888). In 1892 Lauder and his family of five children moved to Innisfail, where he became a farmer and practiced as a veterinarian. Tom Lauder would have grown up in Innisfail at the same time as Ernest George. Later Tom farmed at Pine Lake. Father John or son Tom Lauder may have been Ernest George's source of information and colored his 1938 Crowfoot story. Elizabeth B. Price interviewed "Doc" Lauder circa 1929, as recorded in an article published in *Alberta History* 37(4): 28-31, Autumn 1989. He was about 75. She noted in two footnotes that Lauder's memory was "faulty". There was no mention in the interview with Lauder that he was at Crowfoot's death.

3. ***Was Crowfoot's horse shot when he died?***

It was the custom. In the *Calgary Herald* of July 4, 1925, Dr. George said "and they have shot his horse". Hugh Dempsey in "Crowfoot Chief of the Blackfoot" (page 213) quoted Rev J.W. Timms as agreeing that Crowfoot's horse had been shot.

4. ***Did each of his wives cut off a finger?***

In the *Calgary Herald* of July 4, 1925, Dr. George said "each of his wives have cut off a finger". Dempsey quoted Crowfoot as saying "no" to following the tradition (Crowfoot, page 283).

5. ***Did Crowfoot lapse into unconsciousness the day before he died?***

In the *Calgary Herald* of July 4, 1925, no date for Crowfoot's death was given by Dr. George but he implied Crowfoot was unconscious the day before he died. Father Lacombe, writing on Crowfoot in the *Fort Macleod Gazette* on May 22 and May 29, 1890, and Hugh Dempsey (Crowfoot, p213), agreed he "did die", or "swoon" April 24, the day before he actually died.

6. ***Did Dr. George stay three or five days with Chief Crowfoot?***

In the *Calgary Herald* of July 4, 1925, Dr. George said he stayed five days. Dempsey (Crowfoot, page 212) said it was three days. Father Lacombe did not mention Dr. George as being at Crowfoot's death, although he indicated gifts were given to "a few other white men". Father Lacombe's two 1890 articles were reprinted in *Crowfoot Great Chief of the Blackfeet*, in the *Early West a Special Jubilee issue of Alberta History*, pages 21-27, 1957.

Reference: R.S. Carlisle in "Crowfoot's Dying Speech," *Alberta History*, Summer 1990, 38(3): 16-17.