

THE CRUIKSHANK MEDAL

During the past several years the Executive of the Ontario Historical Society have considered various methods of commemorating the work of Brigadier-General E. A. Cruikshank to whom, perhaps more than any other individual, the Society owes its success. Looking back over the volumes of *Papers and Records* and the books published by the Society, one cannot help but be amazed at General Cruikshank's ability and industry. It is not, however, until one talks to the "old-timers" of the Society that the true extent of his contributions come to light. In the dark days of the depression he, almost single handedly, kept the Society afloat — not only by his work as editor and author, but with financial aid as well. Thus it was considered fitting that the method chosen to honour General Cruikshank's memory and work, is that of encouraging other historians to carry on the tasks that he so valiantly undertook.

At the November meeting of the Society's executive the following motion was passed, establishing the "Cruikshank Medal" of the Ontario Historical Society:

I. *Purpose:*

- a) To commemorate the work of Brig.-General E. A. Cruikshank.
- b) To encourage historians, especially non-academic,* to strive for excellence in the writing of articles pertaining to Ontario's history.
- c) To promote *Ontario History* as the medium through which historians present their best work.
- d) To recognize outstanding service to the Ontario Historical Society and *Ontario History*.

II. *Award Categories:*

- a) For historical writing:
 - i. a medal, which may be presented annually, for the best article submitted to *Ontario History* during the year.
 - ii. a medal, which may be presented annually, for the best article submitted to *Ontario History* during the year by a non-academic historian. (Where a non-professional is the winner in category i, a second medal will be awarded for the second best article by a non-professional.)
- b) For outstanding service:

This medal should be awarded, rather rarely, in recognition of extraordinary service. It should be made of silver if possible.

* An academic historian: This includes senior graduate students, university and college instructors, research historians, archivists, and those similarly employed.

III. *Method of Selection:*

- a) The editors shall in February of each year present to the Honours and Awards Committee of the executive the titles of three articles from each of the categories i. and ii. for their consideration.
- b) At the same meeting members of the executive should submit to the honours and awards committee the names of persons as candidates in category b) with an outline of their qualifications.
- c) The Honours and Awards Committee shall report the recommendations to the executive at the March-April meeting for action thereon.
- d) Final choices shall be made by vote of the whole executive.

IV. Awards will be presented by the president at the annual meeting.

The first Cruickshank medals will be awarded at the Annual Meeting at Port Elgin.