

Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, April 6, 1979.

Mr. Treasurer --

Stuart Douglas Thom is deserving of the highest honour The Law Society of Upper Canada has to give.

Having crowned by achievement the early promise of academic success he took up the responsibilities of legal practice as a member of the Bar of Saskatchewan, then exchanged the duty of professional service to his clients for the more hazardous duty of martial service to his country as an officer in the Canadian Navy during the Second World War.

Upon his return his country became his client and sought his advice respecting the unpopular but inevitable laws of taxation. Two years later he was called to the Bar of Ontario and in Toronto resumed the private practice of law.

The qualities of mind, at once critical and constructive, which have distinguished and guided his own development stimulated the interest and improved the knowledge of students-at-law during a period of six years when he taught them in his chosen field.

He has maintained a youthful energy and innovative imagination which have been conspicuously engaged for the benefit of the profession as a whole over the past thirteen years, first as a Benchler serving on a wide variety of committees with onerous duties to discharge, then as Treasurer when for two terms he guided the development of the profession during a period of remarkable enlargement of the Society's membership and responsibilities, and now as chairman of a liaison committee which will exercise a decisive influence on the future of the legal framework upon which all our freedoms rest.

I request you, Sir, to confer upon Stuart Douglas Thom the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.

