

JANUARY 16, 1987

Estate of

Philip William Sims

Philip William Sims (or **P.W. Sims**, as he was known) was born in England on September 15, 1895. He moved to Winnipeg and graduated from an affiliated college of the University of Manitoba in 1921 as a Chartered Accountant.



P.W. Sims in 1955
Drawing: Iacurto
Private Collection
Photo: Michael Assayag

Sims joined Price Brothers & Company Limited during the great depression in the 1930s. Although this pulp and paper company had recently financed an imposing new art deco skyscraper in the old city, the cornerstone was laid on the day of the stock market crash. Consequently, Sims faced many challenges as the new Vice President of Finance.



Price Building in Quebec City
Photo: Patrick Donovan

“He was very strict,” recalls former employee Ronald Blair, “he wanted a copy of every letter that went outside the company. If there was any grammatical or spelling mistake, the error was circled and returned to the sender. Everyone junior to him was scared of him, but I had a grudging respect for him.” Sims had a reputation for being upright. His methodical work helped steer the company clear of looming bankruptcy. Price Brothers went through several mergers to finally become Abitibi Consolidated in 1997, the largest producer of newsprint in the world.

Sims amassed a considerable fortune throughout his life and was an astute investor. He remained a bachelor, living alone in the Montcalm ward on *Grande Allée*. Upon his death in 1987, he left a sum to a cousin in England who was his only living relative, with most of the rest going to Citadel. This major bequest of 1.2 million dollars increased the foundation’s financial strength in a considerable way.

The **P.W. Sims Award** is given annually at the CEGEP level for excellence in business and administration.



The **Citadel Foundation**, by donating to organizations that serve the community, gives hope to our youth, improves quality of life for our seniors, and helps sustain our rich culture.

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Thank you

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