

Report of the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Historical Association Rapport de l'assemblée annuelle de la Société historique du Canada

Report of the Annual Meeting

Report of the Secretary

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Volume 21, Number 1, 1942

URI: <https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/300237ar>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7202/300237ar>

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Publisher(s)

The Canadian Historical Association/La Société historique du Canada

ISSN

0317-0594 (print)

1712-9095 (digital)

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Cite this document

Fee, N. & Marion, S. (1942). Report of the Secretary. *Report of the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Historical Association / Rapport de l'assemblée annuelle de la Société historique du Canada*, 21(1), 121–122.

<https://doi.org/10.7202/300237ar>

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

By NORMAN FEE

THE Executive and Council of the Canadian Historical Association held four meetings during the year, one at Kingston and three at Toronto. The annual meeting was held at Trinity College, the University of Toronto, on May 25 and 26, the sessions being concurrent with those of the Canadian Political Science Association. Council, which for a considerable time had been concerned with the expense incurred in printing the annual *Report* of the Association, and also with the limited number of papers on specialized subjects contributed for publication in the *Canadian Historical Review*, appointed a committee at the meeting in Kingston on May 23, 1941, to explore the possibility of having the *Report* of the Association published as part of the *Canadian Historical Review*. One advantage of the proposed amalgamation is that historical articles which ordinarily would be printed in the *Report* of the Association only, would be available for the *Review* where they would enjoy a much larger circulation and consequent usefulness. The committee named submitted an extensive memorandum on the proposed amalgamation, in which the financial problem, the editorial management, and other more general considerations were analysed. At the meeting in Toronto on May 25, two possible plans for the amalgamation were discussed; one, to retain the membership fee of \$3.00 as at present, and print historical pamphlets to be distributed free to members and to be sold to outsiders; two, to make all subscribers to the *Review* members of the Association, and reduce the annual membership fee to \$2.00. The general meeting seemed to be in agreement as to the desirability of a change and after considerable discussion referred the whole matter to the incoming Council for further investigation. The new Council, in accordance with this instruction, named George W. Brown, Fred Landon, and R. G. Riddell a committee to consider the proposal in detail and report to the Council at the autumn meeting. Mr. George W. Brown, editor of the *Canadian Historical Review*, and Mr. R. M. Saunders, editor of the *Report* of the Association, would welcome suggestions on the matter from members and subscribers.

The Association received a grant of \$250 from the Committee on Grants-in-Aid of the Canadian Social Science Research Council which was, by unanimous consent, paid over to the *Canadian Historical Review* to assist in the completion of the decennial index of that publication. The Association has also co-operated closely with the Publication Committee of the Canadian Social Science Research Council in the administration of the Rockefeller Grant. During the year, reading committees were named to read the Longley manuscript on the life of Sir Francis Hincks, the Lower manuscript on the history of the timber trade between Canada and Great Britain, and Morden Long's manuscript on the French régime. A committee was also named to examine the application of Dr. V. J. Kisilewsky for a grant-in-aid of \$5,000 towards the preparation of a history of the Ukrainians in Canada.

The chairman of the Radio Committee, Mr. Riddell, reported that he had had considerable correspondence with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and had offered suggestions to that body regarding the seventy-fifth anniversary of Confederation, and had also offered material for the use of the Canadian Council on Citizenship.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

In point of attendance, quality of the papers, and general interest the meeting was equal to any the Association has ever had. At the first session, which was arranged in recognition of the 300th anniversary of Montreal, papers were presented by Dr. Gustave Lanctot, the Dominion Archivist, by M. Jean Bruchési, Sous-Secrétaire de la Province de Québec on "Monsieur de la Dauversière et la Fondation de Montréal," and by Professor E. R. Adair of McGill University on "The Evolution of Montreal during the French Régime." All but one of the remaining sessions centred around the period from Confederation to the end of the nineteenth century. The presidential address of Professor Fred Landon of the University of Western Ontario was a survey of conditions in Canada in the 1880's. Two papers were read at a session on Canadian-American relations, "The Fur Seal Fisheries and the Freedom of the Seas" by Professor Charles C. Tansill of Fordham University, and "The United States and Canadian Railway Competition in the North-West" by Miss Lorna Savage of Columbia University. Canadian political ideas in the sixties and seventies were discussed in papers on Egerton Ryerson by Professor C. B. Sissons, of Victoria College, Toronto, on George Etienne Cartier by Professor J. I. Cooper of McGill University, and on "The Upper Canadian Reformers" by Professor F. H. Underhill, University of Toronto. "The Failure of the Historians," by Professor H. N. Fieldhouse of the University of Manitoba, provided a basis for discussion in a general session. Professor Fieldhouse's paper had been circulated previously in mimeographed form. The discussion was led by Professors R. G. Trotter of Queen's University, J. B. Brebner of Columbia University and Chester W. New of McMaster University. At a joint session with the Canadian Political Science Association two papers were read: "Political Nationalism and Confederation" by Professor F. R. Scott of McGill University and "Economic Nationalism and Confederation" by Professor D. G. Creighton of the University of Toronto.

The following officers were elected: President, A. R. M. Lower, United College, Winnipeg; vice-president, George W. Brown, University of Toronto; English secretary-treasurer, Norman Fee, The Public Archives, Ottawa; French secretary, Séraphin Marion, The Public Archives, Ottawa; new members of Council, to retire in 1945, John Irwin Cooper, McGill University; H. N. Fieldhouse, the University of Manitoba; G. S. Graham, Royal Canadian Naval College, Victoria, B.C.; D. C. Harvey, The Provincial Archives, Halifax, N.S.

R. G. Riddell and R. M. Saunders of the University of Toronto were appointed editors of the *Report*, and W. E. C. Harrison of Queen's University, chairman of the programme committee. The special thanks of the Association were tendered to Provost F. H. Cosgrave of Trinity College; to the Royal Ontario Museum and Dr. Sigmund Samuel, who entertained the Association at tea and arranged that members should see Dr. Samuel's collection of Canadiana recently presented to the museum; to Mr. R. G. Riddell, the editor of the Association's *Report* for 1941; to Professor F. H. Underhill, the chairman of the programme committee; and to Professors C. A. Ashley and Ralph Flenley who were in charge of local arrangements.

SÉRAPHIN MARION
French Secretary

NORMAN FEE
English Secretary