

# 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

T. M. Hunter

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## REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

The forty-third Annual Meeting of the Canadian Historical Association was held at Prince of Wales College, Charlottetown, on 10-13

June 1964. The Association's deliberations were combined with observance of the centenary of the historic conference of the Fathers of Confederation at Charlottetown. The picturesque quality of the surroundings, the splendid new buildings erected as part of the centennial celebrations, and the warm hospitality of the inhabitants contributed to the success of the Meeting.

Particular mention must be made of the great courtesy and hospitality extended to members by Dr. Frank MacKinnon, Principal of Prince of Wales College, and Mr. Hugh A. Stevenson, chairman of the hard-working committee on local arrangements. A total of 172 members signed the Association's register during the course of the Meeting. An excellent programme had been arranged by a committee under the chairmanship of Professor P. B. Waite.

On the morning of Wednesday, 10 June, the Archives Section held its business meeting. In the afternoon this Section heard two papers: "What Training do Archivists Need?" presented by Alan D. Ridge, and "Conservation and Repair of Archives", given by Arthur W. Murdoch. The chairman was Hugh A. Dempsey. Meanwhile, Council held a lengthy meeting in the Senior Common Room of Montgomery Hall.

The Local History Section held its business meeting in the afternoon, and during the evening heard papers on the "Diaries of the Rev. R. W. Dyer, 1842-1882", and "Military Defenders of Prince Edward Island, 1775-1864", by T. R. Millman of Wycliff College, Toronto, and J. M. Hitsman of the Army Historical Section, respectively. J. H. Maloney, M.D., Vice-President of the P.E.I. Historical Association, occupied the chair.

The morning of 11 June was devoted to simultaneous sessions on Canadian and Commonwealth History. W. J. Eccles, of the University of Toronto, presided as chairman when Yves Zoltvany, University of Waterloo, discussed "The Problem of Western Policy under Philippe de Rigaud de Vaudreuil (1703-1725)" and Marine Leland, Smith College, gave a paper on "François-Joseph Cugnet (1781) : Les origines lointaines d'une cause célèbre de la fin du 19<sup>e</sup> siècle, *The Queen v. the Labrador Company*." The commentator was Fernand Ouellet. In the session on Commonwealth History, Russel Ward, University of New England, N.S.W., gave an Australian interpretation of "Frontier Influences and the Growth of Nationalism in Australia, United States and Canada". He was followed by Roger Graham, who read Michael Fry's paper on "The North Atlantic Triangle and the Abrogation of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance". K. A. MacKirdy was the commentator. At noon members of the Association were guests at a reception given by the Yale and McGill University Presses. The afternoon was devoted to a further session on Canadian History together with discussions of various aspects of Mediaeval and European History. Under the chairmanship of D. C.

Masters (with W. G. Ormsby as commentator), Claude Thibault, Bishop's University, examined "The Act of Union : a Bi-National Government", and Marc La Terreur, spoke on the "Correspondance Laurier — Mme Joseph Lavergne". At the gathering of mediaevalists, Hugh MacKinnon, of the University of Waterloo, gave a paper on "Theological Thought at the End of the 12th Century", and T. J. Hanrahan, of the University of British Columbia, discussed "Cathedral Schools : The Institutional Development of 12th Century Education". The chairman was J. A. Raftis and the commentator was Jacques Falmagne. Meanwhile, at the European session, Goldwin French, McMaster University, analyzed the difficulties of "Louis Barthou and the German Question, 1934", and L. E. Hill, University of British Columbia, entered a controversial field with his paper on "The Vatican Embassy of Ernst von Weizsäcker, 1943-1945, and Hochhuth's Play, 'The Representative'." Dean F. H. Soward acted as chairman, in the absence of G. R. MacLean, and Anthony Whiteside read Lewis Hertzman's comments.

Premier Walter Shaw and the Government of Prince Edward Island tendered a reception to members of the Association before the Annual Dinner, which was held in Montgomery Hall on the evening of June 11th. Dr. Frank MacKinnon was the chairman at the Dinner, and the Presidential Address was delivered by Marcel Trudel of Université Laval. Taking as his subject, "The first babblings of bilingualism, 1524-1634", Professor Trudel presented a lively and informative account of the original linguistic difficulties of the French colonists and the Indians. He pointed out that the French adopted "a double formula : on the one hand, to learn from the natives, and, on the other, to try and teach French to a few Indians who could serve as interpreters". Relating these early experiences to Anglo-French bilingualism, Professor Trudel concluded : "English and French are sister languages; it is somewhat easy to go from one to the other, and the effort required in one direction or the other is nearly equal. Furthermore, after two centuries of living together, we have discovered that, even if sometimes we have harsh words (this is normal between neighbours and relatives), we need one another so that Canada can remain Canada."

The sessions on Canadian History were resumed on the morning of 12 June. Under W. L. Morton's chairmanship, J.-C. Bonenfant, Bibliothèque de la Législature, Québec, discussed "L'idée que les Canadiens français de 1864 pouvaient avoir du fédéralisme", and Frank Bolger, St. Dunstan's University, described "Prince Edward Island and Confederation, 1867-1873". J. M. S. Careless was the commentator. Meanwhile, two interesting aspects of British History were reviewed : W. B. Hamilton, Duke University, presented "Constitutional and Political Reflections on the Sacking of the Talents", and Albert Tucker, University of Western Ontario, illuminated "The Dilemma of Imperial Military Policy in the Conservative Government in England, 1900-1905". J. B. Conacher was

the chairman and, in the absence of John Norris, Colonel C. P. Stacey acted as commentator. In the afternoon, two more papers were presented in Canadian History: G. N. D. Evans, McGill University, described "J. F. W. DesBarres, First Governor of Cape Breton, 1784-1787", and R. W. Winks, Yale University, examined "The Position of the Negro in the Maritime Provinces". This meeting was conducted under the chairmanship of R. S. Longley with George Rawlyk as commentator. Simultaneously, a joint meeting of the Canadian Catholic Historical Association and the Canadian Historical Association (under the chairmanship of Paul Crunican) heard papers on "The Assembly of the Clergy and the Enlightenment, 1755-1789" and "Education against the Jesuits: a Study in Enlightenment Ideas" by Cyril O'Keefe and Richard Saunders, respectively.

American federalism was the theme of the meeting sponsored by the joint C. H. A. and A. H. A. Committee on the evening of 12 June. Mason Wade was the chairman. Forrest McDonald, Brown University, and William H. Riker, University of Rochester, discussed the constitutional and military aspects, respectively, of the theme, and the commentary was provided by Principal J. A. Corry.

On Saturday morning, 13 June, Council met again, followed by the Annual Meeting, which was held in the new and impressive Fathers of Confederation Memorial Building. The meeting was advised that the membership stood at 1073, a gain of 79 over the figure for the previous year. Attention was drawn to the publication of Professor P. B. Waite's booklet, *The Charlottetown Conference*, and awards of merit were approved for outstanding contributions in the field of Local History. A resolution was adopted recommending that action be taken to ensure that the house of Jean-Charles Chapais, one of the Fathers of Confederation, be transformed into a National Museum in the Province of Quebec, to serve as a rural memorial of Confederation. The following officers were elected for 1964-1965:

*President*: Mason Wade, University of Rochester.

*Vice-President*: Margaret Ormsby, University of British Columbia.

*English Language Secretary*: T. M. Hunter, Ottawa.

*French Language Secretary*: B. Weilbrenner, Québec.

*Treasurer*: R. S. Gordon, Ottawa.

*Members of Council* (to retire in 1967):

R. Craig Brown, University of Toronto  
Roger Graham, University of Saskatchewan  
Rev. Father Robert Sylvain, Université Laval  
Alan Wilson, University of Western Ontario.

*Editor, The Canadian Historical Review* : Ramsay Cook, Toronto.

*Editor of Annual Report* : John P. Heisler, Ottawa.

*Associate Editor* : Fernand Ouellet, Québec.

*General Editor of Historical Booklets* : S. R. Mealing (pro tem), Ottawa.

*Associate Editors* : W. I. Smith, Ottawa, B. Weilbrenner, Québec.

T. M. HUNTER,  
*English Language Secretary.*

Ottawa,  
July 1964