

## Minutes / Procès-verbal

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# MINUTES / PROCÈS-VERBAL

## Annual Meeting Canadian Committee on Labour History St. Catharines, 31 May 1996

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:18 p.m.

### ATTENDANCE (26)

Denyse Baillargeon  
Bettina Bradbury  
David Bright  
Joanne Burgess  
Peter Campbell  
Cecilia Danysk  
Alvin Finkel  
Nancy Forestell  
David Frank  
Julie Guard

Craig Heron  
Franca Iacovetta  
Greg Kealey  
Linda Kealey  
Andrée Lévesque  
Chris Lorenz  
Kate McPherson  
John Manley  
Steve Maynard  
David Millar

Jim Naylor  
Bryan Palmer  
Eric Sager  
Joan Sangster  
Al Seager  
Jeff Taylor  
Odette Vincent  
Irene Whitfield

### AGENDA

M/S/C: To adopt agenda as presented.

M/S/C: To adopt minutes of last meeting as published in *Labour/Le Travail*, 36 (Fall 1995), 447-9.

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### BUSINESS ARISING

REPORTING ON ARCHIVES, Greg Kealey noted the Comintern material relating to Canada was at the National Archives of Canada and should soon be available for use.

### REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

BRYAN PALMER REPORTED that the libel suit launched by Hardial Bains *et al.* had been settled and acknowledged the support that the Committee had received from many quarters. He especially noted the strong stand in favour of freedom of expression taken by several institutions and bookstores including Mount Allison University, the University of Manitoba, the University of Alberta, and Spartacus Books in Vancouver.

### REPORT OF THE TREASURER AND EDITOR

GREG KEALEY REPORTED on the threatened deep cuts to the funding of journals by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. The cuts were cancelled and a new funding formula will be developed, but there is ongoing uncertainty in this area. *Labour/Le Travail* reported a modest surplus last year, but budget cutting at Memorial University is a cause for concern. In the face of these threats, attempts have been made to diversify funding for the journal. In this regard, the Boag Foundation has been helpful and other contacts have been made. The readership of *Labour/Le Travail* has remained very steady at about 950 subscribers. Number 37 (Spring 1996) is now out and number 38 will be a special joint issue with *Labour History* in Australia.

It was reported that there were several new CCLH publications in the works: Ian McKay's study of Colin McKay, Doug Smith's biography of C.S. Jackson, Gil Levine and Lorne Brown on Pat Lenihan as well as volumes 4 (1937) and 5 (1938-39) of the *RCMP Security Bulletins — the Depression Years*. A grant in Aid of Scholarly Publications was received for the McKay book and we have reached the point where we are now eligible for Canada Council project grants.

### CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

CRAIG HERON REPORTED on the conference "What We Fought For: Ontario Workers' Struggles, 1935-1955" that was held in Hamilton 28-29 May 1996 sponsored by the Ontario Workers' Arts and Heritage Centre and the CCLH. About 100 people attended including a significant local contingent and feedback was positive. Heron pointed out that McMaster University was the largest financial

contributor and added that they incurred a small deficit. He described the activities and resources of the Ontario Workers' Arts and Heritage Centre, adding that memberships in the centre were available and that all should join.

A discussion ensued regarding a labour and working-class history workshop and/or a social event in St. John's in 1997. The issue was referred to the members from the Memorial University of Newfoundland. For Ottawa in 1998, David Millar suggested some form of joint workshop with the Labour College of Canada. Jeff Taylor reported on the Canadian Labour Education Research Association and suggested that some linkage should be undertaken for next year's meetings.

A proposal from Ian McKay to mark the centenary of Canadian socialism with a conference, publications, etc., was read and several individuals volunteered to join with him in investigating such a project.

## **EUGENE A. FORSEY PRIZES IN CANADIAN LABOUR AND WORKING-CLASS HISTORY**

**BRYAN PALMER** REMINDED the meeting of the deadlines and regulations relating to the Forsey prizes. There was a discussion of various concerns about the guidelines for the prizes that was referred to the CCLH executive and the chairs of the prize committees. Comments or suggestions about the Forsey prizes should be forwarded to the executive.

## **ELECTIONS**

The executive was elected by acclamation:

President: Kathryn McPherson (York University)

Vice-President: James Naylor (Brandon University)

Secretary: Julie Guard (York University)

Treasurer: Gregory Kealey (Memorial University)

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

**DAVID FRANK** POINTED out the particularly poor representation of labour on Canadian postage stamps and moved the following motion:

**M/S/C:** THAT the Canadian Committee on Labour History encourage Canada Post to increase the representation of the history of Canadian workers and organized labour in its stamp programme.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**M/S/C** to adjourn, 1:28 p.m.

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DAVID GRAY

Note de recherche / Research Note

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