

The Canadian Historical Association: Report of the Annual Meeting Held at Halifax June 10 and 11, 1949: With Historical Papers, Toronto, University of Toronto Press, 1949. 76 pages

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Volume 3, Number 4, mars 1950

URI: <https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/801607ar>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7202/801607ar>

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Publisher(s)

Institut d'histoire de l'Amérique française

ISSN

0035-2357 (print)

1492-1383 (digital)

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Cite this review

Rothney, G. O. (1950). Review of [*The Canadian Historical Association: Report of the Annual Meeting Held at Halifax June 10 and 11, 1949: With Historical Papers*, Toronto, University of Toronto Press, 1949. 76 pages]. *Revue d'histoire de l'Amérique française*, 3(4), 617–618. <https://doi.org/10.7202/801607ar>

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The President of the Canadian Historical Association for 1948—49 was Abbé Arthur Maheux of Laval University. The subject of his presidential address, delivered at Dalhousie University in Halifax, was "A Dilemma for our Culture". His opinions may be summarized as follows:

...there is, or at least there will be, a Canadian culture. That is our main problem today... Canada is made up of two principal groups — one of French origin, the other of British origin... From the point of view of race we are exactly the same... If we are not different by blood, is it on account of culture? Here again the answer is no... We must no longer teach the history of France in Quebec and the history of England outside Quebec, but we must everywhere in Canada teach the history of western civilization as it has developed both in England and in France... the differences are not irreconcilable. To have reached that level of understanding is already a long step towards the solution of our cultural dilemma.

Abbé Maheux then offered his answer to this "dilemma":

A greater difficulty or difference is to be found in the philosophy of life... In my opinion it is the greatest difference... it is a pity that so little attention is given to scholastic philo-

sophy in the English-Canadian institutions... We should not try to imitate France or England or even the United States; on the contrary we should borrow from those countries the best they can offer and apply it to our situation. We must also dare to devise something new... This seems to me the only way of breaking our cultural dilemma... the best means to ensure a sound teaching of history is to entrust that teaching to teachers who have received a university degree in history... provided, however, that in our departments of history, an equal importance be given to both civilizations, the French and the British.

This annual report of the Canadian Historical Association for 1949 contains one paper in French, "La plus Vieille Maison du Canada", by R.P. Adrien Pouliot, s.j., of the *Collège des Jésuites* in Quebec. The remaining articles have to do with the history of the Maritime Provinces.

The volume contains, also, a statement from the Department of Mines and Resources on "National Historical Parks and Sites, 1948—1949". Among the parks mentioned are the following:

Port Royal National Historic Park is situated at Lower Granville, Nova Scotia. A replica of the group of buildings, which sheltered the first European settlers in Canada, has been erected on the exact site where the Port Royal Habitation stood...

Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Park is situated about three miles from the town of Louisbourg, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.

Fort Beausejour National Historic Park is situated near Sackville, New Brunswick...

Fort Chambly National Historic Park is situated about twenty miles southeast of Montreal, on a conspicuous headland on the Richelieu River... During the year 28,319 persons signed the museum register.

Among the sites at which tablets have been erected is the ancient Indian portage near Woodstock, N.B., which "formed part of the main route of travel between Acadia and New England".

Among the new members elected to the Council of the Canadian Historical Association for the period 1949—1952 is Monsieur Marcel Trudel of Laval University.

The Association submitted a brief on August 19, 1949, to the Royal Commission on National Development in the Arts, Letters and Sciences.

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