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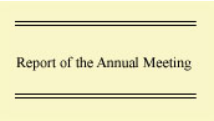
Report of the Annual Meeting
Rapports annuels de la Société historique du Canada



Minutes of the Annual Meeting at Montreal, May 21-23, 1925

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING AT MONTREAL, MAY 21-23, 1925

The annual meeting of the association was held in Montreal, from Thursday to Saturday, May 21, 22 and 23. It was preceded by a meeting of the council at the Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, on Wednesday, May 20.

The visit to some historic sites in Montreal took place on Thursday afternoon, under the guidance of Messrs. W. D. Lighthall and Victor Morin. It was concluded at Lady Van Horne's house, where the members had been invited to tea. Two popular addresses were given the same evening in the lecture hall of the Royal Victoria College, which, through the courtesy of the authorities of McGill University, served as headquarters to the association for the time of the meeting; the first, on *The Two Races in Canada*, by Prof. George M. Wrong, of Toronto, and the second, in French, on *Garneau, fondateur de l'histoire scientifique au Canada*, by M. Gustave Lanctôt, of Ottawa. The regular meetings were held in the mornings of May 22 and 23. In the afternoon of May 22, the members gathered at the McCord Museum, where valuable historical collections are displayed, and had the opportunity of examining an interesting exhibit of documents from the Dominion Archives of Canada. A tablet on a large boulder, erected by the Dominion Parks Branch, in memory of the Iroquoian village of Hochelaga, was then unveiled on the McGill campus, near the place where the ancient village is supposed to have stood at the time of its visit by Cartier. A short address, given by M. Ægidius Fauteux on behalf of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, was followed by the reply of Prof. Stephen Leacock, who represented McGill University at the function. Messrs. W. D. Lighthall and W. H. Atherton brought the ceremony to a close with a few remarks on the actual location of prehistoric Hochelaga. The members left at three o'clock for Fort Chambly and mount St. Bruno. Another tablet, erected under the same auspices, was unveiled in the cemetery of Chambly in memory of the soldiers and officers fallen in the neighbourhood of the old fort. The Last Post Fund contributed to the impressiveness of this ceremony by its delegation of Boy Scouts for the occasion. From Chambly the excursion proceeded to the old mill of the Seigneury of Montarville, where Mr. W. M. Birks welcomed his guests. Wooden panels with inscriptions were unveiled, and the story of the old mill was retold by Messrs. Birks, Wrong, Boucher de la Bruère and Burpee. The excursionists at the invitation of Mr. F. H. Clergue were then entertained at supper in the hall of the St. Bruno Golf Club, and returned to Montreal only late in the evening. Another section of the association was meanwhile holding an evening session in connection with La Société historique de Montréal, at the Saint-Sulpice Library, a brief report of which is here appended. The meetings came to a close at half past twelve on Saturday the 23rd.

Among the members present at the meetings—it is impossible here to give a full list, on account of the variety of functions, which were well attended—were the following:—

Messrs. Reginald G. Trotter, Ægidius Fauteux, John A. Chisholm, C. Jones, Vernon Ross, Gerhard R. Lomer, Lawrence J. Burpee and Marius Barbeau (representing the Royal Society of Canada and the Historical Association of Annapolis Royal), W. N. Sage, W. H. Atherton, Basil Williams, George M. Wrong, W. S. Wallace, A. R. M. Lower, Gustave Lanctôt, J. F. Kenney, Miss E. Arna Smillie, Miss Hay Browne (The Last Post Fund), Miss M. D. Muir, Miss Britain, Miss Jean Nichol, Miss Vera Lee Brown, Miss Marjorie G. Reid, Miss Hortense O'Meara, Miss Lighthall, Miss A. McCord, Miss Jean Foster,

Mrs. J. B. Simpson (Women's Canadian Historical Society of Ottawa), Mrs. W. C. Hodgson (the Provincial Chapter of Quebec, the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire), Mrs. J. Mount-Duckett, Mrs. T. P. Foran, Mrs. C. Henderson, Mrs. Walter Vaughan (University Women's Federation), Prof. Stephen Leacock, Francis J. Audet, M. Boucher de la Bruère, Victor Morin, J. Marley Hay, Dr. J. J. Heagerty, le juge Fabre Surveyer, Messrs. W. D. Lighthall, J. T. Donald, Rev. E. H. Oliver, Judge F. W. Howay (British Columbia Historical Association), Messrs. Gérard Malchelosse, P.-Georges Roy, H. A. Kennedy, J. C. Webster, William Wood, l'abbé Ivanhoë Caron.

The papers and addresses given at the regular meetings were:—

The Presidential address, "Canada as a field for historical research," by Lawrence J. Burpee, Ottawa.

"The place of history in Canadian education," by Stephen Leacock, Montreal.

"Spanish claims to the Newfoundland fisheries in the 18th century," by Vera Lee Brown, Smith College, Northampton, Mass.

"Pitt's decision to keep Canada after the Seven Years' war," by Marjorie G. Reid, Toronto.

"Our western war: Forty year after," by H. A. Kennedy, Ottawa.

"Murray's administration," by Miss Jean Nichol, Montreal.

"Small-pox epidemics among the Canadian Indians," by J. J. Heagerty, Ottawa.

"A bastion against a kingdom," by A. S. Walker, Halifax.

"Sir James Douglas, fur trader and proconsul," by W. N. Sage, Vancouver.

"The coming of the Barr colonists," by Dr. E. H. Oliver, Saskatoon.

"Some aspects of early Canadian agencies in London," by D. McArthur, Kingston, Ont.

"Lord Dorchester and the Church of England," by A. H. Young, Toronto.

"Some Bella Coola Indian comments on Mackenzie's narrative," by Harlan I. Smith, Ottawa.

"Durham and the idea of a Federal Union of British North America," by R. G. Trotter, Kingston, Ont.

The proceedings at the Saint-Sulpice Library, on the evening of May 22, are here described by the pro-secretary, M. Napoléon Brisebois:—

> "Pendant la séance publique, la Société historique de Montréal, par l'entremise de son président, M. Victor Morin, présenta une médaille en vermeil à M. Pierre-Georges Roy, archiviste de la Province de Québec, en hommage à ses mérites de chercheur, de généalogiste et d'archiviste. Les membres de cette association qui font partie de la Société historique du Canada se sont ci-après réunis dans une autre salle, sous la présidence de M. Victor Morin, pour le présentation de certains travaux en langue française qui paraissaient au programme de la Société. Un résumé du travail *Les seigneurs Barrow*, de M. O. Lapalice, fut lu aux membres par M. l'abbé O. Maurault. Les autres travaux furent reçus dans l'ordre suivant:—
>
> "Madame Bourdon et l'immigration des filles dans la Nouvelle-France," par M. Gérard Malchelosse, Montréal.
>
> "Le domaine public de Québec de 1796 à 1812," par Camille Bertrand, Montréal.
>
> "Premières pages de l'histoire du Saguenay," par l'abbé Victor Tremblay, Chicoutimi.
>
> "Des remerciements furent votés à l'adresse des conférenciers et le pro-secrétaire fut chargé de transmettre un rapport de cette séance au secrétaire de la Société historique du Canada."

Dr. J. C. Webster was invited by the president, at the regular meeting on Saturday morning to speak on the organization of the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the Birth of James Wolfe. Dr. Webster in response gave an account of a meeting recently held in London, at which were present distinguished persons, whose forebears had relations with Wolfe in the old days. A few Canadians also attended. Lord Stanhope, who represented William Pitt, urged that this important anniversary be marked by a fitting celebration and wanted to know whether Canada would participate in the event. Dr. Webster undertook to report these deliberations to the Canadian Historical Association at its annual meeting and to do his best to enlist its support. Wolfe was a soldier, and one of the great figures in the history of Canada at its most spectacular period; and his name remains permanently associated with that of Montcalm. Everyone, British or Canadian of French or English descent, should be deeply interested in this celebration, and the present Marquis de Montcalm might appropriately be the chief guest. The time before that important date in 1927 is rather short, and our share of the work should be taken up in the very near future. Dr. Webster therefore moved, and was unanimously supported, that the Canadian Historical Association accept the responsibility of organizing the Bicentenary of the birth of Wolfe, and that a special committee of four members be appointed by the president and the chairman of the Management Committee, such committee having the required executive powers within its sphere of action; that this committee prepare a programme for the celebration which shall be placed before the association for approval at its annual meeting next year. The speaker further added that a splendid loan collection of the Wolfe-Montcalm historical documents could be brought together for the event and exhibited at some central point for the benefit of the public. Mr. J. F. Kenney advocated the creation of a permanent memorial in the form of a Wolfe-Montcalm endowment for the publication of scholarly work on the history of Canada.

It was moved that the incoming president and the chairman of the executive select a committee for the David Thompson memorial that the amount required for the monument in Mount Royal Cemetery be determined by the committee, that the association if necessary subscribe a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars, and that all other details be left to the discretion of the committee.

A proposal already outlined in the past years, that a plan of co-operation be attempted between the association, the *Historical Review*, of Toronto, and *Le Bulletin des Recherches historiques*, Quebec, was revived by Prof. George M. Wrong, and it is intended that an earnest effort be made to bring the negotiations to a successful conclusion.

Votes of thanks were proposed and heartily supported at the last meeting of the Canadian Historical Association, on Saturday morning, May 23, as follows:—

To the Governors of McGill University and the Royal Victoria College for their generous hospitality.

To the Montreal Committee in charge of local arrangements and programme for the annual meeting; in particular, to Prof. Basil Williams, and Miss Jean Foster, for their successful co-operation.

To Dr. A. G. Doughty, and his assistants, of the Dominion Archives, and to the Directors of the McCord Museum, for their exhibition of historical documents held in the McCord Museum during the meeting.

To Lady Van Horne for her reception to the members of the association on May 21.

To "Our hosts of St.-Bruno"—Mr. Clergue and Mr. Birks in particular—for their welcome to our members at their club and their generous entertainment.

To the Donators of the David Thompson Memorial Fund.

To the Department of the Interior and the Dominion Parks Branch, for their most valuable contribution to the work of the association in publishing the annual report for the past year and taking charge of the distribution of the reports.

To the officers and auditor of the association for their efficient discharge of their duties during the past year; Dr. J. C. Webster and Miss Vera Lee Brown making a special record of the association's gratitude for the untiring efforts and remarkable success of Mr. Lawrence J. Burpee, the retiring president.

It was also moved and seconded that a delegation be appointed by the president and the chairman of the Management committee to interview the Prime Minister and plead for greater facilities and scope in the publication of our forthcoming annual reports, the size of which should be suitably enlarged.

Dr. J. C. Webster, seconded by M. Gustave Lanctôt, moved that the association reorganize its Executive Committee so as to elect a new president in rotation every year, and leave the initiative in the work and burden of organization largely in the care of a new officer whose designation will be that of Chairman of the Management Committee.

The following new officers, councillors, and auditor for the coming year were unanimously elected at the close of the meeting:—

OFFICERS

President: Hon. Thomas Chapais, Québec.
Vice-President: Prof. George M. Wrong, Toronto.
Chairman Management Committee: Lawrence J. Burpee, Ottawa.
Secretary-Treasurer: Marius Barbeau, Ottawa.
English Editor: Duncan McArthur, Kingston.
French Editor: Gustave Lanctôt, Ottawa.

COUNCILLORS

Arthur G. Doughty, Ottawa.
Ægidius Fauteux, Montréal.
Hon. F. H. Howay, New Westminster, B.C.
Basil Williams, Montréal.
Dr. J. C. Webster, Shediac, N.B.
Rev. E. H. Oliver, Saskatoon.

AUDITOR

Lieut.-Col. J. F. Cunningham, Ottawa.

The meeting then adjourned.

MARIUS BARBEAU,
Secretary.