

# 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

W. G. Ormsby

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## REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

### CANADIAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The Canadian Historical Association's Annual Meeting was held at McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, June 6-8. On Wednesday evening a joint session was held with the Canadian Political Science Association with H. N. Fieldhouse, Dean of the Faculty of Arts of McGill University, acting as chairman. The theme chosen for this session was the career of the late Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, and the following papers were presented: "Mr. Mackenzie King and Canadian Autonomy, 1921-1946" by James A. Gibson, and "Mr. Mackenzie King and the Constitution" by A. E. Forsey. On Thursday morning, June 7, at a general session, Th.-André Audet read a paper on "Les origines de l'Université dans les institutions médiévales", and "Social Conditions in the Town of Quebec during the French régime" were examined in a paper presented by Allana Reid. Following the general session members of the Association visited the Redpath Museum and were given the opportunity to inspect representative historical material from the McCord Collection. Education was chosen as the theme of the general session held on Thursday afternoon. G. W. Spragge gave a paper on "Elementary Education in Upper Canada, 1820-1840", and D. C. Masters read a paper entitled, "Bishop's University in the Religious Controversies of the Nineteenth Century". Following the general session members of the Association were entertained at a garden party given by McGill University. On Thursday evening, June 7, Chancellor O. S. Tyndale of McGill University presided at a joint session with the Canadian Political Science Association at which the presidential addresses were delivered. George E. Wilson, President of the Canadian Historical Association, gave his address under the title of "Wider Horizons", while C. A. Curtis, President of the Canadian Political Science Association, spoke on "Municipal Finance in relationship to Dominion-Provincial Relations". At the general session held Friday morning, June 8, the following papers were read: "Les idées politiques de la Gazette Litteraire de Montréal" by Michel Brunet, "The Manitoba Schools and Canadian Nationalism, 1890-1916" by W. L. Morton, and "Quelques observations sur le nationalisme de M. Henri Bourassa" by Marine Leland. On Friday afternoon members of the Association were taken on a bus tour of historic sites in Montreal as guests of His Worship the Mayor and the City of Montreal. During the bus tour members were served tea at the Chateau de Ramezay by the Women's Division of the Antiquarian and Numismatic Society and also during the tour members of the Council of the Association visited Mayor Houde in his office and were officially welcomed to Montreal. The conference was brought to a close Friday evening with a general meeting of the Association. At this meeting Col. C. P. Stacey paid tribute to the great work of the late Dr. R. G. Trotter on behalf of the Association in particular and Canadian historical scholarship in general and a motion that the Acting Secretary should write Mrs. Trotter

expressing the Association's sympathy with her in her recent sad bereavement was passed unanimously.

The following officers were elected for the season 1951-2: President, Jean Bruchési; Vice-President, Col. C. P. Stacey; English Secretary and Treasurer, David Farr (on leave of absence); Acting English Secretary and Treasurer, William Ormsby; French Secretary, Antoine Roy.

The following members were elected to the Council of the Association: Lucien Brault, to fill the vacancy on the Council left by the appointment of Antoine Roy as French Secretary, and to retire in 1953; R. G. Glover, C. B. Fergusson, Guy Frégault and G. W. Spragge to take the place of those whose terms had expired and to retire in 1954.

At the general session held on Friday evening, June 8, the Association passed a hearty vote of thanks to those who contributed to the success of the meeting. Chancellor Tyndale and Dr. Cyril James, Principal of McGill University, were thanked for the garden party given by the University for members of the Association and for the hospitality with which McGill received the Association. His Worship, Mayor Camillien Houde, and the Corporation of the City of Montreal were thanked for the bus tour of the city and the tea provided for members of the Association and for the cordial reception given members of Council on their visit to the Mayor's office. Mrs. R. S. Turnham, Assistant Curator, and the staff of the Redpath Museum were thanked for arranging the visit to the Museum. Les Soeurs de la Congregation de Notre Dame in charge of the Bourgeoys House were thanked for permitting members to inspect the interior of the house during the bus tour. Monsieur l'abbé Vinet, curé de Notre Dame and les Messieurs de St. Sulpice were thanked for conducting members on a tour of Notre Dame Cathedral. Professor E. R. Adair was thanked for acting as a guide on the visit to the historic sites of Montreal.

Several important matters were discussed in the Council Meetings held during the conference. The Council found it necessary to recommend that the fee for joint membership in the Association and in the Canadian Political Science Association should be raised from \$6.00 to \$7.00 per year, and that the fee for life membership be increased from \$50.00 or more to \$65.00 or more. A further recommendation was made that the actual cost of Annual Reports supplied to life members should be made a charge on the Reserve Account.

Both of these recommendations were passed at the General Meeting on Friday, June 8. Several publication projects including the publication of an index to the Annual Reports are now under consideration. Provision was made for an active membership campaign during the present year and Mr. C. B. Fergusson was named as chairman of the Membership Committee. It is hoped that every member will take part in the campaign to double the present membership of the Association.

W. G. ORMSBY.