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Report of the Annual Meeting

Report of Archives Section

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REPORT OF ARCHIVES SECTION

The annual meeting of the Archives Section of the Canadian Historical Association was held on June 3 in the Saskatchewan Archives Office, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon. During the morning business session, reports on accessions and activities were presented by the Nova Scotia Archives, the Saskatchewan Archives, the Glenbow Foundation, and the Public Archives of Canada.

A committee was established to collect information on the holdings, publications and history of archival depositories in Canada, and also to prepare a checklist of political papers in such depositories. The committee will prepare a questionnaire and send it to the various institutions holding records and manuscripts. It is hoped that the successful completion of this project will prepare the way for a start on a union catalogue of manuscripts in Canada.

During the business meeting the following officers were elected for the coming year: Chairman, H. Bowesfield; Vice-Chairman, C. B. Fergusson; Secretary, Evelyn Eager.

The afternoon was devoted to the presentation of papers and discussion followed by a tour of the Saskatoon Section of the Saskatchewan Archives. John Archer, Legislative Librarian and Archivist of Saskatchewan read a paper on "Saskatchewan's Records Retention and Disposal Programme", and David Shadd of the Public Archives of Canada discussed "Some Problems in Providing Reference Service at a Records Centre".

For several years a primary objective of the Archives Section has been the establishment of an archivists' training course with special emphasis on the Canadian archival situation. During the past summer this objective was attained when Carleton University, with the co-operation of the Public Archives of Canada, presented a course of four weeks duration. Candidates were registered from all parts of Canada from Newfoundland to British Columbia, and of the thirteen who wrote the examination at the end of the course eleven were successful.

Saskatoon, June, 1959.

EVELYN EAGER,
Secretary.