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Report of the Secretary

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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

By NORMAN FEE

THE annual meeting of Council was held at Baldwin House, the University of Toronto, on November 17, 1945. Other meetings of the Executive and Council were held at Kingston and Toronto on the same dates as the annual meetings. The invitation of the Royal Commission on Education for Ontario to submit a brief was accepted, and a committee consisting of Messrs. Brown, Underhill, and Saunders was named to prepare it. Council later accepted the recommendation of the committee that the representation to the Commission be coupled with that of the Ontario Historical Society.

Council named Mr. George W. Brown and Mr. Jean Jacques Lefebvre to represent the Association on Public Records Committee. The question of merging the *Canadian Historical Review* and the *Annual Report* of the Association was discussed both in the general meeting and in the Council meetings but no action was taken to combine the two publications.

Four new life members were added during the year. Plans for continuing the campaign for additional life members are to be renewed during the year.

THE PROGRAMME

The following report of the annual meeting is copied from the Report published in the *Canadian Historical Review*, June, 1946.

The annual meeting of the Canadian Historical Association was held at the University of Toronto on May 23-4 concurrently with the meeting of the Political Science Association. The first session was devoted to English history with papers by Professors B. Wilkinson and D. J. McDougall of the University of Toronto on "Constitutional Development in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries," and "Recent Work on Seventeenth-Century English History." A session was given to various aspects of the history of the armed services, three papers being read: "The Nature of an Official History," by Colonel C. P. Stacey; "Some Aspects of the Battle of the Atlantic," by G. N. Tucker; and "The Evolution of the Royal Canadian Air Force," by Wing Commander F. H. Hitchins. Papers at other sessions on Canadian history centred around the general theme of the interrelations of cultural and political history: "The Religious Factor in Canadian History," by S. D. Clark, University of Toronto; "The Rise of the Western Progressive Movement, 1919-1921," by W. L. Morton, University of Manitoba; "Cultural and Political Implications of French-Canadian Nationalism," by Jean-C. Falardeau and Jean-C. Bonenfant, Laval University; "Liberal Nationalism in the Eighteen-Seventies," by W. R. Graham, University of Toronto. The presidential address by Professor F. H. Underhill of the University of Toronto was entitled "Some Reflections on the Liberal Tradition in Canada." These papers will be published in the *Annual Report* of the Association except for that of Professor Clark which was included in the programme of the Political Science Association.

A feature of much interest at the meetings was an exhibit of pictures by official war artists of the Canadian Army which was arranged through the co-operation of Colonel C. P. Stacey, Director of the Historical Section of

the Canadian Army. Major C. F. Comfort, officer in charge of war artists, who was present at the opening session made some comments on the exhibition in the course of which he described the close working arrangements between the military authorities and the war artists who worked in the field.

The sessions were marked by a high level of interest, and an attendance representative of all parts of the country and larger than at any previous meeting. The Association has maintained itself creditably during the war years and there are indications, such as the increase in the size of university staffs, that resources are available for a renewed and solid growth. Conditions, such as distance, which make the development of the Association difficult still remain, however, and every possible effort is needed to overcome them.

The Association would be greatly strengthened if its financial position were improved. In this connexion it was reported that the campaign for life memberships had had some success, but that the time had arrived when it should be renewed with vigour.

The following officers and members of Council were elected for 1946-7: President, H. N. Fieldhouse, McGill University; vice-president, F. H. Soward, University of British Columbia; new members of Council to retire in 1949, R. W. Collins, University of Alberta, J.-C. Falardeau, Laval University, W. L. Morton, University of Manitoba, J. W. Watson, McMaster University; representative for the *Canadian Historical Review*, D. G. Creighton, associate editor, University of Toronto; Canadian Historical Association *Report*, R. M. Saunders, editor, R. A. Preston, associate editor, University of Toronto; English secretary and treasurer, Norman Fee, The Public Archives, Ottawa; French secretary, Séraphin Marion, The Public Archives, Ottawa.