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Report of the Secretary

Norman Fee

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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

By NORMAN FEE

The annual meeting of the Canadian Historical Association was held concurrently with that of the Canadian Political Science Association on May 24 and 25 at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ont. The morning session on May 24 was devoted to a round-table discussion of historical broadcasts. Mr. Alan B. Plaunt, of the board of governors of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and Mr. D. W. Buchanan of the Corporation's programme department, read papers which presented the general principle and discussed some of the special problems of historical broadcasting. Members of the Association and others who took part in the discussion included Mr. John Coulter who has had valuable experience in preparing historical dramatic broadcasts for the British Broadcasting Corporation and President Dixon Ryan Fox of Union College, Schenectady, who has been intimately associated with the planning of some of the best historical broadcasts given under commercial sponsorship in the United States during recent years, D. C. Harvey of Halifax, F. H. Soward of Vancouver, Judge Fabre-Surveyer of Montreal, Séraphin Marion of Ottawa, Chester W. New of Hamilton, and Chester Martin of Toronto. As a result of this discussion, a committee for consultation was named with representation from each province and with Professor G. deT. Glazebrook, Baldwin House, University of Toronto, as chairman.

The papers which were presented on the second day of the meeting included "Geographico-cultural aspects of the five Canadas", by W. N. Sage; "Aperçu de la situation économique dans le Bas-Canada vers 1837", by Gérard Parizeau; "Le voyage de Pierre-Antoine Tabeau dans le haut Missouri vers 1803-1805", by Benoit Brouillette; "History in the Canadian public school curriculum", by H. M. Morrison; "The discovery of Drake's 'Plate of Brasse' of 1579", by J. Bartlet Brebner. It was fitting that this year a distinctive contribution should be made to the history of the Rebellions of 1837 and this was done by three excellent papers: "The common man in the era of the Rebellion", by Fred Landon; "The economic background of the Rebellions", by D. G. Creighton; and the presidential address by Chester W. New.

There were two addresses of outstanding interest, that of President Dixon Ryan Fox of Union College, Schenectady, whose distinguished work as an historian is well known to Canadians, and that of M. Henri Bourassa, whose eloquence and enthusiasm have made him justly famous as a parliamentary orator.

On the afternoon of May 24 the Women's Wentworth Historical Association entertained the Association at tea at the Stoney Creek Battlefield where excellent work has been done in preserving and beautifying the site and in the gathering of historical material. The Association here wishes to record its thanks to the Women's Wentworth Historical Association for this pleasant afternoon. The Association also wishes to mention the very happy and pleasant surroundings in which the meetings were held at McMaster University and to record its thanks to Dr. Chester W. New and his associates for the excellent local arrangements.

The principal officers elected for this year are: President, D. C. Harvey, Halifax; vice-president, R. G. Trotter, Kingston; English secretary and treasurer, Norman Fee, Ottawa; French secretary, Séraphin Marion, Ottawa; programme committee, R. G. Trotter, E. R. Adair, and D. G. Creighton.