

# Report of the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Historical Association Rapport de l'assemblée annuelle de la Société historique du Canada

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## Report of the Secretary

W. G. Ormsby

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## REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

### CANADIAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

THE annual meeting of the Canadian Historical Association was held at the Royal Military College, Kingston, Ontario, June 8-10. The facilities provided by the College were excellent in all respects and contributed greatly to the success of the meeting. The attendance at the conference, which surpassed all expectations, was a real tribute to the work and planning of the programme committee.

The conference opened Wednesday evening, June 7, with a meeting of the Local History Committee under the chairmanship of G. W. Spragge and a meeting of the editors and the advisory board of the *Canadian Historical Review*. The general session, held the following morning, June 8, took for its theme the influence of revolutionary and republican France on French Canada and the following papers were read: "Lamartine et la jeunesse republicaine du Canada français en 1848" by Séraphin Marion, and "Quebec and the French Revolution of 1789" by Mason Wade. At noon, members of the Association were guests of the Kingston Historical Society at a luncheon in Fort Henry. Luncheon was followed by a general session held in the Fort at which Antoine Roy read a paper on "Le Fort Frontenac ou Catarakoui sous le régime français," and Ronald Way gave a paper on "Historical Restorations." After the general session the Fort Henry Guard gave an interesting demonstration of foot and arms drill and gun drill as it was performed a century ago. Thursday evening a dinner was given for members of both the Association and the Canadian Political Science Association by the Royal Military College. Following dinner, Brigadier D. R. Agnew, Commandant of the Royal Military College, presided at the joint session with the Canadian Political Science Association. A. L. Burt gave his presidential address entitled "Wide Horizons," and K. W. Taylor read a paper on "Some Aspects of Population Theory." At the general session Friday morning, June 9, three widely varied aspects of the military theme were presented when the following papers were read: "The Queen's Rangers and Their Contribution in the Years 1776 to 1784," by Harold M. Jackson, "Habits gris et chemise rouge," by Léopold Lamontagne, and "Sir Sam Hughes and the Problem of Imperialism," by Sam H. S. Hughes. Friday afternoon was devoted to an enjoyable harbour trip aboard H.M.C.S. *Portage*, followed by tea at the Officers' Mess, National Defence College, Fort Frontenac. His Worship, the Mayor, and the City of Kingston gave a dinner for members of the Association and the Canadian Political Science Association Friday evening which was followed by papers by James Roy on "The Honourable Richard Cartwright," and Donald G. Creighton on "Sir John Macdonald and Kingston." Saturday morning, June 10, the conference was brought to a close with a general meeting of the Association.

The following officers were elected for the season 1950-1: President, G. E. Wilson; Vice-President, A. G. Dorland; English Secretary and Treasurer, David Farr (on leave of absence); Acting English Secretary

and Treasurer, William Ormsby; French Secretary, Séraphin Marion. The following four members were elected to the Council of the Association to take the place of those whose terms had expired: W. E. Ireland, W. S. MacNutt, A. Roy, R. M. Saunders.

At the general session held on Saturday, June 8, the Association passed a hearty vote of thanks to the individuals who contributed to the success of the meeting. The Honourable Brooke Claxton, Minister of National Defence and President of the Royal Military College, was thanked for procuring a financial grant which enabled the Association to provide assistance for its members desiring to attend the annual meeting in Kingston and for placing the facilities of the Royal Military College at the disposal of the Association. Brigadier D. R. Agnew, Commandant, Royal Military College, Colonel W. R. Sawyer, Vice Commandant, Royal Military College, and their staff were thanked for the fine hospitality shown to the Association and for their co-operation in making local arrangements. Dr. G. F. G. Stanley and Dr. R. A. Preston were thanked for the splendid programme arranged. Mr. Ronald Way, Curator of Fort Henry, Captain Laycock, and members of the Fort Henry Guard were remembered for the privilege of visiting Fort Henry for luncheon and for the display of foot and arms drill. Colonel C. M. Strange and the members of the Kingston Historical Society were thanked for the luncheon tendered members of the Association in Fort Henry. Lieutenant General Guy Simonds, Commandant of Fort Frontenac, was thanked for the tea given members of the Association and for the privilege of visiting Fort Frontenac. Vice Admiral Grant, Chief of Naval Staff and Lieutenant E. P. Earnshaw, Commanding Officer of H.M.C.S. *Portage* and his crew were thanked for the extremely enjoyable harbour cruise. Dr. Clifford Curtis, Mayor of the City of Kingston, and the Corporation of the City of Kingston were thanked for the dinner tendered members of the Association.

The question of publishing an index to the Association's *Annual Reports* was discussed in the business meetings of the Council and a committee consisting of Dr. Stanley, Dr. Wilson, and Colonel Stacey was set up to investigate the possibilities with regard to financing this publication.

The resignation of Dr. Séraphin Marion, as French Secretary, was reluctantly accepted at the fall meeting of the Council and a resolution expressing the Council's deep appreciation for Dr. Marion's fifteen years of service and his great contribution to the Association was unanimously adopted. Antoine Roy, the Archivist of Quebec, was co-opted to serve as French Secretary for the year 1950-1.

W. G. ORMSBY