

# 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 Canadian Historical Association's Annual Meeting was held at Laval University, June 4-6, as part of the University's centenary celebrations. Registration began on Wednesday afternoon, June 4 and by Thursday morning more than seventy members had signed the register. Mgr. Ferdinand Vandry, Rector of Laval University, formally opened the conference Thursday morning, June 5, with an address of welcome to the members of the Association. At this session the following papers were read: "The Indian Background of Canadian History," by George F. G. Stanley; "Les origines de l'Université Laval", by Abbé Arthur Maheux; "Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and Lord Minto," by H. Pearson Gundy; and "Les Canadiens-français et la naissance de la Confédération," by Jean-Charles Bonenfant. On Thursday afternoon, members of the Association paid a visit to the Ursuline Convent and during the visit, Father Adrien Pouliot, s.j. gave a short account of the history of the convent. After leaving the Ursuline Convent, the members of the Association visited the Retrospective Exhibition at the Quebec Provincial Museum and attended a reception, in the Provincial Archives, given by Jean Bruchési, Under Secretary of the Province and President of the Association. Thursday evening, His Excellency Mgr. Maurice Roy, Archbishop of Quebec and Chancellor of Laval University, presided at a joint session held in conjunction with the Canadian Political Science Association. At this session, Jean Bruchési, President of the Canadian Historical Association, and the Very Reverend Father Georges H. Lévesque, President of the Canadian Political Science Association, gave their presidential addresses entitled, "L'Enseignement de l'Histoire du Canada", and "Sciences Sociales et Humanisme," respectively. On Friday morning, June 6, a general session took the form of a symposium on local history with Hilda Neatby, J. B. Conacher, R. A. Preston, Abbé Honorius Provost and Lewis H. Thomas all presenting different aspects of the problems of local and regional historical societies and the relationship of such societies to the Canadian Historical Association and the *Canadian Historical Review*. On Friday afternoon, the members enjoyed a visit to the Citadel during the course of which Gérard Morisset gave an illustrated lecture on the historic fortifications of Quebec City. Upon leaving the Citadel, members were taken on a bus tour of the city, which included brief stops at several historic sites.

At the general meeting held on Friday evening, the following officers were elected for the year 1952-1953: *President*, C. P. Stacey; *Vice-President*, M. H. Long; *English Language Secretary*, D. M. L. Farr; *French Language Secretary*, Antoine Roy; *Treasurer*, W. G. Ormsby; *Editor of the Annual Report*, George F. G. Stanley; *Associate Editors of the Annual Report*, P. G. Cornell and Léopold Lamontagne. The following four members were elected to the Coun-

cil of the Association to take the place of those whose terms had expired: J. B. Conacher, Margaret Ormsby, Father Adrien Pouliot, s.j. and R. A. Preston.

A resolution expressing the Association's gratitude to those who contributed to the success of the meeting was passed unanimously. His Excellency Mgr. Maurice Roy, Archbishop of Quebec and Chancellor of Laval University, and Mgr. Ferdinand Vandry, Rector of Laval University, were thanked for presiding at two sessions and also for the hospitality extended by the University and its staff. The Mother Superior and the Sisters of the Ursuline Convent were thanked for permitting members of the Association to visit the convent. The Association's appreciation was expressed to Mr. Georges Léveillé, director of the Provincial Bureau of Publicity, for arranging the bus tour of the city. Dr. Jean Bruchési, Under-Secretary of the Province of Quebec, was thanked for the hospitality extended to members of the Association during the visit to the Provincial Archives and Museum, as was Major Georges Guimond for arranging the visit to the Citadel. The Honourable Cyrille F. Delâge, Président de la Société Historique de Québec and members of the society were thanked for their co-operation in arranging the local history symposium.

The Council of the Association, at its final meeting of the conference, appointed a committee, under the chairmanship of Miss Margaret Ormsby, to study the suggestions made during the symposium and to report to Council at the Autumn meeting. It was also decided that off-prints of the report of the symposium should be distributed to local historical societies, together with a list of all such societies which the *Canadian Historical Review* has agreed to print and supply to the Association.

During the past year the membership of the Association increased to almost 550. This increase was due to the work of Mr. C. B. Fergusson and his committee of regional chairmen and the support which many members gave them. All members are urged to continue their efforts to recruit new members for the Association. A goal of 1000 members is not at all unrealistic.

W. G. ORMSBY.