

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

Report of the Annual Meeting

Personal Notes Notes personnelles

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PERSONAL NOTES PERSONNELLES

Les membres de langue française de la Société historique du Canada ont connu une année fort active. Voici la liste de leurs travaux. M. Michel BRUNET : « Trois dominantes de la pensée canadienne-française : l'agriculture, l'antiétatisme et le messianisme », *Ecrits du Canada français*, III (1957) : 33-117; « La pratique du patriotisme dans un pays multinational et la situation particulière des Canadiens français », *Symposium sur le patriotisme au Canada français* (Les Editions ACELF, 1957) : 85-109; « La présence anglaise en Amérique », *Cahiers de l'Académie canadienne-française : Histoire* (Montréal, 1957) : 85-109; « La Révolution française sur les rives du Saint-Laurent », *Revue d'histoire de l'Amérique française*, II (septembre 1957) : 155-162; « Les Canadiens, l'Etat fédéral et l'éducation des citoyens du Canada », *Action nationale*, 47 (novembre 1957) : 273-284; ces études accompagnées d'articles de journaux, de conférences données en public et à la télévision, paraîtront bientôt chez Fides sous le titre de *La Présence anglaise et les Canadiens*. Le P. Lorenzo CADIEUX, s.j. : *De l'aviron à l'avion*, biographie du père Joseph-Marie Couture, s.j., qui a mérité à l'auteur un doctorat en histoire de l'Université Laval et le prix Champlain pour 1958; diplôme de l'Ordre du Mérite scolaire ontarien; recherches sur les Indiens Chippewa ou Sautaux. Mgr Emile CHARTIER : une vingtaine de recensions pour la revue *Lectures* (Fides) et quelques conférences. Le P. Joseph COSSETTE, s.j. : « Jean Talon, champion au Canada du gallicanisme royal », *Revue d'histoire de l'Amérique française* (décembre 1957). L'abbé J. V. DEMERS : *Aperçus historiques sur l'Île-Jésus* (1958). Le lieutenant-col. Léopold LAMONTAGNE, avec le D^r R. A. PRESTON : l'histoire documentaire du *Royal Fort Frontenac*, pour le compte de la Champlain Society

(Toronto University Press, juin 1958); prix de littérature de la Province de Québec pour l'étude sur *Arthur Buies, homme de lettres* (Presses de l'Université Laval, juin 1957). M. Jean-Jacques LEFEBVRE : « Le curé Louis Nau », *Rapport annuel de la Société canadienne d'histoire de l'Eglise* (1956-1957); « La vie sociale du Grand Papineau », *Revue d'histoire de l'Amérique française* (mars 1958) : 463-516; « La spiritualité de nos pères : le testament de Pierre Roy », *Revue d'histoire de l'Amérique française* (juin 1958); plusieurs conférences, articles de journaux et chroniques. Mlle Marine LELAND : un dépliant sur « Le Fort Ticondéroga » (ou Carillon), versions française et anglaise; émissions à la CBC sur les « New England captives taken to Canada during the French Indian Wars »; symposium : « French Canada and the U.S.A. »; plusieurs conférences. Mgr Olivier MAURALT, p.s.s. : « Centenaire de l'arrivée à Montréal de la Compagnie de Saint-Sulpice », *Rapport de la Société canadienne d'histoire de l'Eglise*; « La Seigneurie de Montréal », *Cahier des Dix*, n° 22; plusieurs conférences dont « Les traditions françaises au Canada », « Bibliographie des sources de l'histoire du régime français », « So, this is Montreal ». Le notaire Victor MORIN reste encore très actif malgré ses quatre-vingt-treize ans : *La Science du blason* (Editions des Dix, Montréal); « Réhabilitation historique de la Société Saint-Jean-Baptiste de Montréal », *Cahier des Dix*, 1958; « Album illustré du 250^e anniversaire du Château de Ramezay » (Thérien, Montréal, 1957); plusieurs conférences dont « Les Ecrivains canadiens du siècle dernier ». M^e Gérard MORISSET : série de conférences en France sur l'*Art au Canada*; huit émissions à la télévision sur le *Vieux Québec*. Le père Adrien POULIOT, s.j., avec l'aide de quelques collaborateurs, a publié le magnifique *Album du 350^e anniversaire de la fondation de Québec*; membre du comité d'organisation des fêtes de Champlain. Roger SAUCIER : « L'hygiène à Québec sous le régime français » (Institut d'histoire, Université Laval).

La Société historique du Saguenay poursuit son enquête systématique sur l'histoire primitive de la région saguenayenne; elle en est à son trente et unième bulletin; c'est une mine inépuisable de renseignements. Mgr Victor TREMBLAY, l'âme dirigeante de cette revue, a publié cette année quatre-vingt-quatre articles et donné quarante-deux conférences à la télévision. *La Société historique de la Côte-du-Sud*, beaucoup plus jeune, fait paraître cette année son dixième bulletin. *La Société historique de la Côte Nord* continue ses recherches sur l'île Mingan et le tombeau de Louis Joliet. Mgr René BÉLANGER a publié nombre d'articles d'intérêt local dans les journaux de la région. Ces associations suivent brillamment les traces de leurs aînées, les Sociétés historiques de Montréal et de Québec.

Professor Morden Long has retired from the headship of the History Department, University of Alberta, and has been succeeded by *Professor L. G. Thomas*. *Professor J. T. Saywell*, University of Toronto, has been appointed Editor of the *Canadian Historical Review*, replacing the former

editorial board. *Professor Blair Neatby*, on leave of absence from the History Department, University of British Columbia, has been named to succeed the late *Dr. R. MacGregor Dawson* as the Mackenzie King biographer. *Dr. J. S. Moir* of Carleton University is on leave of absence to study in Great Britain. *Professor S. R. Mealing* has returned to Carleton University following two years of study at Harvard. *Mr. Allan MacIntosh* has joined the History staff of King's College, Halifax, while *Miss Margaret Prang* has joined the staff of the University of British Columbia. *Mr. C. P. Wilson*, former Editor of *The Beaver*, is now with the Glenbow Foundation. *Dr. W. Kaye Lamb*, Dominion Archivist, spent the summer in Europe. Recent additions to his staff include Miss Judy Cruikshanks, Miss Barbara Wilson and Mr. Douglas Wurtele. Father René Baudry of the Public Archives has been assigned to the Archives' branch in Paris, France. Several members of Parliament are among the Canadian Historical Association's many new members this year.

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The Canadian Historical Association, with deep sorrow, records the passing of four of its most distinguished members within the twelvemonth now closing.

JOHN BARTLET BREBNER

May 12, 1895 - November 10, 1957

He was born in Toronto, son of the late James Brebner who for many years was Registrar of the University of Toronto. To many older graduates of Toronto, this memoir embraces with great respect the associations of two generations — those of the father and of his son.

After finishing work at high school at the age of 15, Bartlet Brebner, at the insistence of his father who believed that a boy should be at least 18 before entering university, spent three years in reading as widely as possible and acquiring practical experience on farm and in factory. At 18 years of age he matriculated at Toronto and read classics. When the first World War came he joined the army, rose to be a staff-sergeant, and later went over to the British army, becoming a second lieutenant in the Royal Artillery. On demobilization he entered St. John's College (Oxford), took his B.A. in 1920, B.Litt. in 1925, and M.A. in 1926. From 1921 to 1925, he was lecturer in Modern History at Toronto. In 1925 he accepted a post at Columbia in New York; and from then until his death he remained with that university as professor of History, latterly becoming Gouverneur Morris professor. In 1939-1940 he was President of the Canadian Historical Association. As the author of several books devoted to a profound study of relations between Canada and the United States, he came early under the influence and direction of James T.

Shotwell, another old Canadian, Director of the Division of Economics and History of the Carnegie Endowment.

Brebner's book, *North Atlantic Triangle*, represents possibly his outstanding effort in dealing with the common North American background and relations of Canada and the United States. His contributions in this field have been an influential factor in promoting a practicable understanding between the peoples of those two countries. As he stated, his interest lay in "the various kinds of things which the peoples of the two countries did in common, or in complementary fashion, or in competition". This interest was far from being a partisan political one; it developed from a truly scientific approach to the geographical phenomena of North America.

To those many Canadians who had the privilege of conversing with him occasionally in New York, Bartlet Brebner was always a warm and unpretentiously instructive friend.

[Hon. Norman P. LAMBERT.]

ROBERT MACGREGOR DAWSON

March 1, 1895 - July 16, 1958

Canadian scholarship suffered a grievous loss in the death of Robert MacGregor Dawson. The measure of this loss is indicated, in part, by the quantity and quality of his contribution through publication. His doctoral thesis *The Principle of Official Independence* was followed by *The Civil Service of Canada*, *Constitutional Issues in Canada*, *The Development of Dominion Status*, and *Canada in World Affairs: Two Years of War*. His masterpiece was a description of the functioning of Canadian federal government entitled *The Government of Canada*. This won him a Governor General's award. A revised version entitled *Democratic Government in Canada* earned him a second such award. In 1951 he went to Ottawa as the official biographer of William Lyon Mackenzie King. He had completed the first volume of this biography, and it will be published before the end of this year. Two other volumes will now have to be written by others, but Dawson's influence on them will not be negligible. A list of articles in the scholarly journals would also attest to his scholarly contribution: not least those on "The Cabinet Minister and Administration" in the *Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science*.

Dawson's contribution, however, was not confined by the printed word. He was a great teacher, of undergraduates and of graduate students. He cajoled, indeed at times bullied, university administrators to increase the provision for study of the Government of Canada. By his

skill in the lecture room he communicated his enthusiasm to undergraduates: by his intelligent, forceful but kindly direction he developed a group of senior students who have added strength to the universities, and to the Civil Service, of Canada. His colleagues at Toronto will remember him as a source of intellectual stimulus and generous friendship. Vigorous, outspoken, a strong advocate of any cause he espoused, he was intensely loyal to the institutions in which he served and to his colleagues in those institutions.

He received many honours. The Universities of New Brunswick and Dalhousie conferred on him honorary Doctorates of Law. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1935. In 1945 he was President of the Canadian Political Science Association. In 1949 he was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship. In 1943 he was appointed a Royal Commissioner to report on the rehabilitation and development of Nova Scotia. He served for many years on the Canadian Social Science Research Council and on the Board of Editors of the *Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science*.

[V. W. BLADEN.]

CHESTER MARTIN

June 22, 1882 - April 3, 1958

One of our outstanding Canadian historians of the last generation, Chester Martin had been President of the Canadian Historical Association as long ago as 1928. He was a graduate of the University of New Brunswick and, after studying as a Rhodes Scholar in Oxford, he worked from 1907 to 1909 in the Public Archives of Canada. In 1909 he became the first Professor of History in the University of Manitoba. Twenty years later he moved to Toronto where he was head of the Department of History from 1929 to his retirement in 1952.

He early made his mark in Canadian history by a volume in 1916 on *Lord Selkirk's Work in Canada*, which had been preceded in 1914 by a contribution to Volume XIX of *Canada and its Provinces*. In 1929 came one of his major works, *Empire and Commonwealth*. By this time he had settled down to what became the main theme of his study and writing, the development of the British American colonies through "responsible government" to Canadian nationhood. After his introduction to Simpson's Athabaska Journal in 1938, the culmination of his life work came with his *Foundations of Canadian Nationhood* in 1955.

All of his writing was marked by the careful, precise and exhaustive use of original documents. "The achievement of each of the major attributes of nationhood", he wrote in the introduction to his last volume, "was the work of discerning men who have left behind them convincing

records of their work. Their motives and methods are now traceable with considerable certainty, not infrequently in correspondence which was both secret and confidential. An effort has been made to understand the task of these men on their own terms and to trace their work where possible in their own words." This was a true description of his own work. His paragraphs are loaded with quotations from the relevant documents, and he was fond of seizing on a significant phrase and using it as a beacon in steering a course through an intricate study of developing policy. His skill in this kind of writing as well as his learning makes his contribution to Canadian history a distinctive one.

[Frank H. UNDERHILL.]

JOSEPH BURR TYRRELL

November 1, 1858 - August 26, 1957

Joseph B. Tyrrell was raised in Weston, Ont., attended the Weston High School and later went to Upper Canada College. He received his B.A. in 1880 and M.A. in 1889 from the University of Toronto, and a B.Sc. from Victoria University in 1889.

Advised by his doctor to lead an outdoor life because of weak lungs, he joined the Geological Survey in 1881 and remained with the Survey until 1898. From 1884-1886 he explored the geological formations north of Calgary and, in the course of his travels, he discovered large seams of coal, especially in the Drumheller region, and oil seepages near Edmonton. In addition, he came across a large dinosaur burying ground in the Red Deer Valley.

Between 1887 and 1891 he surveyed northern and western Manitoba and the region around Lake Winnipeg. In 1893 and 1894 he made his famous and arduous crossings of the Barren Lands. Gifted with unusual patience, determination and physical vitality, Tyrrell was able to surmount difficulties and hardships which would have crushed a lesser man, and he succeeded in mapping a huge and relatively unexplored area.

After leaving the Geological Survey, he spent several years as a mining engineer in the Klondike and, in later life, became President of the Kirkland Lake Gold Mining Company, which prospered under his management. The winner of many awards, including the Wollaston Medal, he was President of the Royal Canadian Institute from 1910-1913 and of the Champlain Society from 1927-1932.

He was the author of hundreds of articles, many of them of enduring scientific and historical importance. His geological findings and reports, particularly in the field of Pleistocene geology, are still famous. He edited Samuel Hearne's *A journey from Prince of Wales's Fort in Hudson's Bay*

to the northern ocean in the years 1769, 1770, 1771 and 1772 (Toronto, 1911) and *Journals of Samuel Hearne and Philip Turnor* (Toronto, 1934). He was also the editor of *Documents relating to the early history of Hudson Bay* (Toronto, 1931) and of *David Thompson's narrative of his explorations in western America, 1784-1812* (Toronto, 1916).

A member of the Canadian Historical Association since its founding in 1922 and a life-long student of Canadian history, he amassed a large library of historical books and was the donor of the Tyrrell Gold Medal, given annually by the Royal Society of Canada for the best historical work on Canada.

[Ian C. WEES.]