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Report of the Annual Meeting

Report of the English Secretary

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REPORT OF THE ENGLISH SECRETARY

By NORMAN FEE

The annual meeting of the Canadian Historical Association was held in the Public Archives, Ottawa, on May 24 and 25, the president, His Honour Judge F. W. Howay of New Westminster, B.C., being in the chair. Judge Howay's presidential paper was an admirable account of the rise and decline of the maritime fur trade on the coast of British Columbia in the period from about 1785 to 1825. Judge Howay has made this a subject of study for a number of years and the paper in its clear analysis and vivid description was a model of its kind. The paper by Mr. N. Fieldhouse on "The Relations of Bolingbroke and the English opposition with the French Government, 1731-35" marked an interesting departure from the usual practice of devoting the sessions exclusively to Canadian history. It was largely based on manuscript material hitherto unused. The second session had reference especially to Nova Scotia. Mr. A. H. Young, President of the Ontario Historical Society, read a paper on "Dr. Charles Inglis in New York, 1766-83." Dr. James Kenney of the Public Archives gave an account of the genealogy of Governor Charles Lawrence, in which he made clear that the hitherto accepted statements have been very far astray. The paper on "Machias and the invasion of Nova Scotia" by Mr. D. C. Harvey, Archivist of the Province of Nova Scotia, was a distinct addition to our knowledge of the attitude in Nova Scotia to the American Revolution. At the third session papers were read by Judge E. F. Surveyer, who dealt with "La procédure sous le régime français", by Mr. F. J. Audet of the Public Archives, who gave a brief biography of Thomas McKay, founder of Rideau Hall; and by Mr. Fred Landon of the University of Western Ontario, whose account of "Dalton McCarthy and the politics of the later eighties" was an interesting comment on that stormy period in Canadian public life. A luncheon was held at the Chateau Laurier at which Mr. D. McArthur of Queen's University read an excellent paper on "The British board of trade and Quebec, 1760-75," in the course of which he expressed some interesting opinions in opposition to those of the late C. W. Alvord. The members of the association also were at the opening of the loan exhibit of the Bytown Museum at the Public Archives. The collection was brought together by the Women's Historical Association of Ottawa to commemorate the Centenary of the opening of the Rideau Canal in 1832.

The association once more desires to record its appreciation of the co-operation and assistance received from the Public Archives and Dr. Doughty. During the year the secretaries, through the use of the resources and the material of the department, were able to answer many inquiries for historical information and to supply copies of maps and documents to inquirers. The association desires also to express its thanks for the publication of the annual report with off-prints and for the accommodation provided at the Archives for the annual meeting.

The following officers and council were elected for 1932-33: President, Dr. J. C. Webster, Shediac, N.B.; vice-president, D. McArthur,

Kingston, Ont.; chairman of management committee, L. J. Burpee, Ottawa; English secretary and treasurer, Norman Fee, Ottawa; editor and French secretary, Gustave Lanctot, Ottawa; members of the council: Chester Martin, Toronto; W. T. Waugh, Montreal; D. C. Harvey, Halifax; A. S. Morton, Saskatoon; Geo. M. Smith, Edmonton; A. Fautoux, Montreal; N. A. Fieldhouse, Winnipeg; E. R. Adair, Montreal; F. Landon, London; George Brown, Toronto; F. H. Soward, Vancouver.