

either the vice chairman or an extra person on the executive. It was decided to leave the issue flexible, the chairman having authority.

J. Knoppers repeated that we could meet with other groups as well as historians.

Betty May said that she works more closely with historical geographers than with either historians or records managers.

Mr. Turner said that we must respect realities. We cannot stay three weeks at meetings.

Mr. Murdoch invited people to write to him, expressing their ideas.

Ed Dahl suggested that the executive keep in touch with Julian Craft of the Education Committee.

Mike Carroll moved and Lynn Ogden seconded that the past chairman (Ian Wilson) should look into the implications of our relationship with the CHA, and other options. Carried.

There was some discussion of internal relationships (e.g., a more formal relationship between the regional groups and the Executive of the Section), but it was agreed that changes could be made informally.

Mike Carroll moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Andreassen and Miss Sandra Guillaume of McGill University Archives for their cooperation and hospitality during the conference.

PRAIRIE ARCHIVISTS' MEETINGS

Meetings of the Prairie Archivists continue to be held and the following is a note on the second from a report which arrived too late for publication last year:

The 1971 meeting in Edmonton was attended by nineteen participants who delivered reports on their repositories and then proceeded to discuss the possibility of a Union List of Western Canadian newspapers. A discussion on the training of archivists ranged widely and included the joint aspects of education and professionalism. It was agreed that the Archives Section should be more active in setting standards and promoting educational programmes.

Other matters raised included the desirability of Union Catalogues on selected subjects, documentary repair on the Prairies and a regional document appraisal committee for the West.

The following is a report on the third meeting, prepared by Mr. D. H. Bocking:

The third meeting of the Prairie Archivists was held in the Saskatoon Office of the Saskatchewan Archives on April 15, 1972. In all, there were

thirty-three delegates in attendance representing city, provincial, private, religious and business archives and, in addition, there were two representatives from public library local history collections. The meeting was chaired by Mr. D. H. Bocking and Mrs. Georgeen Barrass acted as secretary. Following the traditional format, the meeting began with a report by one representative from each institution represented on recent acquisitions and developments in their archives.

Mr. T. R. McCloy of the Glenbow Alberta Institute reported on the proposed Union List of Newspapers in western repositories. During the past year, he had received reports of newspaper holdings from a number of institutions, but he said that there were still some institutions who had not reported. The consensus of the meeting was that the program instituted by Mr. McCloy, at the request of the last meeting of the Prairie Archivists, should be continued and that an effort should be made to have a copy of the information already gathered made available to contributing institutions as soon as possible. In view of the imminent retirement of Mr. McCloy, the meeting asked his successor, Mr. L. Gottselig, to act as a one-man committee to carry on the project.

The meeting heard a report on a proposed training course to be held at the University of Alberta. Working closely with the School of Library Science, Dr. L. H. Thomas, Mr. Alan Ridge of the Provincial Archives of Alberta, and Jim Parker of the University of Alberta Archives had drawn up a course on archives training. The course will be offered as a summer session at the University of Alberta in 1973, and it will be for university credit to students in the School of Library Science. Persons engaged in archives on a professional or voluntary basis but who do not hold a university degree will be admitted as special students and upon successful completion of the course will be awarded a certificate. The feeling was expressed that the Prairie Archivists should continue to be involved in training and that there was a strong need for the Section to be concerned with standards of training. A committee on training made up of D. H. Bocking, Jim Parker and John Bovey was appointed. It is proposed that this committee will work with the training committee of the Archives Section, Canadian Historical Association, on training programs.

There was some discussion on documentary repair and Mr. Bovey reported that the Public Archives of Canada would be willing to train some people in repair work. Mr. Dempsey, of the Glenbow Alberta Institute, indicated that they would be expanding their repair operations, and the meeting suggested that the Provincial Archivists investigate what support they could give to the development of the repair centre at the Glenbow Alberta Institute.

The problem of the evaluation of manuscript accession for taxation purposes came before the meeting. Mr. Ian Wilson, Chairman of the Archives Section, Canadian Historical Association, attended the meeting as a guest, reported on the work that had been done in eastern Canada and the experiences they have had in evaluating some records. Mr. Turner expressed the view that there was a real need for an evaluation committee in western Canada, particularly with the new changes in taxation laws. It was agreed by the meeting that the representatives from western Canada attending the Archives Section meeting in June would meet with the existing committee with a view to establishing an evaluation committee for western Canada.

The meeting spent some time discussing the question of the relationship between the archivist and the researcher. During the discussion,

varying opinions were expressed on the problems of how to handle the researcher and to control the use of archival materials.

There was also a discussion on tape recording programs which consisted mainly of reports of activities of the institutions represented. The Manitoba Archives, through Mr. Barry Hyman, has been active in a Jewish Historical Society recording program. Mr. Alan Ridge reported that a conference was going to be held in Alberta late in April, at which time it was hoped that all agents involved in tape recording programs could be brought together to discuss the kind of work that was going on and to try to establish what areas were being included and what programs should be carried out in the future.

The meeting heard a report from Mr. Ian Wilson on the Archives Section and on the question of the possibility of forming a separate association. In the main, the feeling of the western Canadian archivists, as expressed in the meeting, was that the time was not right for a separation from the Canadian Historical Association. There was a feeling that regional meetings such as the one then in progress would help to solve some of the problems associated with the Archives Section.

It was proposed that the next meeting be held in the spring of 1973 with the location to be determined but probably either at Winnipeg or Banff.

FORMATION OF A REGIONAL PROFESSIONAL GROUP IN B. C.

The first meeting of the Association of British Columbia Archivists was held in the reference room of the Vancouver City Archives on 14 May. There were twelve present, including archivists from the Provincial Archives, the Vancouver City Archives, the Historic Photo Section of the Vancouver Public Library, Special Collections and the University Archives of B. C., and the Archives of the Ecclesiastical Province of B. C. Mr. Willard Ireland addressed the meeting on the situation of the profession in the province, and discussions followed on aims for the Association and the conservation of photographs and manuscripts. The next meeting will be in Victoria in mid-September and will feature reports by several of those attending the annual meeting of the CHA on the sessions of the Archives Section.