

## Highlights of the CHA Annual Meeting

Some 491 members of the Canadian Historical Association descended upon historic Kingston, on Lake Ontario, June 2-5, 1991, to attend the CHA's 70th Annual General Meeting, and to help Queen's University celebrate its Sesquicentennial. Founded in 1841, Queen's University is celebrating its 150th birthday.

This year's programme, while perhaps not as large as last year's record meeting in picturesque Victoria, offered a diversity of themes reflecting the wide ranging research interests of CHA members. Programme Chair Christopher Crowder of Queen's University, History Department co-ordinated the 67 regular sessions, in

which 167 presenters read and commented on 163 papers. A massive effort of co-ordination and a job well done! The number of joint sessions, held in co-operation with internal committees of the CHA such as the Canadian Committee on Women's History and the Native History Study Group, as well as external groups, such as the Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association, Association for Canadian Studies, Canadian Political Science Association, Canadian Jewish Historical Society, Canadian Society for Church History, and the Canadian Catholic Historical Society added immeasurably to both the creative experience and, undoubtedly, to the Programme Chair's headaches. We owe Professor Crowder our sincere appreciation, especially as he capped off his duties by escorting some two or three hundred thirsty historians across campus to the CHA reception, held at a Kingston school.

All of the chosen themes for the conference were formally addressed. Those themes included the Constitution of 1791, the Politics of Memory, the Shifting Boundaries of Private and Public Life, and Continuing Connections Between the Old World and the New.

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### 1990 Prizes

## CHA Awards John Bullen Thesis Prize for the First Time

For the first time, the Canadian Historical Association awarded the **John Bullen Thesis Prize**. This Prize, which will go to the best Ph. D. thesis in Canadian history was named in recognition of John Ross Bullen, a young scholar whose tragic death in 1989 cut short a promising research and teaching career. The CHA Council hopes that this prize will encourage excellence in new scholars. The Prize was awarded to Tina M. Loo of the University of British Columbia for her thesis, "Law and Authority in British Columbia, 1821-1871". The Nominating Committee cited this work as an "imaginative and provocative thesis", which combined quantitative analysis, theoretical discussions and some compelling vignettes of the people and problems that shaped the law. "In arguing that in British Columbia, in the half-century before Confederation, 'just laws and legitimate authority were defined by their positive effect on economic development', Dr. Loo urges us to rethink existing conceptions of Canadian political culture".

**Honourable mention for the Bullen Prize** went to Royden Lowen, University of Manitoba, for a thesis entitled, "Family, Church and Market: A History of a Mennonite Community Transplanted from Russia to Canada and the United States, 1850-1930". This work was cited for its meticulous research into household

economies, community networks and larger economic and political contexts of immigration.

The CHA's new prize, this one for a Ph.D. thesis in non-Canadian history was not awarded this year.

The **Wallace K. Ferguson Prize** was awarded to Elizabeth Rapley, for her book, *The Dévotes. Women and Church in Seventeenth Century France*, published by McGill-Queen's University Press. This book, original in conception, well researched and finely written was cited as "a major contribution to an understanding of women in both theology and the world, to our knowledge of the Catholic Renaissance and to our perception of seventeenth century France". The book deals with the collapse of the rigid separation between religious and secular life embodied in tridentine reform and the emergence of a new form of active religious life linking cloisters and community, which she sees as a feminization of the church.

**Honourable mention for the Ferguson Prize** went to Ian K. Steel, for *Betrayals. Fort William Henry and the "Massacre"*, published by Oxford University Press. This work, the Committee noted, laid a long-standing controversy to rest, and "gives us an excellent study of cultural conflict, that

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## Calls for Papers and Conferences

The next meeting of the Institut d'histoire de l'Amérique française will be held 24-26 October, 1991 at Québec City. With the theme *A Developing Economy: Continuity and Change*, the conference will welcome more than seventy participants in at least 23 sessions. Two major plenary sessions are planned: the first, on the difficult marriage between History and Economics, will welcome economic historian Gilles Paquet of the University of Ottawa and Professor Maurice Lévy-Leboyer of the University of Paris X; the second will provide an opportunity for two leaders of Québec big business to present to historians their vision of the importance of history to their organizations. More information is available from Marc Vallières, president of the 1991 organizing committee, Faculté des lettres, Université Laval, Québec, Québec, G1K 7P4. Tél. (418) 656-3755.

The Faculty of Education, University of Lethbridge, in collaboration with Athabasca University and the Universities of Alberta and Calgary, will host the Seventh Biennial Conference of the Canadian History of Education Association on 23, 24, 25 October, 1992. The major Conference theme will be: *Culture and Power in the History of Education*. Proposals in English or French for individual papers, panel discussions and symposia on any aspect of the history of education related to this theme are invited. Please submit proposals before 1 October, 1991 to Brian Titley, Faculty of Education, The University of Lethbridge, 4401 University Drive, Lethbridge, Alberta, T1K 3M4. Tel. (403) 329-2185.

The Canada State Trials Project will include six volumes dealing with security trials and proceedings, politics, and public opinion generated by war, invasion, riot, or insurrection in Canadian history (1700-present). Publication of one volume is anticipated for 1992 or 1993. To contribute, contact: Murray Greenwood, 17 Delong Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, K1J 7E5 or Barry Wright, Dept. of Law, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, K1S 5B6.

The 18th Conference on the Use of Quantitative Methods in Canadian Economic History will be held on April 10-11, 1992, at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. The theme of the Conference is *Business and Policy in a Canadian Environment*. Those wishing to participate should submit an abstract by October 31, 1991 to Ruth Dupré, Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales de Montréal, 5255 Decelles, Montréal, Québec, H3T 1V6.

A conference entitled *Ukrainian Canadians 1924-1951: Profiles and Case Studies* will be held in September, 1991 at the University of Alberta, in Edmonton. This conference is being held to mark the centenary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada in 1991. The conference will address the following topics: social life and culture, education, participation in Canadian politics, and World War Two and displaced persons. For more information, contact Orysia Yakymchuk, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, 352 Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2E8. Tel. (403) 492-2972, fax. (403) 492-4967.

The History Department of the University of Toronto will sponsor a conference on November 7 and 8, 1991 on *Espionage: Past, Present, Future?* The topics to be addressed will include the KGB, Canadian intelligence, scientific espionage during World War Two, and the Gouzenko Affair. For full details and information on registration please contact the History Department, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1A1. Tel. (416) 978-3365, fax. (416) 978-4810.

Newfoundland, Canada, August 12-13, 1991. *Atlantic Charter Conference*. Sponsored by: Memorial University of Newfoundland and the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute of New York. The Conference is organized to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Atlantic Charter. The Conference will take place in St. John's, Newfoundland, and will consist of panels on *The Making of the Atlantic Charter*, and *The Long-Term Consequences of the Charter*. Contact: Dr. Louise Dawe, Acting Chair, Atlantic Charter Conference, Department of History, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, NF, A1C 5S7. Tel. (709) 737-8420, fax. (709) 737-4569.

## Highlights of the AGM

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The continuing role of the CHA's growing number of committees devoted to studying diverse aspects of Canadian history, from Native studies to urban history, was evident both in the number of business meetings and joint sessions, and in the diversity of themes presented in the formal sessions.

A number of roundtable sessions offered a slightly different format for the exchange of information and ideas on issues of concern to CHA members. Sessions were held on the Writing of Official History, Political Culture in Ontario, the Presentation of History on TV, and the Use and Overuse of Sessionals and Part-time Lecturers. A roundtable on *Current Issues in Oral History Research*, co-sponsored by the Canadian Committee on Labour History and the Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association, allowed historians, scholars and archivists the opportunity to exchange ideas.

A sense of innovation was evident in other sessions as well. For example in the session, *Post-modernism and Historical Understanding*, not only was a current issue in Historiography addressed, but the usual format of presentation was reversed. Instead of two to three presentations followed by commentary, this session saw one paper, commented upon by three 'experts'. In other cases, the audience served as commentator, increasing the potential for dialogue.

CHA members also had the opportunity of hearing two distinguished speakers from their own ranks. Alison Prentice, OISE, spoke on her research into university women in her presentation, *Bluestockings at Work: The History of Women's Employment in Universities*. Jean-Pierre Wallot, National Archives of Canada, spoke on *Building a Living Memory for the History of Our Present: Co-operation, Choice and Conservation in Archives*.

The Presidential Address, given by outgoing President, J.E. (Ed) Rea, University of Manitoba, outlined several 'problems' in the teaching of Canadian history.

For historians burnt out by sessions, crowded receptions, and business meetings, Kingston walking tours and a graveside ceremony to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the death of Sir John A.