

NEWSLETTER

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CHA Meets Again: The Quebec Conference!

The Canadian Historical Association held its annual meeting at Laval University, Quebec, June 1-3, 1989 in conjunction with the Learned Societies Conference. Participants from Europe, Africa and Australia as well as North America gave an amazing total of 146 "learned" papers on subjects including: "Language, Culture and Hegemony in Grocery Window Displays", "Mamadou goes to war", "Wife-beating, women-flogging and rough music: respectability and domestic violence in Victorian England", "The

Rose, the Shamrock and the Cabbage", to mention only a few. Many of the presentations concentrated on the four major themes: the French Revolution and popular revolts, 1780-1950; francophones in North America; continentalism and regionalism; and life cycles and daily life. Sessions were so well attended by close to 400 registrants that many had to be moved to larger rooms.

In addition to academic papers and round table discussions, most sub-groups of the

CHA held their annual meetings including those specializing in Social, Public and Military history, as well as the history of Women, Labour, the North, Natives, workers in Quebec; the editorial boards of *Social History/Histoire sociale* and *Labour/Le travail*. Committees for the history of the bicentennial of the French Revolution, the Second World War, and the joint CHA/American Historical Society Committee also met, as did history department chairpersons and, for the first time, history graduate students. The three days of conferences and meetings were superbly coordinated by the Programme Committee chaired by Réal Bélanger.

In addition to the papers and meetings, those in attendance were also entertained at the reception hosted by the President of Université Laval and many took advantage of a trip to Isle d'Orléans and the reception there hosted by the French Consul (see separate story), or organized excursions to the old city, the Museums of Civilization, the Seminary of Quebec and the Ursulines Convent, as well as the National Archives of Quebec.

... *Conference*, p. 2

Participants Discover Historic Quebec

by Claire Dolan

In addition to the scholarly activities of its annual meeting, the Canadian Historical Association planned some outings to offer its members the chance to discover the many attractions of the Quebec City region. Despite the damp, cool weather of the opening day, the tour of the city's great fortifications was conducted by our colleagues of Parks Canada.

A choice of three outings was offered on Friday, the second day of the conference, all of which included a stop at Place Royale. Participants chose from: a guided tour of the Museum of Civilization of Quebec, specifically the exhibition "Mémoires des Québécois"; a visit to the Museum of the Seminary of Quebec; or a tour of the Convent of the Ursulines which was opened exclusively for the members of the CHA. Whereas initial registrations hinted at an equal split between the three excursions, on Friday morning, the visit to the Museum of Civilization was cancelled for lack of participants and the trip to the Museum of the Seminary was maintained for three persons only. The rest of the visitors, (about 30 persons), chose to accept the Ursuline's invitation. Luc Noppen, Professor of Art History at Université Laval, explained the architectural history of the Place Royale and the difficulties involved in the restoration work. After a

visit to the church of Notre-Dame-des-Victoires the group let itself be charmed by the knowledgeable comments of Professor Noppen who guided us through the monastery: the kitchen, the garden and the chapel recalled the importance of these religious communities for our history. According to many, this outing was the highlight of the planned cultural activities.

Also much appreciated, the excursion to the Côte de Beaupré and Ile d'Orléans, took place after the last sessions on Saturday. The day ended at the Manoir Mauvide-Genest where the General French Consul at Quebec, Mr. Daniel Jouannaud, received the members of the CHA for cocktails in honour of professor Maurice Agulhon, one of the special guests at the CHA Annual Meeting.

The CHA members also had the opportunity to visit the Archives Nationales du Québec, as every morning anglophone and francophone guides were at their disposal. All the outings in the city of Quebec were offered to the members courtesy of the Department of History of the Université Laval, Parks Canada, the Archives Nationales du Québec, the Musée de la civilisation de Québec and the Musée du Séminaire de Québec.

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