

ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY

CANADIAN BRANCH

Annual Report of the Executive Committee for 1950

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MINUTES OF THE NINTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY

CANADIAN BRANCH, HELD AT TORONTO ON JANUARY 14, 1949

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1. The ninth Annual Meeting of the Canadian Branch of the Royal Meteorological Society was called to order by the President, Mr. A.J. Connor, at 1515 hr. EST with the following members in attendance:-

Messrs.	Benum	Hutchon
	Bindon	McPherson
	Boughner	McTaggart-Cowan
	Chadburn	Millar
	Connor	Noble
	Cudbird	Perrie
	Godson	Penner
	Henry	Petrie
	How	Thomson

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2. The Acting-Secretary read the minutes of the last annual meeting held on January 9th, 1948, and moved their adoption. This motion was seconded by Mr. McTaggart-Cowan and carried.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

3. The President then reviewed briefly the work of the Branch during 1948. He referred particularly to the small number of papers submitted during the year. He felt that this was largely due to the fact that the majority of the members of the Branch were involved in long hours of shift work which is not conducive to doing research. He recalled that S.K. Banerji of India had said that very little progress could be made by the branch of the Society until such time as it consisted of a substantial number of retired members who might have a considerable amount of time to devote to writing papers. He also felt that the referees were setting too high a standard and expected too much from members who were handicapped by a heavy load of routine duties.

4. Mr. Connor considered that some effort should be made to improve the present situation and suggested that the incoming Executive Committee consider inaugurating a directed research project. The Executive might attempt to establish a symposium upon a set of topics. Topics of local importance might be suggested to members in various offices, but these topics should be of general interest.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

5. The Acting-Secretary was called upon to present the report of the Executive Committee which had been printed in advance and distributed to

the members. Attention was called in particular to the increase in membership of the Branch during the year and the very commendable results achieved by the Membership Committee under Mr. Hornstein's direction during 1948.

6. Dr. How wished to add a few comments to the report submitted by the Committee on Research and Scientific Papers and which had resulted from his talks with members out in the field.

6.1. Very few men in the field have had experience in research and writing of papers.

6.2. Research should be directed and the Society should implement a plan to direct and promote research and the submission of papers.

6.3. A considerable amount of work has been started but not completed. This work is generally of a high calibre and if the Society could stimulate members to complete the work and submit it, we could have several commendable papers which are now in an unfinished stage.

6.4. A large number of members have been deterred from doing such work by lack of time and the pressure of routine work. This could be offset to some extent by creating interest.

7. Mr. Thomson considered that Experience Reports were of the nature of papers and the energies spent on these were not wasted. He hoped that this year all offices would have bound copies of Journals, and that easy access to these would be helpful in writing papers.

8. There being no further discussion of the executive report, the Acting-Secretary moved its adoption. This motion was seconded by Dr. Godson and carried. (A copy of the report is attached.)

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

9. The Treasurer next presented his report, a copy of which is appended to these minutes. Mr. Millar wished all members to note the expenditures on typing, stationary and postage. This is the largest amount yet paid out on these items and is largely responsible for the deficit during the year. However, as the money was spent in keeping members informed of Society activities, correspondence relating to new members, etc., it was amply justified.

10. The Treasurer felt that the deficit of only \$24.80 did not justify an increase in fees this year, but did recommend that the Society should consider an increase in fees next year if a further loss is experienced during 1949. However, the increase in membership might obviate that necessity.

11. Mr. Millar moved the adoption of the report. This motion was seconded by Mr. Benum and carried. (A copy of the report is attached.)

12. Mr. Millar moved that the Secretary be directed to write a letter of thanks to Mr. Bromley who acted as auditor for the year 1948. This motion was heartily endorsed by all members.

#### REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

13. The report of the nominating committee for the 1949 executive was presented by Dr. How, its Convenor, as follows:

"The Nominating Committee (Messrs. Archibald, Connor, Crocker, Penner and Dr. How) submit the following selections for Executive Officers for 1949, for approval:

President	- P.D. McTaggart-Cowan
Vice-President	- D.C. Archibald
Secretary	- F.W. Benum
Treasurer	- F.G. Millar
Councillors at large	- G.L. Pincock, Vancouver G.W. Robertson, Edmonton R.A. Hornstein, Halifax Prof. F.K. Hare, Montreal S.J. Buckler, Winnipeg

Recommended to the Executive of the Parent Society for Vice-President representing Canada on the Executive of the Parent Society, - Andrew Thomson."

14. It was moved by Mr. Millar, seconded by Mr. Noble, that nominations be closed. The motion carried and the above mentioned members were declared the Executive Committee for 1949.

#### ADDRESS BY NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT

15. Mr. McTaggart-Cowan as newly elected President took the chair. He expressed the gratitude of the Branch to Mr. Connor and the outgoing executive for their capable administration during the past year. He recalled that Mr. Connor had been President during the very difficult period following the war. Under his presidency, the Branch had become consolidated after the unstable period during the war.

16. He agreed with Mr. Connor that the present was a very difficult period for research. A large number of the Members of the Society are occupied in shift work which results in mental and physical fatigue and is not conducive to extra work in research and the writing of papers. However, three papers were accepted by the Society during 1948 and Experience Reports submitted by members in the course of the meteorological duties indicate

that very many are capable of doing fine work. He stated that the new executive would give serious consideration to Mr. Connor's suggestion to stimulate further work by direction.

BUSINESS ARISING

17. Mr. Connor moved that a sincere vote of thanks be expressed to Mr. Hornstein for his very commendable and successful program in obtaining new members for the Canadian Branch during 1948. This motion was carried unanimously with applause.

18. The President requested a report from the Convenor of the outgoing Committee of Referees on the status of the memorandum on the preparation of paper requested at the last annual meeting.

19. Mr. Penner advised that the memorandum had not been issued but Dr. Hewson had left a draft with him and he would pass it over to the incoming committee.

20. Mr. Thomson stated that the minutes of the Parent Society recently received indicated that they were preparing instructions of this nature at the present time and thought that they would soon be ready for distribution. He stated he would arrange to send the minutes to the Secretary.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

21. The President then read the language of a proposed amendment to the Constitution as submitted by the Secretary. He pointed out that as this amendment had not been before the members of the Society, it could not be adopted at this meeting but that agreement of members could be obtained on a draft for circulation to all members.

22. Mr. Benum moved that the following draft be submitted to all members of the Society for adoption:

"Amendment to the Constitution of the  
Canadian Branch

Royal Meteorological Society

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Section VII following sub-section (4) add sub-section (4.a)

The Nominating Committee, in addition to the above, shall have the power to nominate a Fellow of the Canadian Branch whose name upon approval shall be recommended to the Executive Council of the Parent Society for election as Canadian Vice-President of the Royal Meteorological Society."

This was seconded by Mr. Thomson and carried.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

23. It was moved by Mr. Benum, seconded by Mr. Chadburn, that Mr. Bromley be asked to act as auditor during 1949. Carried.

CONTRIBUTION TO SIR NAPIER SHAW MEMORIAL FUND

24. Mr. Millar moved that the Canadian Branch of the Royal Meteorological Society contribute 10 guineas to the Sir Napier Shaw Memorial Fund.

25. The President then read a Circular giving details of the proposed fund. It was pointed out that recently provision had been made by the Dominion Government permitting Civil Servants to obtain leave of absence with full or part pay while research work or special studies. It would not, therefore, be necessary for a Canadian winner of an award of this nature to subsist on the award alone. The President suggested that the terms of the award might be improved if eligibility was extended to persons who had received the Bachelor's degree within the last five years instead of only two years.

26. Mr. Thomson felt the proposal was a token grant and although it was not very large, it would be appreciated by the Parent Society. He pointed out that although the award was to be very small, it would carry considerable distinction and he felt we should support it.

27. The President stated that he felt that the proposed grant would not endanger the working surplus of the Branch and it did not involve the sale of any bonds, etc. It would also indicate to the Parent Society that we heartily endorsed their plans to establish this Memorial to Sir Napier Shaw.

28. Mr. Thomson seconded Mr. Millar's motion. Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

29. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned on the motion of Mr. Noble, seconded by Mr. Chadburn at 1635 EST.

Signed

Approved

J. W. Benum  
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Secretary.

T. Thomson  
.....  
President.