

CMS NEWSLETTER

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11th Annual Congress:

The Winnipeg Convention Centre made an impressive setting for the Eleventh CMS Congress, although not perhaps as quiet and serene as some past academic locales. Attendance was down slightly due to travel restrictions imposed on government employees. The oceanographic sessions were somewhat more satisfying than those on meteorology where a very full program allowed little time for questions or discussion.

The proposal for changes to the Constitution and By-Laws gave rise to a spirited annual meeting. The proposals were finally accepted by a two to one margin after it was pointed out to the more conservative members that if tradition were to be truly respected we would still be the Canadian Seismographic Society.

The banquet guest speaker was Professor Hebert who discussed the literature of Saskatchewan, which was profoundly influenced by the climate of the great plains and possibly vice versa. He is best known as the biographer of Sarah Binks, sweet singer of the prairies, whose tragic death from mercury poisoning is considered by many to have been a prime factor in the adoption of Medicare.

Remise du Prix de la Société de météorologie de Québec

Lors de la réunion annuelle de la Société de météorologie de Québec tenue ce 10 juin à Québec, le prix de la Société a été décerné au Dr. Georges-Oscar Villeneuve. Ce prix est destiné à rendre hommage à la personne ayant apporté une contribution exceptionnelle à la météorologie québécoise et est attribué à tous les ans.

Au cours de la présentation accompagnant la remise de la plaque de laiton gravée: "Honneur au mérite", le président de la Société, le Dr. Gaston Paulin, a souligné l'intérêt soutenu et exceptionnel du Dr. Georges-Oscar Villeneuve pour l'avancement de la météorologie. C'est ce grand intérêt qui l'a incité à déborder les cadres de ces fonctions de chef du Bureau de Météorologie au ministère des Terres et Forêts, puis de directeur du Service de météorologie du Québec au ministère des Richesses naturelles pour fournir en plus, au monde scientifique et journalistique, une contribution exceptionnelle toujours axée sur les sciences atmosphériques.

Après ses études au Séminaire de Québec et à l'Université Laval, le docteur Villeneuve entre au Bureau de Météorologie du ministère des Terres et Forêts en 1938. Il poursuit ses études en météorologie à l'Université de New-York et à l'Université Yale où il obtient une maîtrise en sciences et un doctorat en sciences. Promu chef du Bureau de Météorologie en 1944, il est le premier météorologue professionnel à compléter des études de météorologie forestière au Québec. Reconnaissant l'importance de la

météorologie en protection des forêts, le docteur Villeneuve entreprend le développement d'un réseau grandissant de stations météorologiques au Québec. Il se fait le promoteur de la météorologie en agriculture et en sylviculture.

Voici d'autres points saillants de la carrière du docteur Villeneuve:

- en 1950, il publie le premier numéro du "Feuillet Météorologique", publication mensuelle unique au Canada, destinée à informer les observateurs en climatologie;
- en 1962, il est nommé directeur du nouveau "Service de Météorologie" du "Ministère des Richesses naturelles du Québec";
- en 1964, il fonde la "Société de Météorologie de Québec", la première société météorologique de langue française au Canada;
- en 1965, le "Ministère des Affaires étrangères de la République Française" décerne au docteur Villeneuve un certificat d'honneur en reconnaissance de ses travaux et de sa compétence en météorologie appliquée;
- en 1971, il devient rédacteur en chef et éditeur de la revue "Ressources", bulletin scientifique des Richesses naturelles destiné à mettre en évidence les travaux d'inventaire, de recherche et de mise en valeur des ressources atmosphériques, hydriques, forestières et minières du Québec;
- en 1974, il publie aux presses de l'Université Laval le "Glossaire de météorologie et de climatologie", recueil français-anglais de plus de 6,000 termes accompagnés d'une définition;
- en 1976, il se joint à l'équipe du CENTREAU (Centre de recherche sur l'eau de l'Université Laval) à titre de rédacteur des cahiers de CENTREAU.

Le docteur Villeneuve a enseigné la climatologie et la météorologie à l'Université Laval de 1947 à 1970. Son manuel en langue française intitulé: "Eléments de météorologie descriptive" (1952) a contribué grandement à l'époque à la promotion des sciences atmosphériques au niveau universitaire. Le docteur Villeneuve a de plus à son crédit la publication de quelque 200 articles scientifiques et de vulgarisation.

The National Weather Association

In January 1976 a group of weather forecasters in the U.S.A., dissatisfied with the increasingly academic stance of the American Meteorological Society, formed a new organization, the National Weather Association. The Association issues a quarterly publication, the National Weather Digest, and a bimonthly newsletter. Membership, mainly from the three government forecast services, is approaching two thousand. Unfortunately, the organization is already in severe financial difficulty.

Department of Lesser Intelligence

There is no truth in the widely-held opinion that the process of eddy transport was named after Fred Eddy of the Pacific Weather Centre. This confusion arose when Fred was head of the High Level Forecast office, under the Department of Transport, and signed his teletype messages "Eddy Transport".

The relationship between the lee trough and Roy Lee is still under investigation. Preliminary evidence supports the concept of a Lee trough which is not a lee trough.

Our Members write:

The letter below was sent April 20, 1977, to Prof. John E. Hay, CMS, Vancouver.

Dear John:

I would like to pass on to you for your consideration some comments with respect to the Canadian Meteorological Society Awards and Prizes. The first comment pertains primarily to the President's Prize, while the second comments are related to the prizes in general.

The President's Prize, according to the present regulations, must be awarded on the basis of a paper that has been presented at a national or local centre, or a meeting of the Society, and subsequently published in a recognized journal. I think that this restriction pertaining to the presentation at a national or local center is too restrictive and tends to reduce the number of eligible candidates in any one year. The President's Prize should be awarded to someone based on an outstanding contribution in the field of meteorology, and I think as presently constituted does not allow the full range of candidates to be considered. It is interesting that the prize in applied meteorology is not so restrictive in terms of its requirements. I would like to suggest that the Executive at some future meeting reconsider the possibility of expanding the Terms of Reference of the President's Prize. I should state that I do not in any way mean to downgrade the awarding of the prize to previous recipients as this is not the intention of my comments.

With regard to the CMS prizes in general, I think that some effort should be made to provide more coverage and develop the stature of these prizes. Many members of the Society do not know or are even unaware as to who these prizes have been awarded to in previous years. During the Awards Banquet the tendency is for the awarding of the Patterson Prize, which is not really a prize of the Canadian Meteorological Society, to take precedence over the prizes of the CMS. I think this is unfortunate. I am not sure of what ways are possible in order to develop the overall stature of these prizes but I think there are several possibilities that could be looked into, and would be glad to discuss them with you at some time in the future.

I had hoped to be able to discuss this item with you at the Winnipeg meeting of the Society, but unfortunately will be unable to attend, and so have sent these brief comments to you directly.

Yours sincerely,

G.A. McBean, Chief
Boundary Layer Research Division
Downsview, Ontario M3H 5T4

Our Members write (cont'd)

The letter below was sent May 13, 1977, to Mr. W.S. Creswick, CMS, Montreal.

Dear Mr. Creswick:

Kindly allow me to express my views on "Oceanography within the CMS". I read with interest the views expressed by Mr. Thomas in the most recent CMC Newsletter. While the sentiments expressed by Mr. Thomas are understandable, his objections to change the name of the Society are not. I believe that the change of name for the CMS is in line with the ever changing environment of the present day. A number of scientific institutions and agencies in North America as well as in Europe have changed their names (as well as emphasis) to accomodate the growing needs of the Society. In the specific area of Meteorology, many departments in the U.S. Universities have changed their names either to atmospheric sciences, or to meteorology and oceanography or to environmental sciences. Similarly Government agencies have changed their names recently to include wider interests of the Society; for example Canadian Meteorological Service has changed to Atmospheric Environment Service, while ESSA (Environmental Science and Services Administration) has changed to NOAA (National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration).

I sincerely believe (and I hope many CMS members share my belief) that the new name of the Society will have a wider (and favourable) impact on the Canadian Society. The present emphasis on the development of Canadian North will undoubtedly involve the study of lakes and oceans which are an integral part of the Canadian North. The new CMS i.e. CMOS can appropriately associate itself with the future development of Canadian North through oceanography and limnology.

I am convinced that the new name will widen the horizons of the Society without changing its basic character.

Sincerely yours
M. L. Khandekar
WMO Lecturer in Meteorology
Caribbean Meteorological Institute
Barbados, W.I.

New Members:

The following have been elected to CMS membership:

15 February 1977

B.R. DeLang Boom	Victoria, B.C.
D.E. Dietrich	Alexandria, Va, U.S.A.
D.A. Daugharty	Fredrickton, N.B.
P.E. Erickson	Victoria, B.C.
B. Felin	Montréal, P.Q.
J. Gariepy	Blainville, P.Q.
N. Guerin	Montréal, P.Q.
K.R. Johnstone	Dollard des Ormeaux, P.Q.
R. Rolland	Montréal-Nord, P.Q.
R.C. Wiegand	West Vancouver, B.C.

New Members (cont'd)

17 March, 1977

M. Allaire	Montréal, P.Q.
G. Atchison	Gander, Nfld.
W.C. Bell	Winnipeg, Man.
R. Benoit	Montréal, P.Q.
Y. Belan	Hamilton, Ont.
J. Blouin	Laval, P.Q.
M. Boulama	Montréal, P.Q.
G. Desautels	Laval, P.Q.
R. Duquette	Montréal, P.Q.
F. Henry	Victoria, B.C.
K. Jones	Winnipeg, Man.
E.G. Kirkwood	Lachine, P.Q.
C. Landry	Montréal, P.Q.
R.G. Lueck	Vancouver, B.C.
F. Robitaille	Edmonton, Alta.
J.P. Triboulet	St-Lambert, P.Q.

2 May, 1977

P.Y.K. Chang	Vancouver, B.C.
P. Dubreuil	St-Laurent, P.Q.
S.P. Fuller	Vancouver, B.C.
A.J. Keck	Winnipeg, Man.
S. LaDochy	Winnipeg, Man.
J.C. McLeod	Winnipeg, Man.
P.G. Sagert	North Vancouver, B.C.

New Editor for CMS Newsletter

In the interest of more timely and complete interaction with the CMS Executive, the editorship of this Newsletter will be transferred to the west coast. The new editor is:

Mr. Merton Horita
Atmospheric Environment Service
Cowley Crescent
Southern Terminal Complex
Vancouver International Airport
Vancouver, B.C.

As a parting gesture, I submit the following hints for clear and readable writing:

1. A stitch in time before you leap on the horns of a mixed metaphor is worth two in the bush.
2. Eschew the utilization of sesquipedalian pronouncements where mono-syllables would contribute to comprehension.

3. Sentences which follow a meandering course through what appears to the casual reader to be a disorderly multitude of dangling phrases which individually, may seem to have some meaning, whether relevant or not, but which also, when taken together, tend to obscure rather than to illuminate the point, real or metaphoric, that, in totality, they are intended to reach by albeit what circuitous routes or no matter through which curious circumlocutions they may perambulate, even although if one should persist through to the conclusion the result may not prove worthy of the arduous labours which one encounters along the way towards reaching the resolution of the seeming contradictions which, indeed, may require a far, far longer time than could have been anticipated on first commencing a disconnected sequence of redundancies and evident non sequitors are to be deplored.

WSC/amd

W.S.Creswick

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