

ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY

CANADIAN BRANCH

Annual Report of the Executive Committee for 1954

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Minutes of 13th Annual Business Meeting, 29 January 1953.

1. The Meeting was convened by the President at 3.30 p.m., 29 January 1953, in Room 61 of the Economics Building, 273 Bloor Street, West, Toronto. 19 Members were present.

2. The President announced the program for the evening meeting, and briefly summarized the activities of the Canadian Branch in 1952.

3. The Minutes of the 12th Annual Business Meeting had been distributed. A minor error was noted in that under para 6 the appointment of Mr. Fred Hughes as Auditor for 1952 had been omitted and the heading of Section 7 "Report of Membership Committee" had been omitted. Subject to these corrections, it was moved by Dr. McIntyre and seconded by Mr. McLeod that the Minutes of the 12th Annual Meeting be adopted.

4. The Secretary presented the report of the Executive Committee for 1952. It was moved by the Secretary and seconded by Dr. Godson that this report be adopted.

5. The Secretary moved a vote of thanks to the Members of Head Office Staff who had helped with the stenographic and clerical work of the Branch. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chilcott.

6. The Report of the By-Laws Committee was presented by Mr. Benum. Its adoption was moved and seconded by Mr. McTaggart-Cowan and Mr. Boughner respectively.

7. Dr. Godson presented the report of the Scientific Papers Committee. He noted that it was difficult for the Scientific Papers Committee to assess the results of their activities, and asked for advice for the new Committee.

7.1 Mr. McTaggart-Cowan suggested that the recommendation made by the Scientific Papers Committee for submission of discussions and short investigations, for publication as shorter contributions and letters to the Editor in the Quarterly Journal and Weather, was a valuable one and well worth annual repetition. He also suggested that they might give publicity to the President's Prize and Darton Prizes that are awarded annually, and suggested that a number of papers that are submitted and published as technical circulars by the Meteorological Division might be condensed and published as letters or short notes in scientific journals. Dr. McIntyre expressed the opinion that we are encouraging publication of scientific papers in any medium, not only in R.M.S. publications.

7.2 It was pointed out that the Darton Prize can only be awarded for material in R.M.S. publications, and Dr. Godson asked whether a condensation of a technical circular, appearing in an R.M.S. publication, would be considered on the merits of the condensation or of the entire technical circular. Mr. McTaggart-Cowan suggested that the fact that it was published as a technical circular would enhance the value of the short contribution. The prize is awarded for the most meritorious article published, and the fact that a condensation of a more lengthy publication served to call readers' attention to it makes the condensation meritorious.

7.3 Mr. Mason asked whether a paper which had been submitted to the Controller and published, without going through the Canadian Branch at all, would be eligible for the Presidents Prize. Mr. Benum advised that last year the decision was that such papers would not be eligible, but the Presidents Prize Committee is open to suggestions. As one possibility, any Member could have a paper considered by merely asking that it be considered by the Presidents Prize Committee. Mr. Clodman suggested that when people are submitting papers to the Meteorological Service, they might also request that the papers be considered for the Presidents Prize. The discussion as to whether the Presidents Prize should be limited to papers that appear in R.M.S. publications or not was inconclusive, and was left for the consideration of the Executive Committee next year.

It was pointed out though that acceptance of a paper by the Canadian Branch does not commit the author to have it published in an R.M.S. publication instead of in some other medium.

7.4 Dr. Godson moved the adoption of the report of the Scientific Papers Committee and this was seconded by Dr. McIntyre.

8. The Secretary presented the report of the Referees Committee, Mr. Benum suggested a minor change to indicate that Dr. McIntyre's paper had been forwarded to the quarterly Journal, rather than saying that it had been presented to the Canadian Branch. With this amendment, it was moved by the Secretary and seconded by Mr. McLeod that the report be adopted.

9. The Secretary read the report of the Membership Committee. Dr. McIntyre pointed out a slight inconsistency in the figures therein and subject to the correction of this by the Secretary from his records, it was moved by the Secretary and seconded by Mr. Crocker that the report be adopted.

10. The Treasurer presented his report and moved its adoption. This was seconded by Mr. McTaggart-Cowan.

11. The Treasurer moved a vote of thanks to Fred Hughes for acting as Auditor in 1952. This was carried unanimously.

12. The Secretary moved the appointment of Mr. Fred Hughes as Auditor for 1953. This was seconded by Dr. McIntyre.

13. The Report of the Presidents Prize Committee was presented by Mr. Benum. Some discussion was held on the basis for selection of eligible papers, and it was pointed out that while this was open to further clarification, during the past year eligible papers had been limited to those processed by the Canadian Branch and actually published or presented as an address. It was considered that while there were some papers that had been presented to the Branch, but not yet in final form for publication, it would not be fair to the authors to consider them for the prize this year and thereby render them ineligible next year, as the authors might make substantial improvements before the papers took their final form. It was moved by Mr. McTaggart-Cowan and seconded by Mr. Mateer that the report of the Presidents Prize Committee be adopted.

14. It was moved by the Treasurer that the fees for the Canadian Branch Members for 1953 remain the same as for 1952, namely initiation fee \$2.45, Associate annual fee \$6.75, Fellows annual fee \$8.65. This was seconded by Mr. McTaggart-Cowan.

15. The Secretary advised that the Parent Society had approved the recommendation that the election of Canadian Associates should become effective as soon as the applications are approved by the Canadian Branch. He pointed out that a motion had been passed at the 12th Annual Meeting that a procedure be adopted whereby the names of applications for Associate Membership should be announced and submitted for election at regular meetings of the Canadian Branch. However, the Executive had found that this would considerably delay the processing of applications especially during the summer recess of General Meetings, and in the past year the Executive had adopted the interim procedure of screening and approving applications, whereupon they were passed to the Parent Society. Membership was made effective as soon as the application was approved by the Executive Committee, and formal election was made by the council of the Parent Society. The Secretary asked for a motion that the Executive be authorized to pass upon the election of new Associates, the names to be announced at a general meeting and passed to the Parent Society. The question was asked as to whether this required an amendment to the By-Laws, and it was noted that such was not the case as the formal election was still by the Council of the Parent Society. The above recommendation was moved by Dr. Godson and seconded by Mr. Thomas.

16. The President advised that while the Joint Scientific Meetings to be held in 1953 were intended to be self-supporting, it would be an appropriate gesture for the Canadian Branch to be prepared to provide some hospitality as hosts at the meetings. He suggested that since the decision on what would be best to do could not be made at present, the Executive should be empowered to spend some money from the reserve held by the Branch on the Joint Meetings. Dr. McIntyre and Mr. Clodman expressed agreement, and suggested that the expenditure should be on something definite and specific, as a contribution of the Canadian Branch, and not something spread over the whole period of the meetings. Mr. McLeod moved that the Executive be authorized to spend up to \$300. on some form of hospitality at the Joint Meetings. The preference would be for spending it on some single event but this should be left to the discretion of the Executive. This was seconded by Mr. Mason.

17. There was no other business or new business.

18. The President presented the report of the Nominating Committee, and announced the recommendation of the Nominating Committee of Mr. Benum as the next Vice President for Canada on the Council of the Parent Society. The adoption of the report was moved by Mr. Boughner and seconded by Dr. McIntyre.

19. Dr. McIntyre then presented a brief address as incoming President, and thanked the outgoing Executive. Adjournment was moved by Mr. Chilcott and seconded by Mr. Mateer.

20. The reports mentioned in the above Minutes are attached hereto.

R.C. Graham

R.C. Graham,
Secretary.