

Tarte, M.P., Ottawa; Hon. W. S. Fielding, M.P., Ottawa; J. Lamallice, La Presse, Montreal, J. Dufoe, Star, Montreal, J. Scott, Sun, St. John, N.B.; Fred. Cook, Times, London; J. A. Phillips, Gazette, Montreal; H. Burrows, Citizen, Ottawa; W. H. Southam, Spectator, Hamilton.

#### Report of Executive.

The report of the executive was presented as follows:

To the members of the C.P.A.:

Gentlemen.—Your committee have had no special work to do during the year. The main part of its duty was to keep the association always in mind and to advance its interest whenever opportunity offered, whether to the committee as a body or to its members individually. We are proud to report that the association was never numerically or financially stronger, and never stood higher in the estimation of the profession generally.

In September, 1896, your executive, then presided over by Mr. Brierley, decided to accept special applications with an initiation fee covering the remainder of 1896 and the whole of 1897. This was successful in increasing the 1896 membership and receipts. In 1897, as a result of this arrangement, eight certificates had to be renewed without charge. Yet, owing to the further increase of membership, the receipts for this year are in advance of previous years. The association has now 194 active members in good standing. The decrease of initiation fee from \$5 to \$3 has certainly tended to increase the number of new members.

At the last two annual meetings there has been an expressed desire on the part of the members to revive the annual excursion. Accordingly, your executive this year endeavored to have an excursion to either British Columbia or north-eastern Ontario. Neither plan met with any response from the members, only three or four declaring their willingness to go. In view of these experiences, your committee would recommend that the idea of holding an annual excursion be dropped.

Shortly after the last annual meeting the annual report was printed and sent to every member. The cost of this was \$64, and the receipts from advertising were \$45, or a net cost of \$19.

At a meeting of the executive early in January, 1898, it was decided to depart from the usual custom of holding the annual meeting in the first weeks of February. The Ontario general election would probably have prevented a large attendance. It was decided to hold the meeting on March 10 and 11, in Ottawa. It was thought that the change from Toronto to Ottawa would more satisfactorily indicate the national character of our association, and would give eastern members a much better chance to attend. Besides, the fact of visiting Parliament during the session was expected to be a considerable attraction. We hope that the success of the meeting, and the indulgence of the society, will cause the action of the committee to meet with general approval.

No satisfactory arrangement with the railroads, as to a reduction in the rate now charged, has yet been arrived at, although it is hoped that something may be done in the near future. Your committee would, however, place on record their appreciation of the uniform kindness and courtesy of both the Canadian Pacific and the Grand Trunk in all discussions.

The postage question has been much discussed during the year, and your committee deem it advisable that the question be reconsidered during the present session so that the incoming executive may know whether or not there has been any change in the general attitude of the association.

JOHN BAYNE MACLEAN.

Upon motion of Mr. D. McGillivuddy, seconded by Mr. John A. Phillips, the report was adopted.

#### Secretary-Treasurer's Report.

The report of the secretary-treasurer was read as follows:

Mr. President and Members,—For several successive years your secretary-treasurer has presented you a report showing an actual deficit. On January 1, 1895, the debt of the association was \$260; by January 1, 1896, this had been reduced to \$174.75, and by January 1, 1897, to \$65. The association commences the present year with a surplus of \$55.80 and no outstanding accounts. In other words, during the last three years the association has strengthened its financial position to the extent of \$315.80. The credit for this careful management is due to the three presidents, who have so admirably managed the affairs of the association during these years.

The receipts from fees during 1897 show an increase of \$20 over 1896. This is due mainly to the increase in membership. During 1896 there were 161 certificates issued, as against 179 in 1897, showing an increase of 18. The renewals during 1898 are, so far, very satisfactory, and the financial prospects of the association very encouraging.

The detailed statement for 1897 is as follows:

RECEIPTS.	
On hand from 1896.....	\$ 47 79
Banquet receipts.....	110 00
Advertising in annual report—	
Canada Paper Co.....	\$10 00
MacLean Publishing Co.....	10 00
Toronto Type Foundry.....	10 00
Miller & Richard.....	15 00
	45 00
Receipts from fees.....	382 00
	<u>\$584 79</u>
DISBURSEMENTS.	
Postage ....	\$ 22 74
Banquet expenses—	
Orchestra.....	\$8 00
E. A. Wills.....	29 25
Extras.....	10 00
	147 25
Printing—	
J. S. Brierley.....	7 50
A. Speers & Co.....	9 75
Apted Bros.....	3 90
Apted Bros.....	3 50
Apted Bros.....	10 85
Brown Bros.....	4 00
R. G. McLean.....	11 25
	50 75
Annual report—	
Stenographer.....	10 00
Methodist Book Room.....	55 00
Canada Paper Co.....	9 00
	74 00
Secretary's salary—	
For 1896.....	100 00
For 1897.....	100 00
	200 00
Executive expenses.....	30 75
Rent of Board of Trade.....	3 00
Cartage.....	50
On hand.....	55 80
	<u>\$584 79</u>

—Passed to auditors.

Upon motion of Mr. J. A. Cooper, seconded by Mr. W. F. Maclean, M.P., that the report be received and passed on to the auditors.

Mr. J. S. Willison remarked that, now the election was over, he thought it was quite unfair to introduce the question of the surplus at a non political gathering such as this. (Laughter).

The motion was then adopted.

A letter was read from Hon. J. D. Edgar, Speaker of the House of Commons, regretting his inability to be present at