

Canadian Authors' Association

Report of Local Secretary Mrs. Alice M. Winlow

To the President and Members of the Vancouver Branch, Canadian Authors' Association:

I beg to submit the report of this branch for the year 1926-1927. Eight executive meetings were held, which were well attended, four of them to arrange Convention activities. While these activities will be dealt with by the National Secretary, in this connection the Secretary of the Vancouver Branch wishes to record the hospitality of Mrs. Lefevre, and Mr. and Mrs. Dalton in entertaining delegates to the convention and our own members.

A general meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Reid, Pacific Street, to form study groups and to arrange for Book Week celebration.

The meetings held during the year of a general and social nature are as follows:

A meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Banfield, at which the members were guests and Mrs. George Black was guest of honor. Mrs. Black gave a delightful talk on the wild flowers of the Yukon, and many specimens attractively mounted were on view.

A dinner followed by a dance was given in honor of Dr. Chas. G. D. Roberts, Mr. Lloyd Roberts, and Mrs. Goodrich Macdonald, in the Stanley Park Pavilion. Memorable speeches were given by Dr. Roberts, Mr. Lloyd Roberts, Mr. Gomery, Mrs. Geo. Black and Dr. McRae. The tables were so arranged that every person present faced the huge log fire burning in the fireplace of rough-hewn stone.

During the year, our President, Mr. Gomery, at the request of various organizations gave several addresses on the aims and ideals of the Authors' Association; namely: St. Stephens' Young People's Society; Women's Canadian Club; Lions Club; University of B. C. (Students Council); Vancouver Institute; B. C. Institute of Journalists (Dinner to Hugh M. Dent); B. C. Institute of Journalists (Evening to Mr. McEvoy).

Meetings of the Short Story Group were held at the homes of Miss A. E. Fraser, Mr. and Mrs. L. Wharton, Mrs. Garland Foster, Mr. and Mrs. Percy Gomery. Of this group several have been winning laurels in writing. Mr. Stephen Golder won a \$250.00 prize for a short story in an English magazine, Miss Shannon won the coveted star in the O'Brien collection of short stories for the year, Mr. Luce

won a \$75.00 prize for a humorous story, Mrs. Isabel Ecclestone Mackay won the One-Act Play contest held by the I. O. D. E. at Toronto, for her play "Treasure," and Mr. Francie Dickie won a \$200.00 prize in a short story contest.

During Book Week Mrs. Mackay addressed pupils in High Schools and Mrs. Winlow addressed public school pupils. The Secretary wrote letters to the editors of leading Vancouver papers asking for support for Book Week publicity, which was generously given. The Secretary also wrote to the Principals of High Schools asking for their co-operation.

Library displays were well taken care of by Mr. R. A. Hood and Mr. Robinson, and Book-Store displays by Mr. Pound. Radio talks were given by Mrs. Mackay and Mrs. Winlow.

During the year the following new members were elected: Mr. Hubert Evans, Regular; Mrs. F. T. Schooley, Associate; Mrs. Bertha Lewis, Associate; Mrs. Metford, Associate; Mr. Bruce McKelvie, Regular.

I beg to express my thanks to our President, Mr. Gomery, who has lightened the task of Secretary in no small way by running off notices on a multiplying machine.

Thanks are due in brimming measure to Mrs. MacKay, Mr. Hood and Mr. A. M. Stephen for their work for the success of the Convention on the Program Committee, to Mr. Pound and Mr. Dalton on the Reception. To Mr. McGregor, Publicity; to Mr. Reid, Miss Shannon, Dean Brock entertainment; to Mr. Golder, transportation, to Mr. Gomery, Mr. Dalton, Mr. Reid, ways and means; to Mr. Chalmers, Hotel.

Thanks are also due to Mr. D. A. Chalmers, Editor of the *British Columbia Monthly*, for bringing out Convention and Supplementary Convention numbers containing reports of the President and Secretary, and activities of the organization.

The year's work for the Secretary had been most pleasurable through the help and consideration of the officers and executive.

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