Annual Meeting Committee on Canadian Labour History Winnipeg, 8 June 1986

CALL TO ORDER: 12:30 P.M.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT:

Robert Babcock apologized for having no formal report.

VICE-PRESIDENT:

Peter DeLottinville listed several new collections that have been added to the labour collection at the Public Archives of Canada, including the personal papers of Joseph Mackenzie (Canadian organizer for the United Rubber Workers and active in the Canadian Congress of Labour), a small collection of Phillips Thompson papers, and government documents relating to the Seafarers' International Union, collective agreements, and international relations. The Department of Labour's Strikes and Lockouts files are now available on microfilm and a computerized finding aid will be ready soon. He also explained the review of acquisitions policy that is underway at the PAC. The outcome of the review may well be more emphasis on government rather than private papers. He also described the chronic shortage of space that has developed at the PAC and the six-month freeze on acquisitions that has resulted. Finally, he reported on the recent fruitful discussions among archivists about labour records.

Danny Moore suggested that the Committee send a letter to the Dominion Archivist requesting that we be consulted on any new acquisitions policy.

SECRETARY:

Allen Seager was unable to be present but sent a letter about the planning of the Canadian-Australian Labour History Conference that is scheduled to begin in Sydney on 12 December 1988. In the ensuing discussion, it was explained that a Canadian programme committee consisting of Bettina Bradbury, Gerry Friesen, Gregory Kealey, and Allen Seager had been struck to solicit and select Canadian contributions. The decentralization of SSHRC external grant money to individual universities will make planning much more difficult, since there will be lingering uncertainty about who will be able to get funding. The list of topics will be circulated to the Labour/Le Travail mailing list during the summer.

TREASURER:

Gregory Kealey reported on the healthy state of the finances of Labour/Le

322 LABOUR/LE TRAVAIL

Travail. The journal now has 1,016 subscribers, and institutional subscriptions continue to grow. All production now takes place in Newfoundland. The flow of papers for publication is steady, and more francophone material is now arriving. The editor announced the two new adjunct publications to be published by the journal - a memoir of a union organizer and early RCMP intelligence records.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Craig Heron announced that the next Workers and Their Communities Conference will be held at York University in May 1989 and that for the first time the organizers hope to focus on a specific theme, namely, working-class community life. He asked for advice on how to involve more labour history and labour historians. One suggestion was to make sure that they were integrated into panels with other speakers, rather than isolated in special history sessions.

André LeBlanc raised the problem of communication among the Committee's members. He regretted that since the demise of the CCLH Bulletin it is difficult to keep abreast of developments within the field. There was general agreement with his suggestion that Labour/Le Travail introduce a "Notes" section to keep members informed.

ELECTIONS

The current slate of officers was returned by acclamation.

ADJOURNMENT.