MINUTES OF THE 1974
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The Annual Meeting of the Bibliographical Society of Canada — la Société bibliographique du Canada — was held at 8:30 p.m., June 25, 1974, in the Gemini I and II Rooms of the North Star Inn, Winnipeg, Manitoba. About eight-three members and guests were present.

The President, Mr. William F. E. Morley, welcomed members and guests and thanked the Canadian Library Association, its Executive Director, Mr. Bernard McNamee, and Ms. Barbara Clubb for making our excellent arrangements. He then reported the deaths of the following members: Miss Gertrude Boyle on May 8, 1974; Dr. J. L. Henderson on May 24, 1973; Mr. R. D. Hilton Smith on May 12, 1974; Mr. David Sinclair, who had been working for his PhD in England at the University of London, on June 12, 1974; and Dr. Freda Waldon on November 16, 1973. These valued members would be sadly missed by all their friends.

Since the minutes of the last Annual Meeting had been published in the 1973 volume of the Papers, soon to be received by the members, it was moved by Dr. Olga Bishop, seconded by Prof. Lochhead, that they be taken as printed. Carried.

The Secretary-Treasurer then presented the Treasurer’s report, showing a balance of $3,395.60 in the General Account and $2,448.22 in the BCB account. She noted that we must still pay for the 1973 volume of the Papers. It was moved by Mrs. Jacobsen, seconded by Miss Norma Freifeld, that this report be adopted. Carried.

In the absence of its Chairman, Mr. H. Pearson Gundy, Mr. Basil Stuart-Stubbs read the report of the Publications Committee. The report is as follows:

“The first issue of the Society’s Bulletin, a successor to the former Newsletter (1955-1962), appeared shortly before the last annual meeting but was not reported by the Publications Committee. A second issue was circulated in February 1974. The editor, Mr. W.F.E. Morley, states that the aim of the Bulletin is “to achieve an instrument of multilateral communication so that the load is shared and so that we may all benefit from the bibliographical news our members carry around with them.” This second Bulletin was mailed to members along with Mr. Morley’s A Bibliographical Study of Major John Richardson, which, though bearing a 1973 imprint, was not off the press until 1974.

Volume XII of the Society’s Papers, edited by Miss Edith Firth, is due to appear shortly. It will contain the following statement, approved by the
Publications Committee and the Executive Council, on permission to quote: "The Bibliographical Society of Canada/Société bibliographique du Canada grants permission to quote passages not exceeding one hundred words from any article appearing in the annual Papers free of charge; reproduction of longer passages or of an entire article will be permitted, upon payment of a nominal fee, at the discretion of the Publications Committee."

The revised manuscript of Mrs. Marilyn Flitton’s Subject Index to the Canadian Monthly and National Review, 1872-1882 has been accepted for publication and will appear, it is hoped, in 1975.

For reproduction in our Facsimile Series, the Committee reports acceptance of the John Lovell & Company’s Specimens of Printing Types (1846) for which Mr. Douglas Lochhead has agreed to write an introduction. A unique example of the type specimen book in the Canadas before mid-nineteenth century, it will be highly prized by all bibliophiles.

It was moved by Mr. Stuart-Stubbs, seconded by Dean Halpenny, that this report be adopted. Carried.

Mr. Douglas Lochhead then gave the following report on Colloquium II. “Colloquium II, sponsored by the Bibliographical Society of Canada, was held on November 2nd and 3rd, 1973, at Massey College and the Faculty of Library Science, University of Toronto. You will recall that Colloquium I concentrated on “Nineteenth Century Bibliography”; Colloquium II was devoted to a more general approach to Canadian bibliographical study and the title was simply “Canadian Bibliography”.

Some eighty-five persons attended the two days of meetings.

The papers given provide an interesting look at bibliographical work being done in this country:

The main paper by Dr. Carl F. Klinck of the University of Western Ontario, had to do with the nineteenth century and its title was ‘Greeting the Unknown with a Cheer’. Other papers presented were:

- Canadian Travel Literature’ by Professor John Warkentin of York University.
- Canadian Music Publishing’ by Dr. Helmut Kallmann of the National Library of Canada.

- The British North American Book Trade in the 1840’s; The First Crisis’ by Professor George Parker, Royal Military College, Kingston.

Three extremely interesting reports of works in progress were given:

- Pre-Confederation Ontario Book Binding’ by Patricia Lockhart Fleming, Faculty of Library Science, University of Toronto.
- Subject Index to Illustrations of Canadian Interest’ by Mary Williamson, Fine Arts Bibliographer, York University Library.
- Towards a Bibliography of Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Maps of Ontario’ by Joan Winears, University of Toronto Map Library.

The papers and reports given at the Colloquium will appear in the next issue of the Papers.

At the main dinner Miss Marie Tremaine, the Honorary President of the Society, presented Tremaine Medals to Dr. John Hare and Professor Jean-Pierre Waltot.

It only remains to report that Colloquium II, after all expenses were met,
found itself in the black in the amount of $200.79. No financial assistance was asked for this time from the Canada Council.

This report is presented on behalf of the Colloquium II committee: Hugh Anson-Cartwright, David Hayne and myself, who extend the sincere hope that others will take on the business of organizing our next Colloquium in 1975 — the present committee having managed to survive the first two."

Its adoption was moved by Mr. Lochhead, seconded by Mr. Stuart-Stubbs. Carried.

Mr. Morley reminded our members that contributions of Canadian bibliographical interest were always welcome, also news of bibliographical events for publication in our Bulletin. He, himself, as Book Review Editor, would be grateful for suggestions of names for reviewers and books for review.

Mr. Morley then gave a very complete and detailed report on the National Conference on the State of Canadian Bibliography held in Vancouver May 22nd to 24th, 1974. A copy of this report will be found at the end of the Minutes. He mentioned that time would not permit questions or discussion at this time but that he would be glad to answer any questions at the end of the meeting. Copies of the Resolutions were also available for anyone interested.

Mr. John Burtniak then presented the following report of the Nominating Committee:

Honorary President          Miss Marie Tremaine
President                   Professor Douglas G. Lochhead
1st Vice-President          Mr. Basil Stuart-Stubbs
2nd Vice-President          Dr. Olga B. Bishop
Secretary-Treasurer         Mrs. R. C. Jacobsen
Associate Secretary         M. Jean-Rémi Brault
Council:
                           Mr. William F. E. Morley, Past-President
                           M. Michel Thériault — to 1975
                           Mr. William Watson — to 1975
                           Miss Suzanne F. Chaney — to 1976
                           Miss Dorothy E. Ryder — to 1976
                           Miss Norma E. Freifeld — to 1977
                           Mr. Thomas B. Higginson — to 1977

                           Miss Edith Firth, Editor, Papers
                           Mr. H. Pearson Gundy,
                           Chairman, Publications Committee

Respectfully submitted, Margaret Mackenzie, Edward Phelps and John Burtniak, Chairman.

It was moved by Mr. Burtniak, seconded by Miss Mackenzie, that this report be adopted. Since there were no further nominations, Mr. Morley declared the slate adopted by acclamation. He then welcomed Dr. Bishop, as our new 2nd Vice-President, and Miss Freifeld and Mr. Higginson, our two new Councillors. He also thanked other members for their hard work and support during his term of office.

Mr. Morley then introduced Douglas Lochhead, our new President, saying
that we all owed him a great deal for his superhuman endeavours in furthering the cause of Canadian bibliography. He mentioned not only his second edition of the Bibliography of Canadian Bibliographies but also his many volumes of exquisite poetry, his numerous literary and bibliographical articles and the fact that he was a practising expert on printing and typography. He also noted that Professor Lochhead had long been a prodigious editor of Canadian books and that he was presently editing two large and important series for the University of Toronto Press. In addition, he was also Chief Librarian and Professor of English at Massey College.

Professor Lochhead thanked Mr. Morley for his kind remarks. He felt that his first act as President must be to extend a vote of thanks to Mr. Morley, who had done more than nobly as President. He mentioned Mr. Morley’s new publication, A Bibliographical Study of Major John Richardson, which was the most substantial work of its kind devoted to a Canadian writer. He also noted that he had revived the Newsletter under the title of Bulletin.

Mr. Bruce Peel, University Librarian, University of Alberta, introduced our guest speaker, Mr. John Bovey, as follows:

"I am happy to introduce John Bovey, Provincial Archivist of Manitoba. My qualification as an introducer is that of a satisfied customer. If anything in Manitoba’s past bothers you, write to John and he will reply promptly, visit him and he and his staff will extend every assistance and courtesy . . . . Should you visit John’s quarters in the Legislative Building, you will find that they have the cozy snugness of a pack rat’s nest; you have the impression that every scrap of paper relating to Manitoba’s history had been dragged in. But it is a space story with a happy ending for the Archives is moving to a renovated auditorium, and where . . . John will now be on stage. As always he will share space with the Legislative Library . . . .

John is a Vancouver boy who graduated in history from UBC. He continued his historical pursuits by pursuing and marrying an historian’s daughter. His first work experience was as an historical researcher for B.C.’s first centennial, and this could have become a lifetime job – B.C. went right on having centennials, but John fled to the Arctic, joined the Northwest Territories government as an archivist. At the time he joined, the civil service consisted of one archivist, thirteen game wardens, and seventeen liquor vendors. Now, game the Territories had lots of, spirits – by all accounts – too much of, but records they should have had virtually none of. I long thought that, in selling his services to the Territorial government, John must have been in the same class as the man who sold the refrigerators to the Eskimos. But he informs me that, in those days, the capital of the Northwest Territories was in the city of snow, Ottawa, and we all know how there they pidgeonhole recommendations, reports and election promises, so no wonder there were archives.

John’s topic to-night is not clear to me, but it does suggest four liberated women, namely Clio, Euterpe, Melpomene and Thalia – "Sister Muses in the Canadian West".

After this introduction Mr. Bovey delighted everyone with his witty and interesting address. (The text of Mr. Bovey’s address will be found in full later on in this volume.)
As one of the old Greek authors might have expressed it, the four sisters having listened with considerable pleasure to Mr. John Bovey’s oration, Thalia inspired Professor Lochhead to thank him in poetic measure thus:

"To you, John Bovey, I might say
You’ve made us laugh this very day.
We shall go forth as bookies go
With thanks to you and Muse Clio."

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

WILLIAM F. E. MORLEY
President

ESTHER JACOBSEN
Secretary-Treasurer