May 29, 1976 St. Anselm's College

The spring meeting of the Society was held on Saturday, May 29, 1976 in the Perini building with registrations beginning at 9:00 A.M. At 10:00 A.M. a Beginners Workshop gegan with instructions by Lucille Lagasse. Other members researched in the Society's book collection and at the same time took the opportunity to acquaint themselves with one another since many members were from out of state. At noon refreshments were provided by a committee under Cecile Munford.

At 1:00 P.M. a fine attendance of seventy-seven people were greeted by our President, Lucille Lagasse, who read a letter from the New Hampshire Historical Society recognizing us as an established genealogical society and expressing their desire to join. She also spoke of the bill that was not passed in Legislature which would have denied researches the availability of many records. This had been objected to by genealogists and historians who had written or called in their objections. The Canadian genealogical societies wish support for the same purpose in Canada. Mrs. Lagasse suggested a law or amendment that the resistries include the place of birth more complete than just the country.

Edgar Geoffrion, Treasurer, gave a financial report that included \$600.00 paid on the Olivier Library Collection note. He reported sixty-three new members since last September first, bringing the present membership up to 331.

Maurice Loranger, Editor of <u>The Genealogist</u>, said the next issue shall be due on October 15; also that there had been a one minute coverage of our society on Channel 6 TV. Dick Fortin has been giving us radio and T.V. publicity and said a few words on the subject.

Betty Goodwin from Laconia, N.H. informed us of the New Hamp-shire Society of Genealogists and of the several counties newly organized. She spoke on the subject of courtesy when doing research which is most necessary if material is to be made available to us.

President Lagasse introduced our first main speaker, George F. Theriault, Professor of Sociology at Dartmouth College, who spoke at length on the migration of French-Canadians from Quebec and the Maritime Provinces into the United States, especially to New England. This was primarily during the ninteenth century due to the building of mills and shoe factories. A question and answer session followed.

Roger Lawrence introduced Denis Racine, lawyer and president of the Genealogical Society of Quebec, who was our second main speaker. His subject matter was on methods of doing the genealogy of our French Quebec ancestors, and the many sources of records available. There are three million marriages recorded in the Archives of Quebec. One possible source of records for non-Catholic persons is in the Court House records of the county in question - if known. A question and answer also followed the talk of this speaker.

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## May 29, 1976 - cont'd

Time was taken for a photograph to be taken for the newspaper.

Freeman Pluff suggested recording the older graveyard stones before they are destroyed or became unreadable.

Barbara Williams suggested that members write down their own sources of information and submit them to the editor. Another member reminded us of the many books and material available at the fine library at the Association Canado Americaine in Manchester.

Robert J. Tarte, A.G., President of the Massachesetts Society of Genealogists, was also in attendance.

The meeting ended at 3:15 P.M. whereupon many members continued further research in our library collection that had been brought here for the day, courtesy of Jean Pellerin and his wife, Therese, who have given the books faithful care at their home where members may find them available for research.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanette Dinwoodie

Recording Secretary

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