

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS
NOVA SCOTIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
W. J. CHUTE

92nd Annual Meeting. October 26th, 1953

The meeting of this evening marks the close of the ninety-first and the beginning of the ninety-second session of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science.

Our constitution dictates that the president shall make a report to the annual business meeting on the progress of the Institute as indicated by its membership and activities during the past twelve months.

It grieves me to report the passing of three of our members. Dr. E. Rodolphe Faribault died in July of this year at the age of 92. He had been among our oldest corresponding members. As senior geologist in the Geological Survey of Canada much of his work had been done in Nova Scotia. For many years he was a member of the Mining Society of Nova Scotia.

A second corresponding member, Dr. Douglas MacIntosh, died almost a year ago. He had been research professor of Chemistry at Dalhousie University from 1922-30 and at the time an ordinary member of the Institute. Leaving Halifax he became Director of Research at Shawinigan Chemicals, Shawinigan Falls, until his retirement.

Mr. F. C. Churchill, an associate member, died on February 11th. He had been a regular attendant at our meetings while in Halifax and continued his interest in the Institute after his removal to Sherbrooke, Quebec.

The most outstanding achievement of the past year was the organization of the Valley branch of the Institute at Wolfville on November 17th, 1952. Under the presidency of Dr. D. J. McCallion, six ordinary meetings were held with one paper being presented at each meeting. The thirty-five Charter members of the branch consist of two life members, twenty-two ordinary members, and eleven student members. The ordinary members of the Valley branch are Associate members of the parent Institute.

Our gains in membership may in part be attributed to the formation of the Valley branch. During the year 17 Ordinary

members, 15 Associate members and 25 student members were elected. The membership now stands at 115 Ordinary, 77 Associate, 84 Student, 9 Honorary, and 4 Corresponding members. There seems to be no doubt that the total membership of 289 is the largest in our history.

In the past year we held one business meeting, seven ordinary meetings, and one extraordinary meeting. Eight Council meetings were convened. The average attendance at the ordinary meetings was 54 with extremes of 45 and 64.

Twenty-two papers were presented at the ordinary meetings. The distribution by subject or laboratory of origin were: Physiology—4, Biochemistry—3, Maritime Regional Laboratories—3, Physics—3, Pharmacology—2, Public Weather Office—2, Zoology—2, Nova Scotia Research Foundation—1, Department of Engineering, Dalhousie—1, and the Nova Scotia Technical College—1.

It may be noted that the large influx of papers which was visualized at the last business meeting did not materialize. Although your Council had no great difficulty in filling the programmes of the seven ordinary meetings, the quantity of papers available at any time did not allow much freedom in the arrangement of the content of the programmes.

In conclusion, I wish to express my appreciation of the interest shown by all members of Council in the affairs of the Institute. In particular, may I express the thanks of the Institute to our Recording Secretary who asks to be relieved of his duties. For several years Dr. McCarter has shared with the Editor, the Corresponding Secretary and the Treasurer the more arduous duties connected with the Institute.