

THIRD SESSION OF THE AD HOC GROUP OF EXPERTS
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Geographic Name Standardization
Activity Report 1970-1971
Canada

CANADA

Geographic Name Standardization

Activity Report - 1970-71

Presented To
The Third Session
Ad Hoc Group of Experts On Geographical Names
New York, February, 1971

NATIONAL LEVEL

Federal - Provincial Co-operation

Work on the standardization of geographic names in Canada during the past year has been centered in the national name authority, the Canadian Permanent Committee On Geographical Names.

This body, comprises representatives of the federal government and the ten provincial governments of Canada. All subscribe to the Principles and Procedures of the Committee. A revision of these Principles was prepared in 1969 and distributed in 1970. A copy is attached to this report.

The annual meeting of the Committee was held in Ottawa in October, 1970. All members were in attendance.

Gazetteer Publication

The Committee secretariat reported the processing during 1970 of 23,455 geographic names. In its Gazetteer of Canada Series, the Committee issued a revised and enlarged edition for the Province of Saskatchewan (12,500 names); reprints of the Gazetteers for the Provinces of Alberta and New Brunswick; two supplements embodying decisions of the Committee during 1970; the publication of the first Gazetteer of the Province of Quebec (45,000 names) in which the Committee collaborated with the

Commission de géographie du Québec, under the imprint of which this Gazetteer was issued.

All provinces in Canada now are covered by these gazetteers.

Undersea Feature Name Study In Canada

A sub-committee of the Canadian Permanent Committee On Geographical Names exists for the special consideration of this aspect of Canadian toponymy.

This sub-committee held two meetings, chaired by the Dominion Hydrographer for Canada, during 1970.

Major attention was devoted to geographic nomenclature proposed for a new bathymetric chart, number 802, depicting an area of the eastern coast of Newfoundland and adjoining sea-bed.

Information on this work was distributed to the members of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts working group on undersea feature names.

Toponymic Research

The Canadian Permanent Committee has on staff three research toponymists.

During 1970 a detailed field study of the geographic nomenclature of the Province of New Brunswick, which has occupied one toponymist for the past three years, was completed. A revised Gazetteer for this province, to contain approximately 18,000 names, is anticipated for publication in 1971. A by-product of this study will be a historically annotated publication on approximately 3,000 selected toponyms, scheduled for late 1971 or early 1972.

Field research was initiated on the geographic names for the Province of Prince Edward Island. This work is scheduled for completion in 1971.

Office research is progressing on a variety of toponymic subjects.

Papers were presented by staff toponymists at national scientific meetings under the titles "Some Characteristics of Names In New Brunswick", and "English Geographical Names In Canada With Terms Of French Origin".

The Committee Executive Secretary attended the annual meeting of the Canadian Institute of Surveying in Halifax, Nova Scotia in May, 1970; and delivered a paper on the work of the Committee at the annual meeting of the Canadian Institute of Onomastics in Winnipeg, Manitoba, in June, 1970.

INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

In Addition to the Executive Secretary's participation in the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts last year, a research toponymist of the Committee's staff visited the United States Geographic Board On Geographic Names in Washington, and attended a meeting of the American Name Society in New York.

Co-operation with the United States Geographic Board and the Alaska State Geographic Board on geographic names of common interest was continued during 1970.

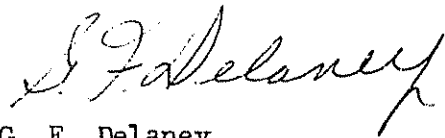
Canadian responsibilities for Gebco charts relate to the preparation of plotting sheets, scale 1:2m, and the accompanying geographic nomenclature, for charts identified as C-1 and C-2, and parts of charts R-1 and B-2.

During 1970-71, work has been confined to the compilation of bathymetry for plotting sheets in Hudson, James and Baffin bays. Related undersea names will be compiled when the plotting sheets are completed.

In 1968, undersea feature names for the Arctic Ocean area north of latitude 72° and bounded by the longitudes 0° to 118° were submitted to the Gebco Sub-Committee on Geographic Names of Ocean Bottom Features, and later in the same year, a list of seamounts in the same area was supplied.

Work connected with the Ad Hoc Committee's Working Group on Undersea Feature Names is detailed in a separate report to be presented to this meeting.

Respectfully submitted



G. F. Delaney
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