

met at Shanghai early in 1909 for the purpose of investigating the opium trade and the opium habit in the far east.

Tercentenary
of Quebec.

Of Canadian events in the year 1908 none evoked more widespread interest than the commemorative celebrations in honour of the 300th anniversary of the founding of Quebec in 1608 by Samuel de Champlain and of the heroic encounters between the English and French forces in 1759 and 1760, known historically as the battles of the Plains of Abraham. Graced by the presence of Royalty and favoured by fine weather, nothing was wanting to ensure the complete success of the national festivities, which took place at Quebec from July 20-31 amidst every demonstration of patriotic enthusiasm.

National
Battlefields
Commission.

Towards the end of 1907 His Excellency Earl Grey inaugurated a movement towards the acquisition of the sites of the battles with a view to their conversion into a national park and public drive-ways, and he subsequently became patron of the Champlain Tercentenary and Quebec Battlefields Association which was formed to promote this object and to which was entrusted many of the local arrangements in connection with the celebrations. Two acts of the Dominion Parliament passed in the session of 1908 authorized the execution of this project. Chapter 57, passed on March 17, provided for the acquisition of the historic battlefields and their conversion into a national park by a National Battlefields Commission. The commission was constituted of five members appointed by the Governor in Council, and provision was made for the appointment of additional members by other British Governments contributing not less than \$100,000 for the purposes of the commission. A parliamentary appropriation of \$300,000 was made to the commission, who were also entrusted with the organization of suitable celebrations of the tercentenary of the founding of Quebec and the dedication of the battlefields. Chapter 58, passed on July 20, legalized the transfer of the properties acquired for the national park which are described particularly in the schedule appended thereto. The five commissioners appointed by the Governor in Council are Sir George Garneau (chairman) Col. G. T. Denison, Sir George Drummond, the Hon. A. Turgeon and Mr. Byron E. Walker. The governments of Ontario and Quebec having each contributed \$100,000 are represented on the commission by Lt.-Col. the Hon. J. S. Hendrie for Ontario and the Hon. L. A. Taschereau for Quebec. Mr. J. M. Courtney was appointed as treasurer and Mr. H. J. J. B. Chouinard and Dr A. G. Doughty as joint secretaries.

Subscriptions
for acquisition
of the Quebec
Battlefields.

Other subscriptions included those of Great Britain, \$50,000, New Zealand, \$5,000, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, \$10,000 each, New Brunswick, \$7,500 and Prince Edward Island, \$2,500. Altogether, the fund raised from public and private sources in connection with the tercentenary celebrations and the acquisition of the battlefields is expected to amount to \$830,000 or thereabouts.