

in introducing this scheme. The secretary has, upon Mr. Crankshaw's request, forwarded details as to the working of the system in Ontario.

CANADIAN SHORTHAND SOCIETY.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL—IMPORTANT BUSINESS—
THE MINIMUM FOR AMANUENSIS WORK—
ENCOURAGING REPORT OF PROGRESS.

The Council of the Canadian Shorthand Society met on Thursday evening, January 11th, 1883, at the Secretary's office, 11 King-st W., Toronto. Present—Alderman Taylor, Honorary President, presiding; Messrs. Tyson, Crawford, F. Sims and Bengough, and Miss G. A. Fraser, Junior Associate.

The Secretary, on behalf of some ten or twelve members, explained their absence on account of pressure of professional duties.

The minutes of the previous meetings were read and confirmed.

REPORT OF PROGRESS.

The Secretary read a report detailing the progress of the Society since its inauguration in August, 1882. This report mentioned as encouraging features of the work:—

(1) That in four distinct cases the Secretary had been officially requested to fix a rate for shorthand work. These questions came, in all cases, from junior members, who thus gave evidence of thorough loyalty to the Society, and of a disposition to abide by its rules and rates, not only in adhering to the tariff so far as it affects work which they are entitled to perform, but also in declining work open only to Senior members.

(2) Correspondence had been carried on with the stenographers in St. John and Montreal with a view to the introduction of an official system (similar to that which has been in operation in the Province of Ontario for several years past) into the Provinces of New Brunswick and Quebec.

(3) The stenographers of the State of Ohio have recently organized an Association and adopted one distinctive plank of our platform, namely, a mixed membership, the two classes whom we call Seniors and Juniors being called, by their Constitution, Reporters and Amanuenses respectively.

(4) A movement has been inaugurated by the Junior members in favor of an increase in the salaries at present paid, and a petition has been drafted for submission to the Council, requesting that the latter should fix a minimum rate for amanuensis work.

(5) A Shorthand Society similar to ours has been inaugurated in the city of St. John, and is in successful operation. They are likely to accomplish important reforms in the introduction of an official system into the Courts of New Brunswick. An agitation is also being made for a similar Society in Halifax.

The Secretary reported that a movement had been made with a view to the formation of a Literary and Social Club for shorthand writers in Toronto, and that several well-known lecturers had offered their services.

In addition to the present membership, numbering nearly forty, we have fifteen applications for Junior membership, and have received letters from nearly fifty other shorthand writers throughout the Province, the great majority of whom will become members. In addition to these there are from seventy-five to one hundred shorthand writers in Toronto who are eligible as Junior members. These Juniors claim the Council's attention in everything that can be conducive to the general good of the fraternity; first, because they are by far the more numerous class, and second, because in a few years hence they will be the first-class stenographers of the Dominion. In the broad view of the question the interests of the Seniors and Juniors are not antagonistic but mutual. A large Junior membership will be a source of strength, and not weakness, to our Society.

The Tariff and Legislation Committee will have many difficult and knotty points to settle, especially with regard to the tariff. The tariff of the old Canadian S. W. Association is now practically unworkable. Since it was formulated the official court reporting system in this Province has materially altered the relation of the stenographers to their clients, and the new tariff must be more elastic than was the old.

All the matters in which legislative amendments are desired are under the jurisdiction of the Dominion Parliament, and a movement should be made to have these amendments incorporated with the statutes at the approaching Session.

The International Association of Shorthand Writers for the United States and Canada will hold their Congress in this city in August next. In view of this fact there should be a vigorous and united movement all along the line among Canadian stenographers.

The relation of the old Association to the present Society should be defined. A union of the two organizations is very desirable, so that if possible we may show a united front to our visitors at the Congress, who will number between two and three hundred.

A suggestion was made to the members of the Press Association at its meeting last summer that Senior members of our Society should be eligible for membership in that Association, by virtue of their standing in our Society, but the proposition was not discussed for lack of time. In view of the possibility of difficulty in dealing through the medium of the Press Association, it would be better to make application on our own behalf to the railway authorities for a special rate of travel; and, judging from the co-operation manifested by the various railway managers in connection with