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CANADIAN MINING INSTITUTE.

In our last issue there appeared portraits and short biographical sketches of Mr. H. E. T. Haultain and Mr. Milton L. Hersey, new candidates for the position respectively of Secretary and Treasurer of the Canadian Mining Institute.

As explained in a circular sent to all members of the Institute, the JOURNAL had intended taking no part in the approaching election. Unfortunately, just as we were going to press, a circular was issued from Montreal, signed by officers of the Institute, canvassing for the present Secretary and Treasurer. The circular might have been ignored had not the gentlemen who signed it used their official titles to lend force to their canvass. This regrettable feature could not be overlooked. The JOURNAL therefore hastened to signify its approval of the candidature of Messrs. Haultain and Hersey, and distributed a circular explaining fully the circumstances of and reasons for their nomination.

THE CANADIAN MINING JOURNAL is aware of the fact that its action may not meet the approval of every member of the Institute. On the other hand, it has good reasons for believing that a very large majority of the society's members will endorse its attitude.

Be that as it may, the JOURNAL felt that prompt rebuttal of the first circular was necessary. The Montreal letter was obviously written in haste (for its several paragraphs are self-contradictory) and with some degree of heat. This we deplore. We believe, however, that our own circular will throw light upon the situation.

If there is to be a contest, there is no need of making it a mere "row." No doubt, in the ardour of partizan enthusiasm a certain amount of feeling will be engendered. Yet this need not be carried to the extreme of attributing sinister motives and dubious methods to the other side.

It is one thing to express, very candidly, an opinion of persons and policies. It is a quite different thing to misrepresent the question on which opinions differ. The point at issue is clear. It is contended by certain members of the Institute that, for reasons fully developed in these pages and in the circular letter distributed by the JOURNAL, Mr. Haultain and Mr. Hersey will fill more suitably the two paid offices of the Institute than do the two present incumbents. The decision lies with the members of the Institute themselves. If the candidates of whom the JOURNAL approves are elected, so much the better. If they are defeated, the JOURNAL will loyally support the Institute as heretofore. But it will always reserve the right to criticize freely.