

ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

of party always ready to receive the representations of this society, with courtesy, and while proceeding with deliberative caution, to act with liberality when satisfied.

Tidal and Hydrographic Surveys.

This very day one of your committees has reported two instances under two separate governments, in which surveys have been established for the safety of Canadian navigation.

Visit of the B.A.A.S. to Winnipeg.

You have also a report before you showing with what quick appreciation the present Prime Minister received a deputation from the Society last year, and how promptly, after inquiry, he agreed to propose to Parliament a handsome grant to enable us to have a visit from the British Association in Winnipeg.

International Geological Congress.

It will not be forgotten that in a previous year, a similar request concerning a visit from the International Geological Congress, was received in a similar spirit and with equal liberality. We can only regret that the Congress could not come, and hope for better fortune on a future opportunity, after the visit of the B.A.A.S. to Winnipeg, which according to precedent, may be safely counted on in due course.

Provision for Visits of Associations from other Countries.

But how are we to make sure of a future opportunity? What everybody would desire, everybody may expect his neighbour to get for him; and then every effort becomes a matter of chance; or again, two different desires may present themselves to two persons at the same time and then there may be a clash of efforts. That visits of associations like our own from other countries will be of great value to Canada and are thus very desirable, all feel; but how are we to get them if we have no system? Ought we not to put on some small committee or on the Council, the responsibility of recommending to the society from time to time, at regulated intervals, if possible, invitations for such visits?

Chance and not-chance.

If not they will be left to chance. I speak with knowledge, for if I may be excused for mentioning the fact, it was due to chance that the movements for two meetings of the B.A.A.S. in Canada (out of three