

## VICTORIA

**T**HIRTEEN meetings were held during the year, with an average attendance of 10, and the following papers were read before the branch:—

February 7th, "Manufacture of Steel," R. R. Neild; April 11th, "Engineering Work in Seattle," A. H. Dimock; May 16th, "Sooke Water Supply System," C. H. Rust.

On February 26th a representative committee of the branch interviewed the newly elected provincial government premier and his cabinet ministers, placing clearly before them the national character, standing and aims of our society. An attentive hearing was given and many questions asked, the trend of which indicates that there is a great deal of educational work to be done by our members in Canada before the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers will be known and recognized by the public as one of the greatest assets in the development and progress of the Dominion.

At the commencement of 1914 our membership roll stood at 80, and since the outbreak of the war 33 have gone overseas on active service, where the "Last Post" has sounded over three. A fourth is held prisoner in Germany. At present the branch has 40 per cent. of its members with the allied armies, and we enter the new year with a membership of 74.

The annual meeting was held December 12th, the following officers being elected:—

Chairman, R. W. Macintyre; vice-chairman, R. Fowler; treasurer, E. Davis; secretary, E. G. Marriott; executive, the officers and W. K. Gwyer and E. P. McKie; auditors, C. Hoard and F. C. Green.

## VANCOUVER

**T**HE officers of the branch are as follows: Chairman, W. E. E. Carey; vice-chairman, E. G. Matheson; secretary-treasurer, F. P. Wilson; acting secretary-treasurer, A. G. Dagill; executive committee, C. Brakenridge, C. E. Cooper, H. M. Burwell and A. E. B. Hill.

## ALBERTA DIVISION

**A**T the annual meeting in January, 1917, we reported a preliminary organization of the Alberta Division. On December 22nd, 1917, the division held its first regular annual business meeting, at which by-laws were adopted, officers elected, and other business transacted. The officers are as follows:—

Chairman, William Pearce; secretary-treasurer, Sam. G. Porter; executive committee, F. H. Peters, S. G. Porter, L. B. Elliott, A. T. Fraser, J. T. Child and J. G. McGregor.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA DIVISION

**N**O formal meetings have been held, no funds have been received and no financial expenditures incurred. The Division is in a state of suspended animation.

It is felt that while there may possibly be a need for a provincial division in normal times, there is abundant excuse for the fact that no desire is manifested on the part of any of the members to divert any energy during these unprecedented days to the duplication of the work of the branches. The organization of the division will still be maintained.

## ONTARIO HYDRO BUYS EQUIPMENT

At a recent meeting of the board of directors of the Ontario Power Company, of which Sir Adam Beck is President, the board approved of the arrangements made by Sir Adam with the Bank of Montreal for an advance of \$1,250,000 required to construct the additional pipe line and two extra generating units at the company's plant at Niagara Falls. The cost of the work will be \$1,800,000, the additional \$550,000 being taken from the surplus derived from the company's operation. Sir Adam says that the bank loan will be repaid after two years of operation.

The contract for the two generators was awarded to the Canadian General Electric Company, while two S. Morgan Smith Company turbines were purchased from the Tallahassee Power Company, of South Carolina. The contract for the construction of the wood-stave pipe line, 13½ feet in diameter, was awarded to the Pacific Coast Pipe Company. The new generators will each have a capacity of 18,000 h.p.

At a meeting of representatives of the Hydro municipalities last week, Sir Adam stated his belief that the Commission would be able to complete the construction of the Chippewa Canal a year before the limit fixed before the war, as labor had been eliminated to a large extent by the use of heavy equipment. Six hundred men are employed on the work at present. Orders to the extent of

\$4,000,000 have been placed on the Chippewa development, but the money has not yet been forthcoming with which to pay for all of the equipment ordered.

"If 300,000 h.p. could be made available a year before we were counting on it, that would be of enormous value both to Canada and the United States," said Sir Adam, "as we are now allies fighting for the same cause and we should co-operate in the manufacture of war supplies and munitions."

The following resolution urging the Power Controller to commandeer the plants of the Canadian Niagara Power Co. and of the Electrical Development Co., was passed by the meeting upon motion of P. B. Yates, of St. Catharines:—

"That this meeting of the representatives of the Hydro municipalities demands of the Power Controller the operation of all generating plants by representatives of the Power Controller in order to secure an equitable division of all available power to the distributing systems affected, and that we urge instant action to relieve the present intolerable situation; and that we have reason to believe that there are some thousands of horse-power of electrical energy available which can be utilized over the lines of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario, and that you order such power to be placed on these wires for distribution without delay."