

## TOWN PLANNING INSTITUTE OF CANADA

**T**HE first general meeting of the Town Planning Institute of Canada was held May 31st, in the Russell Hotel, Ottawa. Thomas Adams, chairman of the Provisional Council, presided.

The following members were present: Thomas Adams, Dr. E. Deville, Dr. C. Klotz, N. Cauchon, J. B. Challies, F. D. Henderson, C. P. Meredith, H. L. Seymour, R. H. Millson, W. D. Cromarty, D. Ewart, B. B. Parry, F. C. Todd, Thos. Fawcett, A. H. Hawkins, S. E. Farley, A. Buckley and E. T. B. Gillmore.

The first business of the meeting was the confirmation of the provisional membership. The chairman announced that the list comprised fifty-two provisional members.

Sir Lomer Gouin and Hon. N. W. Rowell were elected as honorary members.

The following were elected as associate members, subject to the execution of certain further formalities in connection with forms of application:—

## Associate Members

**Architects:**—Richard H. Millson, James P. Hynes, William D. Cromarty, David Ewart, George A. Ross, W. Herbert George, Charles H. C. Wright, Ramsay Traquair, Percy E. Nobbs, Arthur A. Stoughton, Robert H. Macdonald, Edward Maxwell and Colborne F. Meredith.

**Engineer:**—R. S. Lea, William M. Tobey, George H. Ferguson, Horace L. Seymour, William H. Powell, Charles A. Bigger, John L. Rannie, Christopher J. Yorath, Arthur G. Dalzell, George Phelps, James A. Walker, William A. McLean, Percival H. Mitchell, Noulon Cauchon, James White, John B. Challies and Lionel C. Charlesworth.

**Surveyors:**—Francis D. Henderson, Thomas Fawcett, Edouard Deville, Wilbert H. Norrish, William A. Begg, Ernest B. Normon, Thomas A. McElhanney, Albert H. Hawkins, Carl Engler, Athos C. Narraway, Sidney N. Farley and Otto Klotz.

**Landscape Architects and Town Planners:**—Frederick G. Todd, Alfred V. Hall, H. B. Dunnington-Grubb and Thomas Adams.

## Legal Associate Members

Thomas B. McQueston and James A. Ellis.

## Associates

G. Frank Beer, Dr. W. H. Atherton, A. Buckley and E. T. B. Gillmore.

The chairman presented a report on some features of the City Planning Conference held at Niagara Falls during the last week of May. The institute, he said, had been well represented at the conference, considering the existing small membership. The conference was called under the auspices of the cities of the Niagara frontier and was international in its purpose and significance. It had fallen to his lot to present a paper on "The Regional Survey as the Basis for Town Planning." The subject dealt with the district twenty miles on either side of the Niagara River, covering an area of 1,000 sq. miles, and with the aid of seven or eight diagrams, the paper set forth the basic conditions that require to be considered with regard to the whole district. He thought that the consideration of the subject might lead to the formation, on both sides of the river, of an International Town Planning Commission dealing with the whole of that region. This would mean a big scheme and one of world-wide value. The scheme should have special interest to professional men, as it would enlist the services to a large extent of surveyors, engineers and architects.

A discussion took place on the question of the formation of local branches and local representation. Mr. Todd suggested that the provisional council seemed to be largely composed of Ontario men and that Montreal was not very well represented. On that ground he foresaw some difficulty in the formation of a Montreal branch.

The chairman explained that this point had been discussed; that the provisional council was appointed to carry on the work of organization for the first year, and that it

had seemed necessary that the membership should be largely drawn from Ottawa in order to make it possible to conduct business. He also explained that the organization was started in Ottawa and they had no assurance that anyone in Montreal would join them. The council, however, was merely provisional, and at the end of the first year it would be easier to elect a wider representation. Local branches would have to be formed in Montreal and Toronto, and proper representation given on the council.

Mr. Henderson: There were two members suggested for Montreal and there is still a vacancy.

Mr. Adams: We could fill that vacancy. I suggest that it be left to the consideration of the council. With regard to further nominations the members should send in recommendations.

The matter was left to the council.

## Prospects of the Institute

Mr. Adams addressed the meeting upon "Prospects of Town Planning Institutes in Canada." He referred to the progress made in forming institutes in Britain and the United States, and to the special difficulties Canada had to meet in attempting to create any organization on the basis of conditions in these countries.

In Great Britain there was practically no such thing as a "town planner" prior to 1909. In that year the Town Planning Act was passed by the government and there arose a need for men as town planners. In 1913 the Town Planning Institute was formed. It consisted of the architects, surveyors and engineers in Great Britain who were prominently identified with town planning.

"They have this advantage," said Mr. Adams, "that Britain is a small place and meetings can be held frequently and they have been very successful. They hold about eight meetings yearly, and they have presented papers which are published and form very interesting and valuable literature on the subject. An annual volume is issued with a subscription of two guineas for members and one guinea for associates."

"In Britain, when a town wishes to have a scheme prepared, if it has not an engineer who is also a town planner, then an expert town planner is asked to assist. The city engineers of the chief cities are prominent members of the institute."

## British Institute is Successful

"It is strictly a professional institute and there has been no difficulty in separating the associate from the professional members. Some of the associates, however, have studied town planning for many years, but are not professionally qualified. These include Henry Vivian, chairman of Copartnership, Ltd., H. R. Aldridge, who has written a very comprehensive book on the subject, and Ewart Culpin, secretary of the Garden Cities and Town Planning Association. None of these men were eligible as professional members, but were elected as associates. The institute was formally established as a professional organization and has brought into existence a definite scheme of instruction in town planning. An examination syllabus has been issued, and the aim was that no one could become a member without examination. They have also a school of civic design in Liverpool University and a professorship of town planning in London. In regard to professional work, they have issued a scale of charges for town planning work. Members of the Town Planning Institute were recently elected housing commissioners. Raymond Unwin, an ex-president, is now chief architect of the government in respect of its housing schemes that involve an expenditure of \$600,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000. G. L. Pepler, a vice-president and first secretary, is town planning inspector to the Local Government Board. Professor Abercrombie, librarian of the institute, is editor of the 'Town Planning Review,' and head of the Liverpool School of Civic Design, and Professor Adshead, the president, is professor of town planning in London, and adviser on town planning to the Prince of Wales."