



SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

General Mining Association of the Province of Quebec

A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL MEETING.

The Sixth Annual General Meeting of the General Mining Association was held in the new Club Room, Windsor Hotel, Montreal, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 8th, 9th and 10th January. There was a large attendance at all the sessions, the following among others being present:—

- Mr. John Blue, C. & M.E., (Eustis Mining Co.), Capelton.
- Mr. H. A. Budden, (Intercolonial Coal Co.), Montreal.
- Mr. John Hardman, M.E., S.B., Prof. of Mining Engineering, McGill.
- Mr. John J. Penhale, (United Asbestos Co.), Black Lake.
- Mr. R. T. Hopper, (Anglo-Canadian Asbestos Co.), Montreal.
- Mr. James S. Mitchell, (Beaver Asbestos Co.), Sherbrooke.
- Mr. H. D. Lawrence, (Beaver Asbestos Co.), Sherbrooke.
- Mr. George R. Smith, Bell's Asbestos Co., Thetford Mines.
- Mr. George E. Drummond, (Canada Iron Furnace Co.), Montreal.
- Mr. T. J. Drummond, (Canada Iron Furnace Co.), Montreal.
- Mr. J. T. McCall, (Drummond McCall & Co.), Montreal.
- Mr. W. T. Costigan, (Danville Asbestos and Slate Co.), Montreal.
- Mr. Chas. Fergie, M.E., (Intercolonial Coal Co.), Westville.
- Captain R. C. Adams, (Anglo-Canadian Phosphate Co.), Montreal.
- Mr. J. S. Higginson, Phosphate Miner, Buckingham.
- Dr. A. R. C. Selwyn, C.M.G., late Director Geol. Survey of Canada.
- Dr. Geo. M. Dawson, C.M.G., Director Geol. Survey of Canada.
- Mr. H. P. H. Brummell (N. American Graphite Mining and Mfg. Co.), Ottawa.
- Major R. G. Leckie, M.E., (Torbrook Iron Co.), Torbrooke, N.S.
- Mr. G. H. Baker, B.A.Sc., (Blackburn Mine), Templeton.
- Mr. Edward Wallingford, (Wallingford Mica Co.), Templeton.
- Mr. E. W. Rathbun, (The Rathbun Co.), Deseronto.
- Mr. Wm. Selater, (Selater Asbestos Mfg. Co.), Montreal.
- Mr. Frank Grundy, (Quebec Central Railway), Sherbrooke.
- Mr. J. H. Walsh, (Quebec Central Ry.), Sherbrooke.
- Dr. Frank D. Adams, (McGill University), Montreal.
- Dr. Harrington, (McGill University), Montreal.
- Mr. J. D. Sword, Mining Engineer, Rossland, B.C.
- Mr. F. H. Susmann, Mining Engineer, C.P.R., Montreal.
- Mr. Wm. Snaill, B.A. Sc., Montreal.
- Mr. Ian Cameron, M.E., Sudbury.
- Mr. Thos. Cantley, (Nova Scotia Steel Co.), New Glasgow.
- Mr. A. W. Stevenson, C.A., Montreal.
- Mr. John Jenckes, (Jenckes Machine Co.), Sherbrooke.
- Mr. A. Sangster, Jr., (Canadian Kand Drill Co.), Sherbrooke.
- Mr. J. H. Featherstone, (Caribon Hydraulic Mining Co.), Vancouver.
- Mr. Dan Mann, (North Star Silver Mining Co.), Montreal.
- Mr. F. H. Hopkins, (Dominion Wire Rope Co.), Montreal.
- Mr. J. T. Dwyer, (Carriere Laine & Co.), Levis.
- Mr. L. Chonillon, Montreal.
- Mr. Hanbury A. Budden, Montreal.
- Mr. C. G. Rothwell, Kingston, Ont.
- Mr. W. F. Dean, (Canadian General Electric Co.), Montreal.
- Mr. Walter Adams, B.A. Sc., Montreal.
- Mr. Hersey, Analytical Chemist, Montreal.
- Mr. J. T. Donald, M.A., Montreal.
- Mr. W. T. Bonner (Babcock & Wilcox Co.), Montreal.
- Dwight Brainerd (Hamilton Powder Co.), Montreal.
- Mr. B. T. A. Bell, Editor CANADIAN MINING REVIEW.

And about thirty student members. The morning session was called to order at eleven o'clock on Wednesday, Capt. C. Adams, in the absence of the president, being called to the chair.

THE SECRETARY read the minutes of previous meetings, and these, on motion were adopted.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

A motion by Mr. John Blue, Capelton, that two meetings be held in each year, instead of three, as at present, was unanimously adopted.

Mr. George E. Drummond gave notice of motion to amend Sec. VIII, Par. 24, by changing the date of the annual general meeting from the second Wednesday in January until the first Wednesday in February of each year.

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT.

MR. B. T. A. BELL.—It is a source of satisfaction to be able to report the success of our Association during the year. A continuance of such vigorous vitality isarrant for the belief that more than a justification exists for such an organization in the Province of Quebec.

The steady growth of our membership, the prominence and character of those who have joined us, the success which has attended our efforts to originate and promote improvements in our legislation, to protect the interests of mining, to extend knowledge of our resources, are evidences of our growing importance in the community.

During the past year there were five meetings, embracing nine business sessions, one meeting of Council, and three meetings of Committee.

Our annual gathering at Montreal in January extended over three days and was notable for a large attendance, an excellent syllabus of papers and a marked addition to our membership.

The June meeting, in response to the kind invitation of our esteemed past president, the Hon. Mr. Irvine, Mr. James King, M.L.A., Mr. C. H. Carriere, and Mr. Lawrence Lynch, was held in Quebec, and the members are greatly indebted to these gentlemen for an exceedingly profitable and enjoyable outing. Messrs. Carriere, Laine & Co., of Levis, are also entitled to special mention for the admirable excursion carried out under their auspices. It was also a source of gratification to find that members of our sister societies, the Mining Society of Nova Scotia and the Ontario Mining Institute made special efforts to attend this meeting and take part in our proceedings. The cordiality of the reception accorded to the Association and its guests on that occasion is likely to be long remembered by those who were present.

Three important meetings were held at Ottawa in November and December with a view to determining some more satisfactory method of grading Canadian mica, and, if possible, arriving at an agreement among the producers as to a standard schedule of prices for these grades.

It is gratifying to be able to report that a decision was reached which will place the Canadian miner of this product in a much better position towards foreign consumers. As an outcome of these meetings a proposition will be submitted to you to-day providing for a mica section in connection with our Association.

It is also a source of congratulation that the scheme of federation which originated at our annual meeting in 1893, has been carried out to a successful issue and on a basis satisfactory to the sister societies of Nova Scotia and Ontario. The Canadian Mining Institute, on the board of which our Association will have four delegates will henceforward conduct the publication of a combined volume of the proceedings of the societies in the federation, and will be a valuable auxiliary in such matters affecting or relating to the mineral industries of the country as may call for the united action of the mineral operators of the provinces.

The interpretation of the customs tariff respecting the free admission of mining machinery is still far from satisfactory at many of the ports of entry. A deputation from the Association endeavored to obtain an interview with the Controller of Customs early in the year, but political disturbances precluded an appointment at the time, and later on in the year no date could be arranged suitable to a strong presentation of the views of the Association.

This is a matter of vital importance to the welfare of the industry which now properly falls within the scope of the federated board and it is hoped a decided effort will be made by it to have the law carried out not only with greater uniformity, but with a more liberal application of the spirit in which it was created.

The mining law of the province is on the whole a fairly liberal enactment and its interpretation by the present administration has occasioned no complaint during the year. There are, however, certain clauses such as section 1435 respecting royalty, which, while at present held to be inoperative may be put into operation at any time with serious consequences to the successful development of the industry, and it would be well if some effort was made to have them completely wiped out of the statute.

Our membership has been materially increased during the year, the total at date being 132, of which 20 are honorary and 20 student members.

By the death of the late Mr. W. H. Jeffrey, of Richmond, the Association has again to record the loss of one who took a lively interest in its affairs. The deceased gentleman was widely esteemed, and in his death the asbestos industry is deprived of one of its pioneers in this province.

The facilities now provided by McGill University and by the Mining School at Kingston, for the training of students in mining engineering, are matters of satisfaction to those interested in the progress of mining in this country.

At our last annual meeting we created a student membership at a nominal fee and made provision for inducing original contributions to our *Transactions*.

The members of Prof. Carlyle's class at McGill, were also, owing to the courtesy of our president, able to spend a portion of their summer vacation at the Eustis mine, where valuable experience was gained in underground surveying and in making acquaintance with practical work. This is a step in the right direction, which will doubtless be imitated by other members of our Association.

We have to acknowledge with satisfaction the very hearty interest manifested in the work of the Association by the Hon. E. J. Flynn, our esteemed Commissioner of Crown Lands, to whose liberality we are indebted for a substantial grant of \$300.00 towards our publications.

The Legislature of Nova Scotia, during the past year, voted an annual grant to our sister Society in that Province of \$500.00, which has enabled its members to acquire a suitable meeting place and make provision for the proper housing of its library. Surely much would be accomplished for our Province were this Association equipped in a similar manner.

Notwithstanding the extensive and varied mineral resources of Quebec and the rapidly advancing condition of her mineral industries there is absolutely no provision made for a collection of ores or minerals, or a library of the mining literature of the day which could be readily consulted either by the student or the mineral operator, or the inve or seeking information. No record is kept of the history of mining undertakings, beyond the somewhat meagre report of the Department of Crown Lands, and maps and plans of old workings have either been lost or filed in pigeon holes not readily accessible to the public.

Our Association is distinctly an educational institution: its prime object is to cultivate and extend the science and art of mining and to further the development of the resources of the Province. Surely it might reasonably claim a measure of Government assistance sufficient to maintain a permanent mineral collection in the city of Montreal.

Twenty-one papers were contributed during the year, compared with twelve in 1894.

These, with the reports of our proceedings, were published in the second volume of our Journal and issued to members in December.

Copies were also sent in exchange to: The Mining Institute of Scotland, The North of England Institute of Mining and Mechanical Engineers, The South Wales Institute of Engineers, The Cleveland Institution of Engineers, The Iron and Steel Institute of Great Britain, The American Institute of Mining Engineers, The British Society of Mining Students, The Massachusetts Institute of Technology, The Columbia School of Mines, The Geological Survey of Canada, The Geological Survey of the United States, The Mining Society of Nova Scotia, The Manchester Geological Society, The Imperial Institute, The Royal Colonial Institute, The School of Mining, Kingston, McGill University, The School of Practical Science, The Library of Parliament.