

sented at the Canadian meeting by men of recognized eminence, including distinguished government officials, geologists and mining engineers in consulting practice, geographers, great educationalists and writers of text-books. Thus surely never a better, a more effective opportunity has presented itself of providing for the wide-spread disseminations of authoritative information on Canadian resources and potentialities.

On these grounds, a general appeal for sympathetic co-operation is made to all classes and to the mining community in particular. The congress has held many meetings in other countries. In all, it has been welcomed with open arms. That record must be at least maintained.

Meanwhile, before proceeding to recount what progress has been made so far with the arrangements for the meeting and for the instruction and entertainment of the visitors, a word or two should be said concerning the International Geological Congress itself. In the year 1876, at the International Exhibition at Philadelphia, there was displayed a collection of geological maps and sections from both America and Europe. It had the effect of impressing on geologists who saw it the advantage of providing opportunities and means for comparative study; and in consequence, in August, 1876, at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, at Buffalo, under the presidency of Prof. William B. Rogers, the project of the foundation of the congress was broached, received favorably, and a committee was appointed to arrange for the first meeting, held two years later in Paris. It is worthy of remark that the secretary of the committee in question was that distinguished chemist and geologist, Dr. T. Sterry Hunt, who from 1847 to 1872 was chemist and mineralogist to the Geological Survey of Canada. The objects of the congress may be very briefly and succinctly summarized in the general statement that by means of the periodical meetings the results of knowledge acquired in any one country are given a universal application and significance. The congress endeavors to provide, for example, for the adoption of uniform systems of mapping, nomenclature and classification of rocks, fossils and minerals; and in other directions broadens the boundaries and extends the usefulness of geological science. One achievement, in particular that may be mentioned, is the compilation of a geological map of Europe, shortly to be issued; and it is now proposed to undertake the preparation of a similar geological map of the world.

The records of the meetings, which are usually held every three years, are shown in the following table:—

**Number of Members, Delegates, Vice-Presidents and Countries Represented at Each Congress.**

Congress	Year	Country	Members		Delegates	Vice-Presidents	Countries Represented
			Enrolled	Attending			
1st	1878	France					
2nd	1881	Italy	310		7	18	23
3rd	1885	Germany	420	224	23	19	23
4th	1888	England	455	258	15	20	22
5th	1891	U.S.A.	337	140	68	22	25
6th	1894	Switzerland	546	251	39	31	24
7th	1897	Russia	401	273	18	15	20
8th	1900	France	1037	704	139	40	27
9th	1903	Austria	1016	461	80	46	31
10th	1906	Mexico	664	393	39	25	30
11th	1910	Stockholm	707	321	83	27	33
			857	650	262	74	36

As will be noted, the congress, so far, has met only twice on this side of the Atlantic.

Socially and scientifically, the last meeting in Sweden was notably successful. The opening session was attended by the King of Sweden in person, while at the sessions devoted to the discussion of economic problems, a number of the Cabinet Ministers proved their interest and sense of the importance of the occasion by their presence. The arrangements for the conduct of the meeting, for the entertainment of the visiting scientists, and in connection with the several excursions, were planned and carried out with extraordinary ability and precision; and it will require every effort on the part of Canadians to even equal the standard set by Sweden in these respects. It is scarcely necessary to say, however, that no pains are being spared by an energetic and representative executive committee, to which has been entrusted the task of preparing a programme for the twelfth or Canadian meeting of the congress.

The excursions, more especially on the occasion of recent meetings, have been given special prominence. These have two main purposes; one to illustrate, so far as possible, the subjects discussed; and the other to afford visiting members the opportunity of studying the features of geological interest peculiar to the country in which the congress assembles. In connection with the arrangements for the Canadian meeting, provision has been made for over thirty excursions to mining districts and other localities of geological interest in Canada, between the extreme east and west of the continent, and northward as far as Dawson. It is computed, on the basis of the numbers in attendance at former meetings, that the representation from abroad, at the Canadian meeting, will not be less than, and may exceed, seven hundred. Each excursion will be under the leadership of a duly qualified guide, who will also be competent to point out and discuss the phenomena constituting the point of interest in each instance. Obviously, the planning and effective conduct of a series of excursions on this scale is no light undertaking; but with the assurance of local aid and co-operation, the difficulties should not prove insuperable.

The Swedish meeting was marked especially by the publication of a monumental work on "The Iron Ore Resources of the World," to which reports on the distribution and supply of iron in the respective countries were contributed by eminent authorities. The executive committee of the twelfth congress are to be very heartily congratulated on the decision to emulate this example by undertaking the compilation of a companion work on the "Coal Resources of the World." Incidentally, this report should serve to direct wider attention to the magnitude and value of Canadian resources. The subject of coal resources and supplies will, moreover, form one of the principal topics for discussion at the meeting in Toronto; while other topics of no less economic interest, notably that of the influence of depth on the character of metalliferous deposits, are to be debated.

It is unnecessary here, however, to further discuss details, the purpose of the present notes being to give merely a general idea of the aims and work of the congress and of the significance attaching to its meeting in this country. With a proper realization of the importance of the occasion, the mining men of Canada, no less than the public generally, may be trusted to cordially co-operate with the congress officials in making the Canadian meeting an unqualified success.

Further information may be obtained by applying to the secretary, Twelfth International Geological Congress, Victoria Memorial Museum, Ottawa.