

THE PRESIDENT: Will you repeat your motion, Mr. Mountain?

MR. MOUNTAIN: My motion is that this committee be allowed to continue their investigations for another year. I do not agree with Mr. Kerry's motion.

THE PRESIDENT: You have heard the motion of Mr. Mountain, seconded by Mr. Murdoch. I declare the motion carried.

Then, Mr. Kerry, would you put your motion in a more general way? While Mr. Kerry is preparing his motion perhaps we may proceed with something else.

MR. MOUNTAIN: This question of cement will take some time. I would like to finish Clause 6 that we laid over.

MR. RUST: If I may interrupt, I have a short report that will not take a minute. It is on out-of-pocket expenses.

THE PRESIDENT: Is it the pleasure of the meeting that while Mr. Kerry is preparing his motion, that the report of the Committee on Out-of-Pocket Expenses be read?—Carried.

MR. RUST: "Your committee beg to report that in their opinion it is not advisable to make any recommendation but that the Council should have the power to deal with this matter." I move the adoption of that report, seconded by Mr. Leofred.

THE PRESIDENT: It is moved by Mr. Rust, seconded by Mr. Leofred that the report be adopted.—Carried.

THE PRESIDENT: Now, Mr. Kerry?

MR. KERRY: "Moved that the reports of special committees appointed by this Annual Meeting shall be submitted to Council and by it transmitted to the next Annual Meeting with such recommendations for action as it may deem advisable."

MR. MOUNTAIN: I have no objection to that. I did not think that was the way it was going to be put.

THE PRESIDENT: That is what I thought might be done. It is unfortunate that the two questions got mixed up. You have heard Mr. Kerry's motion; it is seconded by Mr. Coste.—Carried.

MR. ARMSTRONG: 'Is it understood that passenger transportation is included in the work of that committee? I was thinking of moving that Council be asked to take up the question of passenger rates; whether members, associate members or students of the Society should not be given at least the same advantages as members of the Commercial Travellers Association.

THE PRESIDENT: That will come in as a piece of extra business after the regular business is disposed of. I do not think it has any connection with the Transportation Committee.

MR. JAMESON: Mr. President and gentlemen, the report of the Cement Committee, accompanying the specification prepared by the committee is not printed for distribution. It was got ready too late to go through with the rush of other printing just before the meeting. The specification here is headed a little wrongly; "Report of Committee on Standard Method of Testing, and Specifications for Portland Cement." This does not, as printed, constitute the report itself, but it is the specification and the standard rules for testing. In connection with that I will read our report in presenting it.

MR. COSTE: Mr. Chairman, I object. I contend that this is not the business of a General Meeting; this is a paper which ought to be read in the regular way before the Society of Engineers and not at the Annual Meeting. We are not here to listen to discussions of this kind. The Annual Meeting is not for the purpose of lecturing the engineering profession as to what they shall adopt in the way of standards. That should be done at meetings of Council and at the regular meetings of the Society in Montreal. I object to losing an hour of my time now in reading a specification on cement.

MR. JAMESON: Mr. Coste is entirely out of order. This is for distribution; we do not propose reading this; we propose to present our report. We were appointed by the Annual Meeting as a committee and we report to the Annual Meeting and we present our report accompanied by the specification.

THE PRESIDENT: It seems to me that Mr. Jameson is in order. A motion has just been adopted that in future these reports shall be presented through Council, but that does not affect this report. I agree with Mr. Coste that we cannot discuss this at present; we should have time to read and consider these important reports. The report should be presented in the usual way, and then it remains for the Society to say what shall be done with it. Mr. Jameson may give a general resume for the information of the Society as to what has been done by the committee, without reading the report.

MR. JAMESON: I do not propose to discuss the specification as herein presented. I take this ground, that if this Society appoints a committee it has confidence in that committee to deal with the subject referred to it. I can assure you that this work has occupied the committee for many weeks, and the most minute attention of the members has been given to it. Then when we come to the Annual Meeting to present our report, something that has been thoroughly digested and studied, if we are going to have objections raised on every corner, I certainly will refuse to act on any committee under those conditions.

THE PRESIDENT: Are you referring to anything I have said personally?

MR. JAMESON: No, I refer to the question raised by Mr. Coste.

THE PRESIDENT: At the same time I am sure you do not mean the Society to understand that any committee should expect its report to be adopted by the Society simply because it has put experts on the committee.

MR. JAMESON: No, I expect to take up the points in that report and have them discussed. I do not expect the meeting to adopt it without consideration.

MR. HUNTER: It seems to me, Mr. Chairman, that in parliamentary usage any man has a right to preface a motion he wishes to make. A committee having brought in its report, it does not seem right to that committee to deny them the right to preface a few remarks in regard to the report they offer. I believe it is simply the intention of Mr. Jameson to give a few introductory remarks in presenting his report.

THE PRESIDENT: I think Mr. Jameson is proceeding in that way. That is what I meant when I asked him to make a general explanation to the meeting. I do not know where Mr. Hunter gets the impression that any member of the Society wishes to suppress the explanations of Mr. Jameson.

MR. HUNTER: The point of order was raised distinctly on that. Mr. Jameson has said two or three words as a preface when a point of order was raised.

THE PRESIDENT: I think I settled that point of order.

MR. McNAB: Mr. Jameson has started to present a report. May I ask if this is a report of progress of what the committee has done or is the meeting to be asked to pass upon any of the conclusions? I think it would be unfair for us to go on record before the country with a small meeting like this without thoroughly digesting the resolution.

THE PRESIDENT: I do not know whether you heard me or not, but I think I said that under our present practice, which has not yet been modified, Mr. Jameson is in order.

MR. JAMESON: The remarks I have made preparatory to presenting the report were only in the way of an explanation as to how the matter stood and what I was going to present. This is headed, "Report of Committee on Standard Method of Testing, and Specifications for Portland Cement." That is the report strictly applied to the specification and the rules for testing. We consider up to date that our work is at an end, but we feel that we have been deficient in the past; in our Society there has been no one to look after keeping the specifications up, and the result has been that our late specification has been out of date for some years. As to the second paragraph, we have discussed this very fully, and there are so many reasons for trying to get a standard package and so many reasons in favour of 100 pounds becoming the standard package that we feel like recommending this strongly to the Society to use all their influence towards that end. The usual package is a bag. There is no reason why every country should have a different package. There is no reason why the Canadian package should be lighter in weight than practically any other, 87½ pounds. The American 94. The committee has had this question up with the manufacturers and discussed it very fully with their committee at our joint meeting. While not definitely committing themselves the manufacturers' committee expressed themselves generally and some strongly in favour of the 100-pound package. A number of the manufacturers individually are in favour of coming to that while others are against it on account of the expense of making the change. That is, they have a large stock, amounting sometimes to 40 or 50,000 dollars worth of bags on hand, and they are not sufficiently large to hold a hundred pounds. But I know some of them are preparing to order bigger bags to meet our suggestions, irrespective of their Association as a whole. It is necessary to give them time