

Committee on Prestige Offers Resolutions

Members of the Toronto Branch of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers Meet To-night to Adopt, Amend or Reject Nine Resolutions Tending Toward Improvement in the National Status of Engineers

THE following nine resolutions have been prepared by the Committee on Prestige of the Toronto Branch of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers, and will be discussed at a meeting to be held this evening at the Engineers' Club, Toronto:—

1.—That the Ottawa Branch be invited to co-operate with the Toronto Branch in the drafting of a bill for the restriction of the employment of engineers upon public works, such as federal, provincial and municipal works, to those who have conformed to the requirements which shall be defined therein; and such draft, after being approved by the respective branches, to be submitted to the council of the Institute for consideration and action.

2.—That legislation be obtained forbidding the expenditure of public funds upon the construction of bridges, roads, docks, harbors, waterworks, sewerage and sewage works, electric light and power works and other undertakings, unless the plans for the same shall have been prepared by and the supervision is under the control of engineers who have conformed to the requirements defined in the proposed draft bill mentioned in Resolution No. 1.

3.—That it is desirable that the branch shall make provision for the payment of the branch secretary, and that it shall be deemed part of his duty to keep in close touch with the members and to render every assistance for their professional advancement.

4.—That the council of the Institute be asked, in order to secure material for further discussion, to issue an enquiry to the members generally to ascertain the compensation received by engineers of various ages and in different classes, and employed in various technical services, and that steps be taken, if possible, to ascertain also

the compensation paid to men of corresponding ages, classes and services in other professions.

5.—That the council be asked to organize a scheme for the defence of members who have been attacked in the performance of their professional duties on what may appear unjustifiable grounds.

6.—That the technical work of the Institute can be most successfully carried on by means of technical sections to which shall be entrusted the organization of ordinary meetings, special sectional conventions, etc.

7.—That the executive committee be requested to consider the suggestion of holding weekly or fortnightly lunch meetings, at which addresses will be delivered and facilities given for the members to become better known to each other. Such practices as obtain at meetings of the Rotary or the Electrical Clubs might be followed.

8.—Whereas in the vocation of engineers, technical knowledge is necessarily of primary importance, that the council be asked to adopt every means in their power to make transactions of the Institute a complete record of Canadian engineering achievements and of Canadian engineering studies.

9.—That it is desirable to appoint sectional technical committees who shall undertake special studies and investigations to be assigned to them. The appointments to such committees to be made only after formal acceptance of office by the nominees, and the work of the technical committees to be carefully supervised by the executive committee. In the case of appointees failing to carry out the work, the executive shall, after due notice, request their retirement and elect others in their places.

TWO ENGINEERS TO LOSE POSITIONS?

Unless some further influence is brought to bear upon the city of Vancouver, B.C., two of the three engineers who are now department heads in the city's employ will be discharged in the near future. The city council has unanimously adopted a recommendation that the city engineer, F. L. Fellowes, be instructed to dispense with the services of any two of his three present assistants, merely in order to economize in the engineering department.

The three engineers concerned are A. G. Dalzell, in charge of sewers; Chas. Brakenridge, in charge of paving; and E. M. Le Fluffy, in charge of waterworks.

At the council meeting a letter was read from E. G. Matheson, vice-chairman of the Vancouver Branch of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers, protesting against any reduction in the city's engineering staff, and urging that "a strong staff be maintained and its time and energy devoted to planning for the future growth of the city, to the end that its development may be along economical lines and its sanitation and beauty be safeguarded."

The reduction in the city's engineering department was one of the planks in Mayor Gale's election campaign, and he has persistently advocated a reduction of the engineering staff from four to two.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF M.E., ONTARIO SECTION

A meeting of the Ontario Section of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers was held at 8 p.m. April 18th, at the Engineers' Club, Toronto. Professor Angus presided and the local members and a number of visitors and prospective members were favored with a very interesting paper on "Heat Treatment of Low Carbon Steels," by W. M. Wilkie, of the steel department of the Imperial Munitions Board.

The discussion that followed the paper bore principally on the troubles encountered by the producers and users of shell steel. Among the engineers present were a number of those connected with local munitions plants, and their remarks were based on actual experiences and the solution of various troubles under war-time conditions.

Before the paper was read, the meeting appointed W. P. Robinson, of the Northern Crane Works, Limited, to be chairman of the committee on increase of membership, re-appointed the secretary, C. B. Hamilton, as delegate to the Joint Committee of Technical Organizations (Ontario Branches), and appointed a nominating committee of two, Messrs. Flettemeyer and Ward, to prepare a slate for the election of section executives which will take place by letter ballot within the next few weeks.