

"2nd. That the expenditure for 1916 corresponds very closely with that for 1912, in spite of the fact that our franking privileges have been cancelled, postage rates increased.

"3rd. One essential difference between those comparable years, 1912 and 1916, is that during the latter year the arrear collections were something over twice those of 1912. On the other hand, the entrance fees in 1912 are very much larger than 1916.

"4th. The moral of the above is that every effort will have to be made to increase the membership, which will assist doubly by increasing current as well as entrance fees."

Mr. Ross said that there should not be too much rejoicing at the credit balance shown in this year's report as it was due entirely to the arrears collected, and that after the "clean-up" of this item that had taken place in 1915 and 1916, the Society is hardly likely to be able to collect nearly so much on this item again.

Walter J. Francis said that Mr. Ross had brought in a splendid report despite the Finance Committee's rather pessimistic report of last year, and despite the fact that no dues are charged to the 687 members who are in active military service.

The reports of branches were read and accepted. These are summarized on other pages of this issue. It was remarked that there was no report from the British Columbia Division and some disappointment was expressed at the seeming lack of interest shown by that Division after the enthusiasm with which it was launched last year.

Prof. H. E. T. Haultain suggested that the rebates to branches be reduced and stated that the Toronto members would be satisfied with smaller rebates. The new chairman of the Toronto Branch, E. W. Oliver, tactfully refused to commit the branch to any suggestion along this line, however, and the matter was dropped.

At 11:30 a.m. the report of the Conservation Committee was received, and the remainder of the session was occupied by its discussion. James White, chairman of the committee, and deputy head of the Commission of Conservation of Canada, read the report, abstract of

which was printed in *The Canadian Engineer*, page 59, January 18th issue. He also read a letter from W. H. Breithaupt, of Kitchener, Ont., referring to the town-planning projects now being undertaken by Kitchener, Waterloo, Brantford, Ottawa, etc.

Mr. White referred to an address recently given by Lionel Curtis, in which Mr. Curtis professed belief that Canada would be flooded with British labor after the war, and that it would be a grave matter if these immigrants were to be allowed to mass in the cities. In South Africa, after the Boer war, the country could not absorb the flood of immigration, and a large part of the disfavor in which South Africa was for some time held in Great Britain, was the result of that fact.

Mr. White suggested that each community be requested, or even required, to absorb at least the number of men it sent to the war, restoring them to their old positions or equal ones.

These remarks brought on a brief discussion of after-the-war problems, and M. J. Butler, C.M.G., enquired whether the Honorary Advisory Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (hereafter called the "Research Council" for brevity), recently appointed by the Department of Trade and Commerce, intended to help the manufacturers on specific problems. In other words, would they get into such position that manufacturers could turn over definite, practical problems to them for solution?

R. A. Ross, who is a member of the Research Council, explained in a very clear-cut and convincing manner just what the Research Council is doing. He said that there is a fund of information buried in the government files and that they intend to disinter it and correlate it to the point of real usefulness. A census is also being taken to reveal where and what the raw material problems are, and in this the manufacturers must help the Research Council if they wished to be helped later on by the Research Council.

Adverting to the discussion on the Conservation Committee's report, Walter J. Francis intimated that the committee's work overlapped the work of the Commission of Conservation, and therefore was not conservation at all.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES—CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

Receipts (in Dollars).

	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Arrears collected	2,023	2,390	2,023	4,031	2,092	2,887	1,994	3,298	6,733	6,512
Current fees	6,102	7,089	7,963	9,491	11,893	13,897	15,037	15,616	12,438	13,176
Advance fees	144	203	376	134	288	158	186	270	139	153
Entrance fees	1,450	2,010	2,190	2,124	2,779	4,077	4,169	2,895	2,233	2,485
Total	9,719	11,692	12,552	15,780	17,052	21,019	21,386	22,079	21,543	22,326
Interest received	86	99	211	252	187	1,393	894	315	450	429
Miscellaneous receipts	623	630	188	79	174	341	225	172	87	972
Total	10,428	12,421	12,951	16,111	17,413	22,753	22,505	22,566	22,080	23,727

Expenditures (in Dollars).

	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Interest paid	—	—	—	—	—	854	1,695	1,201	1,200	1,200
Printing and stationery	3,608	4,055	4,902	6,268	3,757	6,865	6,416	10,551	5,970	6,691
Salaries and wages	3,485	4,633	4,042	3,845	4,714	5,195	4,906	5,652	4,909	5,180
Taxes and water	224	226	244	244	247	848	1,466	1,448	1,280	1,300
General expense	2,192	2,515	2,760	2,670	4,198	4,307	5,257	4,812	4,151	3,260
Branch societies	—	544	374	648	1,118	2,810	2,121	2,296	2,266	2,454
Total	9,509	11,973	12,322	13,675	14,034	20,879	21,861	25,960	19,776	20,085
Excess receipts	919	448	629	2,436	3,378	1,874	646	—	2,304	3,642
Excess expenditures	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,394	—	—