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THE CANADIAN MINING INSTITUTE'S TWELFTH ANNUAL MEETING.

The twelfth Annual Meeting of the Canadian Mining Institute will begin one day after this number of the Canadian Mining Journal appears. A large and representative attendance is assured. The number of visitors from the United States will be larger than usual. It is altogether probable that the sessions will be in all respects the most profitable on record.

In commenting upon last year's gathering in Montreal, we wrote thus: "In one respect the meeting that has just been concluded was an improvement on all preceding conventions. We refer to the fact that the proceedings were much facilitated by the presentation of papers in synoptical form. This saved time and made fuller discussion possible. Undoubtedly steps can still be taken in this direction. For instance, an inflexible time limit could be fixed for the presentation of any paper. Subjects foreign to the matter in hand should be rigidly excluded. . . . The custom of attaching consecutively numbered badges to all delegates has much to recommend it. An arrangement of this kind would obviate confusion and would provide an easy means of distinguishing members from non-members."

These remarks apply with equal force to-day. The discussions that follow the reading of papers are often of wider interest than the papers themselves. Not seldom, however, a speaker is permitted to ramble off into matters totally irrelevant to the subject in hand. It is hard for the chairman to correct this. The best preventive is the habit of putting one's remarks in writing first. Verbosity, unintentional or otherwise, is a cruel affliction. We hope, therefore, that no members will transgress in this respect.

Objectionable as long speeches are at any time, they are most intolerable at the Annual Dinner. On other occasions it is not impossible for the listeners to express their impatience. At the Dinner this, of course, is out of the question, and the offender gets off scot free except that he carries with him the undying aversion of those who have writhed under his eloquence. It is only fair to add that members of the Institute are not the worst sinners.

At the approaching meetings several questions of prime importance are to be settled. Among these are the formation of an independent professional society and the adoption of a new set of by-laws. Undoubtedly there will be much pother and some warm feeling. But it will be well to remember that diametrically opposite opinions can be held on nearly every question by equally competent and honest men. No harm can