

It follows that to prevent such aid being necessary, every effort is made to secure suitable positions for members.

Secondly, the Institution will, if requested, educate one son of a deceased member as a Civil Engineer, and article him with a responsible firm.

Thirdly, and Mr. Hilder Daw laid strong emphasis on this feature, the Institution defends its members, under counsel's opinion, against aggressions or wrongings from corporations or individuals. "If a member feels aggrieved, he is compelled by the ethics of the Institution to lay all the particulars and original documents connected with his case before the council, who, after taking counsel's opinion, if necessary, take active steps to right the wrong. As a consequence of these powers, always ready to be actively exercised, corporations and individuals think twice before attacking or injuring a member of the Institution." Since I spoke on this matter last Tuesday, when I was ruled out of order, the following has appeared in the Montreal "Star":—

#### DISMISSED CITY ENGINEER.

"Calgary, Alta., Jan. 29th.—Though seven different petitions were presented, asking for investigation, the city council dismissed the City Engineer on a vote of seven to four. The Engineer will enter suit against Alderman Watson on the ground of slander. The offence is said to have been committed at the last municipal elections."

"Now, gentlemen, such a state of affairs as that could never be reached by a member of the British Institution. (A member: "Is the Calgary City Engineer a member of this Society?") I do not know who the Calgary City Engineer is, or whether he belongs to this Society, but I am sure that if this gentleman was a member, and this Society exercised the protective powers I have described, such a case could never have occurred.

"Many instances of injustice to engineers will, no doubt, recall themselves to your mind, especially cases where a combine of contractors, desirous of ousting an upright engineer, has succeeded in removing the obstacle, enabling bad or inferior workmanship or material to pass unchallenged. It is very difficult for an Engineer to fight such a combine singlehanded, and it is to his Society that he should look for support."

The above remarks met with the warm approbation of the assembled members, many rising and quoting instances that had come to their knowledge of engineers who had received injustice under similar circumstances. It is to be hoped that the new council will endeavor to give effect to these and other suggestions.

We cordially invite correspondence on these subjects, feeling that they would convert the Society from a "Society for the Propagation of Professional Papers," as one member described it, to a virile and invaluable force, controlling Government appointments, rectifying abuses, investigation disasters, and becoming the Oriflamme of a noble profession.

#### ENGINEERS' CLUB OF TORONTO ANNUAL BANQUET.

The annual banquet of the Engineers' Club, held on the sixth inst., at the Club rooms, King Street West, was a most successful affair. The number of members present was unusually large, taxing to the utmost the accommodation that could be provided in the present rooms. Mr. C. B. Smith, the retiring president, occupied the chair. The vice-chair was occupied by Mr. J. G. Sing, president elect.

To the right of Mr. Smith sat Dr. Ellis, acting Dean of the Faculty of Applied Science; Dr. Stupart, president of the Canadian Institute, and Capt. K. Gamble, representing the Ontario Land Surveyors. To the left of the chairman sat Mr. R. C. Steel, representing the Board of Trade; Mr. J. B. Tyrrell, representing the Mining Institute; Mr. T. Hogg, president of the Engineering Society, Toronto University. After Royalty had been honored, Dr. Ellis responded to the

toast of "Our Country." He referred to Canada as a country of great natural wealth, yet a country where great differences in size of private fortunes did not exist. This was a condition of things to be desired as it did much to prevent the growth of that class hatred so detrimental to the growth of any country. He liked to think of Canada as a country peopled by men not set above the ordinary laws of public opinion, a nation in morality at least not behind the other nations of the earth.

Mr. Steel in responding to "Our City" referred to Toronto as a prince among cities, yet not jealous of the success of sister cities, as city of power in practical affairs, giving tone and direction to discussions and movements along commercial, political and educational lines. But withal a city at the mercy of the engineer, whether harbor improvement, cheap power, trunk sewer, viaduct or transportation the future of the city, was in the keeping of the engineers.

Mr. Smith in proposing "Sister Institutions" suggested that the Toronto Branch of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers consider the advisability of becoming the



C. B. Smith,

Retiring President of the Engineers' Club.

Toronto Branch of the Electrical Section of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers.

Capt. K. Gamble brought words of good cheer from the Ontario Land Surveyors. Mr. A. J. Van Nostrand in replying for the same Society was pleased to know the membership of the Engineers' Club was so large as to tax the capacity of the present quarters and anticipated that shortly larger and commodious Club rooms would have to be secured.

Mr. T. C. Irving, Jr., responding for the Toronto Branch of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers referred to the harmonious manner in which two organizations with the same aim and object worked together.

Dr. Stupart, representing the Canadian Institute, referred to the Institute as the oldest Canadian Engineering Society. He outlined the progress in engineering since the Institutes organization in 1849, and paid a tribute to engineers for the work they had done in the development of Canada.

Mr. J. B. Tyrrell, of the Mining Institute, did not agree with the definition of an engineer as "a silent man who does things, such a man," said he, "was but half developed." The engineer should be willing to tell his fellow workers something of what he had accomplished. The engineer should be a speaker as well as a listener.

Mr. W. A. Bucke, of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, could not now fall in with the suggestion that the Institute become in name Canadian. It, however, was a matter worthy of discussion.