## President's Address.

Students, before being indentured, were to pass a preliminary examination, and no one was to receive a commission as Civil Engineer until he had passed a satisfactory examination before the triumvirate quorum in the subjects enumerated in a schedule printed in the Act, which schedule would have served as a very full index for an Encyclopedia of Civil Engineering.

Members of the Institution of Civil Engineers were by this Bill made eligible for final examination by the votes of at least three lawfully constituted Canadian Engineers.

The Board was empowered to charge annual fees for membership, to divide Engineering into branches, and to grant a diploma entitling candidates to practice only in those branches in which they had been examined. Also to classify Engineers into grades A, B, C, D. An A1 man, who could take the whole twenty-eight engineering subjects described in the Index, was to rank as Chief Engineer. B. was to pass in more than one branch to be Chief Engineer in those branches only in which he had passed and been commissioned. C was a one branch man, and his diploma made him a simple Engineer in that only. D held a second-class diploma and was ranked as Assistant Engineer.

The Board could fix the fees to which Engineers were entitled in the absence of agreement, suspend or dismiss from practice any Engineer for cause, but the Court of Appeals of Ontario could quash their decision. They could also examine candidates for admission under oath "as to his practice and with regard to his instruments." All Engincers (except the original 14 Parliamentary ones) on passing their final examination were to give a bond of \$5,000 to Her Majesty, supported by two securities, and take an oath of office.

All those who had not mastered the A, B, C, as well as D of their profession as above defined, and come into the fold before 1st June, 1881, were prohibited from practising as Civil Engineers under a penalty of \$100 for each offence, one half to go to the informer.

As there is a substantial difference between imposing a fine and collecting one, I do not think the business of an informer would have proved a lucrative one under this Act, especially as the Bill mercifully did not provide for imprisonment in ease of non-payment.

The final clauses of the Bill exhibited some practical features. It provided that the examiners while on duty should receive five dollars per diem, including time going and returning, together with living and travelling expenses, to be paid out of the Consolidated fund of the Province. Fines and fees might provide for the contingencies, but for the main items of the estimate the Provincial Treasury was the only reliable source of supply.

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