

talk by Prof. Cox on liquid air, the mysterious properties of which were demonstrated by a number of experiments such as those already mentioned in the Canadian Engineer.

The evening was profitably taken up with the instructive annual address of the president, which will be dealt with in next issue. The address was followed by a paper by H. D. Bush on the Miramichi Bridge, illustrated by lantern views, which will be referred to later on.

The first business brought up on the second day was the consideration of the report of the committee on cement specifications.

Prof. Bovey, as chairman of the committee, said that these specifications were based largely on the report of a committee of German cement manufacturers with whom several German experts in cement were called in consultation. These specifications were not binding on anybody, and any engineer could vary them to suit the special conditions of his work.

W. T. Jennings suggested the transposition of the report so that the proposed standard would appear first, and the conditions would follow as notes in explanation. This suggestion was adopted, and some change was made in the paragraphing of the report, while the first line of the proposed standard was altered so that the term "slightly burnt" was made to read "well burnt."

During further discussion by Messrs. Pinhey, Armstrong, Kerry, Jennings, Anderson, Rust and Marceau, it was made clear that this report was intended as a general guide or base for specifications without defining all conditions, which would vary according to the character of the cement, and the nature of the work to be done.

An amendment moved by J. G. G. Kerry, referring the report back to the committee, was lost and the report adopted, and the committee discharged. (This report appeared in The Canadian Engineer of March, 1902.)

R. B. Rogers presented the report of the committee appointed to consider the question of the change of the society's name. The committee had sent out a circular asking the opinion of each member as to whether the word "civil" should be dropped, and a very large majority voted for retaining the title of the society as it is. The question appeared to the committee to have arisen out of a misconception of the term "civil engineer," and they would urge that every means be taken to enlighten members and others as to the inclusiveness of the term. It also appeared to the committee that any change by dropping the word "civil" might be prejudicial to legislation that might be asked in future by the society, as it would render the name almost identical with some existing organizations.

Prof. Bovey referred to the changes in the scope of engineering in the last ten years, largely brought about by the specialization now going on in universities and technical schools. Those who were taking up electrical engineering, for instance, as a specialty, could not be expected to join the societies and associations representing all the other branches of engineering, and the question was how to retain within such a society as this all those engaged only in a particular branch.

O. Higman mentioned that he had recently received a communication from a gentleman connected with the Institution of Electrical Engineers of Great Britain, suggesting the establishment of a branch in Canada.

W. McLea Walbank suggested that this society should be divided into sections, such as an electrical section, a mining section, a mechanical engineering section, etc., each having its own officers and a different night of meeting.

The report was adopted and Mr. Walbank's suggestion was referred to council for consideration.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers resulted as follows:

President, K. W. Blackwell. Vice-presidents, G. H. Duggan, Sydney, N.S.; Ernest Marceau, Montreal, and G. A. Mountain, Ottawa. Secretary, Prof. C. H. McLeod. Treasurer, H. Irwin. Librarian, E. G. M. Cape. Council, C. H. Keefer, John Kennedy, Montreal; C. E. W. Dodwell,

Ottawa; W. B. Mackenzie, Moncton; D. MacPherson, Montreal; Cecil B. Smith, Niagara Falls, Ont.; R. B. Rogers, Peterboro; E. Mohun, Victoria, B.C.; Prof. John Galbraith, Toronto; Prof. W. R. Butler, Kingston; Stuart Howard, Montreal; W. McLea Walbank, Montreal; St. George Boswell, Quebec; R. A. Ross, Montreal; L. A. Vallee, Quebec.

The following were elected as Nominating Committee:

For Maritime Provinces—C. E. W. Dodwell.

For Quebec.—L. A. Vallee and W. McL. Walbank.

For Ontario.—Geo. A. Mountain, W. P. Anderson and C. H. Rust.

For Northwest Territories.—H. J. Cambie.

Outside of Canada.—R. A. Ross.

On motion of A. W. Robinson, seconded by Geo. Holland, a resolution was passed calling attention to the defects of the present patent law of Canada, and referring the matter to council with the object of asking the Government to do away with present abuses.

On motion of Col. Anderson, seconded by C. H. Rust, the following resolution was also passed: That the council be requested to ask the members of the society to see that their lines of levels are in all cases connected with permanent "bench marks," and that these, where possible, be connected with sea level datum; further, that the council take into consideration the best method of securing permanent records in regard, not only to levels, but also to all trigonometrical surveys.

The President-elect having taken the chair, the afternoon session was devoted to the reading and discussion of papers, those presented being one on "Tide Levels," by Dr. W. Bell Dawson; one describing a modern dredge, by A. W. Robinson, and one on Gas Engines, by H. M. Jaquays, of McGill University. These will be reported in next issue.

The evening was taken up with the annual dinner at the Windsor, which was attended by about 100 members, and was the most successful yet held. The retiring president was in the chair. Among the toasts was that of "Our Guests," proposed by W. T. Jennings and replied to by F. H. McGuigan, of the G.T.R., C. J. Smith, of the Canada Atlantic, Prof. Cox, of McGill University, and J. T. Knight, of the Stock Exchange. "The Sister Societies," was replied to by R. S. Buck, of the American Society of Civil Engineers, W. E. Doran, of the Association of Architects of Quebec, C. H. Rust, of the Engineers' Club, of Toronto, and M. Gastonguay, of the Quebec Association of Land Surveyors. The toast of "Our Society" was acknowledged by the newly elected president, who announced that the membership of the society had just passed the 1,000 mark. The "Retiring President" was replied to by Dr. Murphy. Mr. Kerry was chairman of the dinner committee.

The morning of the closing day was occupied by the reading of a paper by E. G. M. Cape, on the "Industries of the Consolidated Lake Superior Co." at Sault Ste. Marie, and a paper by R. S. Lea on "Flow of Streams."

In discussing the latter paper, Messrs Jennings, Robinson, Kerry and Rogers, urged the importance of gathering data on the average flow of rivers and streams in Canada as the subject was becoming of practical value in this country. On motion of Prof. McLeod, seconded by R. B. Rogers, a resolution was passed to the effect that in view of the insufficiency of the existing data on the flow of streams a committee consisting of R. S. Lea, C. H. Rust, J. G. G. Kerry, Cecil B. Smith and C. H. McLeod, be appointed to consider the practicability of a more complete series of measurements, reporting to council on the cost of such work, and that the council be requested to co-operate either directly or by memorial to Government.

The secretary, stated that the report of the Gzowski medal was not ready.

The question of charging interest on arrears of fees was left to council.

On motion of P. W. St. George a resolution was passed calling attention to the fact that a number of engineers were illegally practising in the province of Quebec.

The reading of Mr. Baillairge's paper on the "Construction and Failure of Dams in the Last 30 Years," was deferred.