

CIVIL ENGINEERS IN CONVENTION.**Thirteenth Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society.**

The thirteenth annual convention of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers opened in the society's rooms, corner of St. Catharine and Mansfield streets, Montreal, on Tuesday, January 10th, at 11 o'clock a.m. In the absence of the president, Mr. W. G. McN. Thompson, who had forwarded a letter regretting his inability to be present, the chair was taken by the vice-president, Mr. K. W. Blackwell. The only business transacted was the appointment of the scrutineers for the election of officers, the following being unanimously chosen: For the members of the council election, Messrs. F. W. Bowie, F. St. George, L. Skafte; for nominating committee, Messrs. J. W. Heckman, C. de B. Leprohon, G. A. McCarthy. In the afternoon a large number of the members of the society, by the courtesy of the Grand Trunk Railway Company, paid a visit to the Victoria Bridge, which they inspected with considerable interest.

In the evening a very large gathering assembled at the headquarters of the society to see views of details connected with the construction of the Victoria Jubilee Bridge, projected upon a screen by a powerful lantern. The views comprised an excellent selection illustrative of different stages of the work, and were graphically and concisely described and explained by Mr. W. McNab, assistant engineer of the Grand Trunk Railway system.

The chairman stated that a full and

detailed account of the works, together with appropriate drawings, would be written by Mr. Joseph Hobson, the chief engineer, and that upon the actual completion of the work, the society would receive a copy for incorporation with its annual volume of transactions.

In commencing the description of his several views, Mr. McNab said that no railway bridge had ever created such universal admiration of its noble proportions as did the Victoria Bridge at the time of its erection. It was looked upon as one of the wonders of the world. Built between 1854 and 1859, with few or no precedents for many important details connected with construction, one was bound even now to acknowledge the wisdom and far-sightedness of the engineers and contractors who planned and built it.

Far sighted as the engineers and promoters of the bridge were as regards details of construction, however, none of them dreamed or thought that within thirty-eight years of the date of its opening, the demands upon its capacity would be so great as to make a double track structure necessary. This need had been specially felt in recent years as the traffic developed and the weights of modern rolling stock increased so enormously.

As to the traffic through the bridge, when it was considered that as many as 80 to 100 trains passed through it each twenty-four hours, and that it was operated on the absolute block system, and that no train could leave either the Point St. Charles or St. Lambert end until the train going in the opposite direction had arrived, it could easily be seen that a single track structure was taxed pretty heavily in regard to use.

A hearty vote of thanks was, on motion of Mr. Keating, extended to Mr. McNab and the Grand Trunk officials for the interesting lecture.

SECOND DAY.

On Wednesday morning, upon invitation of the Laurentide Pulp Company, a visit of inspection was made to the extensive works of that company at Grand Mere, Que. A special train of five cars, placed at the disposal of the society by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, carried the following delegates to the point of destination, about twenty miles beyond Three Rivers:

K. W. Blackwell, vice-president; H. Irwin, treasurer; W. McNab, librarian; C. H. McLeod, secretary; D. MacPherson, E. Marceau, G. H. Duggan, J. D. Barnett, C. H. Rust, W. B. Anderson, R. P. Rogers, F. R. Judah, R. C. Alexander, G. H. Garden, J. W. Heckman, N. H. Greene, W. Burns, S. Leech, H. B. Sims, W. F. Angus, F. W. Cavie, W. J. Camp, J. E. Dore, A. J. Corriveau, J. Ewing, J. W. Brock, F. Taylor, G. L. Matice, W. J. Bishop, Stuart Howard, J. F. Ellis, C. DeB. Leprohon, E. A. Rhys Roberts, F. L. Somerville, J. S. Vindin, T. W. Lesage, G. Legrand, A. Massey, W. H. Sanders, J. B. Porter, Paul Paradis, J. S. Parent, H. A. Coussirat, A. G. Bachand, F. Brittain, C. Reinhart, J. Kerry, H. A. Gauthier, A. Vicent, L. E. F. Fusey, H. L. Auclair, L. Achille Dufresne, O. Arcand, J. Lauren, H. Szlapka, G. Grant, R. de Corriveau, M. F. Gagnon, H. D. Pariseau, R. Surtees, J. A. Burnette, J. G. MacGregor, W. C. Thomson, R. Kenrick, R. G. Gough, B. A. Davis, A. Burnett, G.

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