

Mr. Maxwell: As I see it, the assessment was positively ridiculous and unfair. I know the local associations are supported by the membership they have. At the same time, it may be that an architect in one province is called upon by a client to put up a house in another province. This house may cost, say, \$15,000.00 to build. Is it fair that he should have to pay \$120.00 to the local association for the privilege of being allowed to build that house?

I should think the more reasonable way would be not to charge each member of the firm those fees, but to charge them the regular dues.

Mr. Horsburgh: A matter of personal experience may be of interest. I have been working in practically all the provinces in recent years, and have paid all the fees. Of course, there have been formalities to observe in the way of registration, and so on, in each of the different provinces, but I do not remember being called upon to pay any considerable amount except in Manitoba. They seem to be very active in collecting.

Mr. Brown: The charters of the associations are granted by the Provincial Governments, and I do not see how we can dictate to those Governments as to what they should or should not do. If the charters provide that architects coming in to practice from outside the province must pay the registration fee and the annual dues, why, it must be done. Personally, I think it is a very small thing, so far as the amount goes.

Before the war we were doing work in all the provinces, with the exception of Ontario, and we paid the registration fees and our annual dues. This applies to both members of the firm, Mr. Vallance as well as to myself.

The President: Is it the sentiment of the meeting that Mr. Hynes' motion should be adopted?

Mr. Hynes: I did not make any motion, Mr. President. I simply suggested that it might be a good idea to have the question discussed.

The President: Has anyone else anything to say in regard to it? It is an interesting subject, and is worthy of discussion.

Mr. Acton Bond: Would it be a good idea to have the Secretary write to each provincial association, asking them if they would consider the proposition of charging only the annual dues? We might do this with the object of getting the views of the different associations.

The President: Of course, the difficulty is that the law in each province provides as to how the thing shall be done, and it has been done in that way up to the present. I do not see that we can do very much in the matter unless the provincial associations are willing to have their charters changed.

Mr. Acton Bond: My suggestion would embody the idea of asking them to do that, so as to have uniformity all over the country. It seems to me it would be a very desirable thing to have a uniform practice throughout the country, and I say this without in any way committing myself as to what that uniform practice should be.

The President: Is it a matter that is covered by the by-laws, or is it covered by the charter?

Mr. Wickson: It is a charter matter. I would suggest that the question be left for the Incoming Council to deal with. They have heard the discussion, and I think the matter has been fairly put before them.

#### PLACE OF NEXT ANNUAL MEETING.

The President: The next order of business is the selection of the place of the next General Annual Assembly.

The suggestion was made last year that this year's annual meeting should be held at the same time as the annual meeting of the Province of Quebec Association of Architects. It was furthermore suggested that in the future we should endeavor to have the annual meeting of the Institute held at the same time as the annual meeting of some of the provincial associations. I think this is a good idea, and it seems to have borne good results. Of course, it is for you to decide whether we should continue along those lines.

Our main object is that we may be sure of getting a quorum to hold the meeting. When we met in Ottawa last year we could not secure a sufficient number to form a quorum, notwithstanding our best efforts.

The Secretary: Personally, I am in favor of having our meetings at the same time as the meetings of one or other of the provincial associations. The success of the idea is apparent to my mind in our present meeting. Last year, notwithstanding our best efforts, we were only able to secure thirteen members for our meeting in Ottawa. The year before that, when we met in Quebec, Mr. Ouellet had to hunt up all the architects he knew in order to enable us to form a quorum of fifteen. With very few exceptions, we have had difficulty in getting the necessary number to form a quorum.

If the Ontario Association is holding an annual meeting this year, we might meet with them. Or, if we succeed in helping the Maritime Provinces in forming an association, we might go down there and meet with them at the end of the present year. We might go to Halifax, or to St. Johns, or to Prince Edward Island. There are only a few architects in that district—not a sufficient number to form an association in each province—and the suggestion is that they should form an inter-provincial association. Until the matter takes some definite form, it might be left to the Council. It was suggested that we should go to Ottawa again, but I do not know that I would be in favor of the idea, particularly in view of the lack of success we had in forming a quorum there last year.

Mr. Maxwell: Do you think you would get a quorum in Prince Edward Island, or Nova Scotia, or New Brunswick? Of course, I am prepared to admit that it would make a very nice trip, but, from a practical point of view, do you think you could hold a meeting?

Why do we not consider the advisability of having an exhibition of some importance and on a large scale which would attract the membership? We might possibly have an exhibition of town-planning, referring more particularly to industrial town-planning. I am sure a splendid exhibit could be organized, which would be of a great deal of interest to the architects and to the public in general.

Mr. Acton Bond: I move that the matter be left in the hands of the Council to deal with, in the light of the suggestions which have just been made.

Mr. Brown: Do I understand that the idea is to have another meeting this year?

The President: The 1919 meeting.

Mr. Wickson: This is the 1918 meeting.

The President: It is moved by Mr. Acton Bond, seconded by Mr. Baugrand Champagne, that the matter of the time and place of the next General Meeting of the Institute be left in the hands of the Council. (Carried.)

The President: This completes the order of our business, according to the programme for the morning session, unless there is something else to come before the chair.

There are many subjects of interest to us which might very well be discussed now, and if any gentleman present has anything he wishes to bring forward I shall be glad, indeed, to listen to him.

#### CANADIAN PRACTICE AND OUTSIDE COMPETITION.

Mr. Hynes: I have a matter in mind which I would like to bring before the Institute, with the idea that it might perhaps be discussed.

As far back as January, 1917, there was a movement made in Toronto that some representation should be made to the Government to the effect that it should not patronize outsiders and discriminate against the engineers, architects and contractors of our own country. This was particularly with regard to war work.

Considerable thought and time was given to the subject in Toronto, and it occurred to me that it might be well if the question was summed up here and some action be taken by the Institute, from the point of view that we are a Dominion organization and that our relations are with the Dominion Government.

Mr. Acton Bond came in contact with the Chairman of the Toronto Branch of the Manufacturers' Association, and a meeting was convened which the builders, the engineers and the architects were asked to attend. Two committees were struck after some discussion, one to get data as to where and when the Government and other large concerns had passed over Canadian resident architects, engineers and builders and employed outsiders. The other committee was appointed to see what policy could be formed and put up to the Government that it should adopt and make, if not law, at least an accepted practice by the Government, and probably by large corporations under the Government's control.

Eventually a memorial was prepared and circulated. It was not presented to the Government, however, because the General Executive of the Manufacturers' Association did not quite see the matter in the same light as the Toronto Branch of the Association saw it, and hesitated to ask the Government for an appointment to present this petition.

While the matter was still pending, the Government resigned, and the present Government took office. It was then felt that this petition did not fit the case for presentation to this Government, and the committees were practically dissolved.

The builders held their own assembly, and presented their own petition to the Government at Ottawa a month or two ago, but, so far as the architects are concerned, the question has been left in abeyance.

I think this is a body which should discuss and consider the matter, and I think it is also probably the proper thing that we should have the engineers join us in any movement to be made, because they are absolutely on the same footing as we are before the Government.

If we are complaining of the situation, it is up to us to suggest the remedy, and I would like to have the matter discussed before this meeting from the different points of view from which it may be seen.

Mr. Wickson: My impression is that we ought to meet the Government in connection with this question, and that the memorial to which Mr. Hynes referred, and of which he was the originator, would probably serve to form the basis upon which we could bring the matter before the Government. It may have to be modified in some respects, or some new ideas may have to be added to it, but, in the main, I think it covers very fully and completely the point of view which we should present to the Government.

I feel that it would be very desirable to have the members present at this meeting express their opinions in regard to it. I am satisfied that the Incoming Council would be very pleased to have any suggestion that could be made as to the lines along which they might act.

Mr. Hynes: I must apologize for rising so often, but this particular thing seems to me to be one of the real objects of this Convention. Mr. Wickson, Mr. Shepherd and I have gone over the ground and had a good deal to do with the preparation of the memorial of which I spoke. It might be worth while that I should read it to you so that the ideas contained in it should be before the meeting, and something may come from it. It is roughly drawn up in the form of a petition, and may not be absolutely consistent in all respects, but, at the same time, I think you will grasp the ideas as they are developed.

It was thought after the committees that worked on the original memorial were dissolved that each party (Manufacturers, Builders, Architects and Engineers) would prepare their own memorials and present them at the same time. This the Builders did, but the Architects, not having held their convention at that time, had not adopted a memorial when the Builders presented theirs.

The memorial reads as follows:

"July 9th, 1918.

"In support of the memorial presented by the builders, the R.A.I.C. wishes to state that the grievance complained of is due to the unfortunate belief on the part of a large portion of the business community of Canada that the ability of Canadians is inferior to that of our neighbors; even more unfortunately, there has been too much evidence that this opinion has also been held by several Governments in Canada.

"The Institute submits that this opinion, however honestly held, has been amply refuted by the part Canadians have taken in the situation created in Canada by the war. Canadian ability and energy overcame every obstacle, even the Government's distrust of their ability, and created an army and produced munitions in quality, quantity and speed unsurpassed in the world, and that, too, notwithstanding that it was an activity in which they had had no previous experience.

"Many of our citizens are serving in every war activity with a distinction that might well be the envy of older and larger countries, and there is absolutely nothing to suggest that the brain power of this country is in any way inferior to that of any other country in the world.

"The importation of outsiders on the plea of their being experienced, if carried to its logical conclusion, would mean that, except in the case of re-election, no native would be elected to Parliament, but experienced legislators would have to be imported from abroad; no new native blood would be introduced into the Cabinets of our country because of inexperience, thus compelling the importation of Ministers from other countries; in fact, we might even have to seek in distant fields for our Premiers. This, our Government must admit, would be