

your homes you will bear away with you pleasant recollections of the Island City of the St. Lawrence and of its people. While this association partakes largely of the character of a mutual improvement society, its chief object being the educating of its members to a higher standard of excellence in their work, still it is not without its social side, and the development of the latter along proper lines tends much towards the achievement of success in the former. During the eight years of the association's existence, excellent progress has been made, and the highly satisfactory results testify to the necessity that existed for such an organization which would bring together men engaged in the same occupation for fraternal intercourse and consideration of matters of interest to all. No one man knows it all in any one line of business, and it is only by free discussion and interchange of ideas that the safest conclusions are arrived at, and the best results are achieved. The position of the stationary engineer in Canada has greatly changed during the past few years. Previous to that time every man was working away along a line of his own, and knew little and cared less for what others around him were doing. Now this is all changed. At the meetings of our association difficulties which individual members meet with in their daily work are presented and discussed, and it is a knotty problem indeed for which a satisfactory solution is not found. In this way a large amount of theoretical knowledge is gained, which, added to the practical experience already acquired, makes every one who listens to or takes part in the discussion a better man. It is necessary to keep abreast of the age in which we live, and nothing helps more in that direction than frequent interchange of thought and close attention to what is going on in the world around us. While the members themselves thus reap a great advantage, their employers are also benefited, and much trouble and expense are often averted by the engineer knowing exactly what to do when a difficulty arises. In this way the association has begun a good work, which it is hoped it may long continue to carry on. Again, on behalf of the association I represent, I bid you welcome to Brockville, and extend to you the freedom of the town during your stay with us.

The roll was then called, the following members answering:

Toronto, No. 1—G. C. Mooring, James Huggett, Chas. Mosely, A. M. Wickens.

Montreal, No. 1—J. J. York, J. G. Robertson.

Hamilton, No. 2—Robert Pettigrew, Geo. Mackie.

Stratford—W. G. Blackgrove, John Fox.

Brantford, No. 4—Thos. Pilgrim, A. Ames.

London, No. 5—G. B. Risler, Wm. Gerry.

Ottawa, No. 7—Thos. Wensley, F. J. Johnston.

Dresden, No. 8—T. M. Steeper, Wm. Jameson.

Kingston, No. 1—C. Selby, F. Simmons.

Kincardine, No. 12—Jos. Walker, Percy Ashton.

Warton, No. 13—J. F. Cody, Ed. Dunham.

Peterboro, No. 14—Fred. Donaldson, John Morency.

Brockville, No. 15—F. P. Andrews, C. Wilkinson.

Carleton Place, No. 16—Hugh McKay, W. J. Griffith.

Waterloo, No. 17—Chas. Uttley, Fred. A. Pflug, together with the Executive officers. District Deputies Gränberg and Cody were absent. The following committees were then appointed:

Credentials—J. Huggett, Toronto; C. Selby, Kingston; Nathan Uttley, Berlin.

Constitution and By-Laws—J. J. York, Montreal; G. B. Risler, London; A. M. Wickens, Toronto.

Mileage—Jos. Robertson, Montreal; G. C. Mooring, Toronto; F. M. Steeper, Dresden.

Good of the Order—F. Simmons, Kingston; C. Mosely, Toronto; J. McKay, Carleton Place.

A lengthy discussion then took place on J. J. York's suggestion that the associations admit to every meeting bona-fide steam-users. Many employers seemed to think the C.A.S.E. was a labor organization, and to remove this error, he suggested that an invitation card containing the subject of the paper and name of reader be sent to steam-users every month.

President Devlin then read his opening address as follows:

I have the honor to welcome you to this our eighth annual convention. I am aware that in selecting you as delegates our various branches have sent their best men, consequently I am confident that your deliberations will result in the advancement of our organization, and that in dealing with the various subjects brought before you, the one and only aim sought shall be the greater good of the C.A.S.E. I am sure that naught

but good-will shall prevail, indeed, such is one of the cardinal principles of our order. I need not ask for your hearty support, as this has always been given to the occupant of this chair. The committee appointed to act jointly with the C.A.S.E. to draft a bill seeking from the Dominion Parliament a law compelling engineers to pass an examination and hold certificates of competency, met in Toronto on March 17th last. The result of the deliberations and a copy of the bill will be laid before you. As you are aware, the bill received two readings in the House of Commons, and I am assured by the delegates who had charge of the legislation at Ottawa that, were it not for the lateness of the session, there would have been every prospect of the bill becoming law. The thanks of this association are due James Sutherland, M.P., for the kind reception of our delegates, and for his earnestness in endeavoring to have the bill become law. In this connection I should say that in this movement not only are the members of our association a unit in favor of such a law, but, I might add, almost all the qualified engineers of this country are with us, as well as most of the manufacturers and steam-users. During the past year some of our branches which had for some years shown want of vitality have been resuscitated. They are now possessed of fair membership, active and diligent in the work of the order, educational and social. London particularly is doing good work. On the whole our membership, however, shows a slight increase this year over last year. Guelph and Stratford, I am sorry to say, are not in a prosperous condition, and some effort must be made to infuse new life into these tardy branches. During the past year I can only report the establishment of one new association, that at Waterloo, Ont. It is to be hoped that during the coming year more advancement will be made in this regard. However, whilst our membership may not have materially increased in numbers, there has been greater care exercised in the selection of members, and the principles of the order have been most rigidly adhered to. I am most pleased to know that in some of the lodges the work is done with great precision, the use of the book of ritual being dispensed with by many of the presiding officers. The educational work, the great feature of the organization, goes on with greatly increased vigor and benefit to the members. During the year I had the pleasure of attending meetings at our two great centres, Montreal and Toronto. In both I was struck with the material progress visible and the facilities available to members by way of books, models, etc., whereby the educational benefits, so invaluable and important, are advanced. This feature of our association's work cannot be too highly appreciated. It may be necessary at the present convention to again take up the matter of bi-annual conventions, with a view to the curtailment of the expense necessary for an annual meeting. Steps should also be taken to arouse the engineers of the Dominion to the loss they sustain in not being of our membership. The provision made at last year's convention for the issuing of certificates of membership has been carried out. The matter of getting up a hand-book souvenir from which we expected to realize sufficient funds to meet the expenses of the convention has not taken practical shape, consequently, for this year at least, our old sources of revenue will have to be relied upon. Our worthy secretary and myself have been in correspondence for some time past, and he will lay before you very important information on the subject, which will be of great value when the postponed work is again taken up. Difficulties and persecution which I have encountered in common with others in the same employ have rendered it impossible for me during the past seven or eight months to give the active work to the accomplishment of the souvenir scheme which I had wished. Brethren, in conclusion, I desire to express to you my deep sense of gratitude for the great honor you conferred on me a year ago when you elected me to the high and honorable position of president of this association, and for the loyal manner in which you have stood by me. In closing, I will only add it is my heartfelt wish that your deliberations at this meeting may be so conducted towards each other that everything we shall do will redound to the benefit and honor of our good association.

Secretary Chapman then introduced W. H. Comstock, who offered the delegates the use of his steam yacht for a trip among the Thousand Islands. President Devlin tendered the hearty thanks of the convention to Mr. Comstock, and hoped he would allow them the privilege of electing him an honorary member, which was done.

The weather was so bad that the trip was postponed until