

# The Canadian Engineer

A Weekly Paper for Civil Engineers and Contractors

## Annual Meeting, Engineering Institute of Canada

Thirty-Third Annual Convention Most Notable in History of Organization—Registration Exceeded Six Hundred and Fifty—Review of Institute's Activities for Past Year—Reports of Technical Committees and Reports of Branches, of Which There Are Now Eighteen

IN reporting the thirty-third annual meeting of the Engineering Institute of Canada, which was held last week in Montreal superlatives are indispensable. The registration was the largest, the enthusiasm was the greatest, the spirit of good-fellowship was the finest, the social events were the most enjoyable, and the range of subjects covered was the widest in the history of the institute. The registration exceeded 650, of whom not more than 500 were Montreal members. Ottawa, Toronto and Quebec City led in the "out-of-town" registration, but there were fully 50 from other places in Ontario or Quebec, and there were also several members from the west, the Maritime provinces and the United States.

The retiring president, Lt.-Col. R. W. Leonard, of St. Catharines, Ont., opened the meeting at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, January 27th, in the convention hall of the institute's building, 176 Mansfield street, but the seating capacity of that hall was insufficient, and it was decided to transfer all following sessions to the Windsor Hotel.

After Col. Leonard had welcomed the members, and the secretary had presented the minutes of the last annual meeting, the annual report of the council was received. This report stated that during the year new branches had been established at Sault Ste. Marie, Niagara Falls, Windsor and Peterborough, and that the Kingston branch had been revived. There are now 18 branches. The general activities of the institute during the past year were briefly reviewed, and it was stated that service to the individual member and to the profession had been the constant aim of the council. During the year there were added to the membership roll 52 members, 251 associate members, 58 juniors, 137 students and 5 associates; 14 resigned, and 6 were dropped from the roll for non-payment of dues; 38 deaths were reported, of whom 13 were killed in action. At present there are 3,657 names on the roll.

The report of the finance committee was the only report that received any adverse criticism of any kind. It revealed a deficit for the year amounting to \$6,440. The expenditures totalled \$39,006. The assets are now \$112,780.

### Reports of Committees

The library and house committee reported that no funds had been available during 1919 for purchase of technical books, but a number had been donated by the publishers.

The publications committee recommended that a volume of transactions be published again, and suggested that it include 18 papers read during the past year.

Brief reports of a formal nature were also submitted by the committees on steel railway bridges, international affiliation, engineering standards, uniform boiler specifications, and international electro-technical committee.

The Gzowski medal committee recommended the award of the 1919 medal to Phelps Johnson, G. H. Duggan and G. F. Porter for their papers on the Quebec bridge. The committee recommended that there be no award of the student's medal. The Leonard medal was not awarded as that com-

mittee had been appointed so recently that it considered the time too short for the necessary examination of papers.

Reports were received from most of the branches and adopted with little or no comment. Referring to the report of the Toronto branch, Prof. H. E. T. Haultain said much work yet remains to be done in Toronto in explaining the policies and attitude of the institute to the members of other technical societies and to the business men and politicians.

### Letters of Regret

Fraser Keith, secretary of the institute, read 15 letters and telegrams from prominent business men, engineers and politicians who had been invited to attend the meeting, but who were unable to do so for various reasons. A letter from F. A. Bowman, of Halifax, declared that Nova Scotia intends to secure the Olympic athletic meet next year, and urged that the institute organize an international engineering congress to be held in that province at the same time.

It was announced that in order to assist the institute's journal, an additional fee of \$2 per annum will be levied upon the membership. As the necessary amendment to the by-laws cannot be passed in time to be effective this year, it was requested that members voluntarily add \$2 to their present annual dues. J. B. Challies, of Ottawa, suggested a "drive" for contributions to reimburse the treasury for last year's deficit, but this was opposed by H. H. Vaughan, W. J. Francis and R. A. Ross, all of whom declared that the institute is now carrying the peak of the load, and that under the budget system of controlling expenditures that is to be introduced by the newly-elected president, R. A. Ross, the deficit will be overcome within a few years without requiring any "drive."

The meeting was then adjourned for luncheon, which was held in the Rose Room of the Windsor Hotel. Out-of-town members and ladies were the guests of the Montreal branch. Walter J. Francis, chairman of the Montreal branch of the institute, presided at the luncheon, and with him at the head table were E. W. James, assistant chief engineer, Bureau of Public Roads, Washington, D.C.; Calvin W. Rice, secretary of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers; R. A. Ross, president-elect of the institute; Lt.-Col. R. W. Leonard, the retiring president; Brig.-Gen. Sir Alex. Bertram, hon. treasurer; Sir John Kennedy, G. Herrick Duggan, H. H. Vaughan, and Phelps Johnson, past presidents; and Brigadier-Generals C. J. Armstrong and G. Eric McCuaig.

A brief address was given by Mr. Francis in proposing a toast, "The Ladies," and he then introduced Calvin W. Rice, who spoke briefly and informally on various phases of society activities. Mr. Rice declared that every technical man in the Dominion, of whatever nationality he may be, and whether he be living in the Dominion temporarily or permanently, should join the Engineering Institute of Canada; he owes his first allegiance to the society of the country in which he lives. All the societies are working toward the objective,—the advancement of the engineering profession. Mr. Rice stated that he intended to return to New York via