

CANADIAN ELECTRICAL ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of persons interested in the formation of a Canadian Electrical Association, to receive the report of the Committee on Organization appointed by the meeting held in September last, convened in the Auditorium building, Queen street west, Toronto, at 10.30 o'clock on Thursday, Nov. 26th.

The following persons were present :-

E. S. Edmonson, Electric Light Co., Oshawa, Ont.; W. A. Johnson, manager Bull Electric Light Co.; Frederic Nicholls, manager Toronto Incandescent E. L. Co.; James Corbett, electrician, Hugh Neilson, K. J. Dunstan, Bell Telephone Co., John Galt, C.E., Hy. S. Thornberry, J. J. Wright, manager Toronto Electric Light Co., C. H. Mortimer, Toronto; T. W. Whiting, John Yule, Guelph; A. A. Wright, Renfrew; H. O. Fisk, J. W. Taylor, manager Brooks Mfg. Co., Peterboro'; D. Thomson, manager Electric Light & Power Co., Thos. H. Wadland, B. J. Throop, Bell Telephone Co., S. Douglas, Kay Electric Works, Hamilton; H. Powell, Woodstock; John Carroll, Sec.-Treas. Eugene Phillips Electrical Works, Montreal.

On motion Mr. J. J. Wright was called on to preside, and Mr. C. H. Mortimer to act as secretary.

Letters regretting their inability to be present and expressive of hearty sympathy with the objects of the meeting were read from Mr. W. G. Fraser, Petrolia; Mr. Geo. J. Thomas, local manager Bell Telephone Co., Essex, Ont.; Mr. C. E. Harris, general manager Bell Telephone Co., Halifax, N. S.; Mr. H. Brown, manager St. Thomas Gas and Electric Light Co., and Mr. W. J. Gilmour, local manager Bell Telephone Co., Brockville Ont.

The Chairman remarked that the first business would be consideration of the report of the Committee on Organization, which was accordingly read by the secretary.

The recommendations contained in the report are as follows

"That this organization shall be named the 'Canadian Electrical Association.'

"That the object of this Association shall be to foster and encourage the science of electricity and promote the interests of those engaged in any electrical enterprise.

"That the Association consist of active and associate members, the former to include all persons actively engaged in electrical business, and who shall be entitled to vote at all meetings of the Association, and the latter those interested or actively engaged in any electrical pursuit, and who shall be entitled to attend all meetings except those of the executive, and take part in all discussions, but shall not be entitled to vote or be eligible to office.

"That honorary members may be elected by a two-thirds vote of the Association.

"That the officers shall consist of a president, 2 vice-presidents, secretary-treasurer, who may be one person, and an executive committee consisting of nine members, together with the president and vice-presidents, five of whom shall form a quorum.

"That the fees shall be, for active members, \$5, associate members, \$2, payable in advance.

"All officers and the executive committee shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting of the Association, and shall hold office until the close of the meeting at which their successors are elected.

"Vacancies in offices shall be filled by the executive committee to cover the term until the next annual meeting of the Association.

"Todd's Parliamentary Practice shall be the governing parliamentary law of the Association in all cases not definitely provided for by its constitution or its own rules.

"Voting by proxy shall not be allowed at any meeting of the Association or at any of its committees, except for the purposes of the election of officers.

"Amendments to this constitution shall be offered in writing and shall be referred before being voted upon to a committee to be elected by the Association. A two-thirds vote of all active members present shall be necessary for their adoption.

"No amendment shall be voted upon by the Association at the convention in which it is introduced except by a two-thirds vote of active members present.

"Ten members of this Association shall be a quorum for the transaction of business."

It was decided that the report should be considered clause by clause.

The clauses defining the name and objects of the Association were adopted without discussion. A variety of opinions were, however, expressed concerning the recommendation to divide the membership into two classes, and also regarding the qualification for active and associate members.

Mr. Thomson moved that each company be entitled to one vote.

Mr. Dunstan, Mr. Neilson and others pointed out that the result of adopting this motion would be to place the Bell Telephone Co., and the G.N.W. and C.P.R. Telegraph Companies, so far as voting power was concerned, on a level with the smallest electric light company in the country.

The feeling of the meeting was adverse to the resolution. It was decided that the voting power should be vested in individuals only.

To remove the misunderstanding which appeared to exist in the minds of some regarding the qualification for active and associate members, it was pointed out by the chairman and secretary that any person who might choose could become an active member by paying the necessary fee. It was agreed that the Executive Committee should be delegated the duty of deciding to which class applicants for membership should belong.

Mr. Carroll raised the question as to the sufficiency of the proposed fees to meet the financial requirements of the Association. It was thought best, not to increase the fees, the desire being to found the organization on lines as broad and liberal as possible, in order that no barrier might be placed in the way of persons desiring to become members.

Mr. Neilson saw an objection to the name which had been selected for the society. He thought a "Canadian Electrical Association" should be composed of electricians. He feared that in this organization the business element might in time become predominant and electrical interests a secondary consideration. He suggested that it might be well to change the name to the "Business Men's Association."

Mr. Johnston in reply pointed out that the aim should be to take in and promote the interests of the electrical business in all its branches, and that if deemed advisable, the different branches could be represented in the Association by sections, as in the case of the Society of Civil Engineers and other institutions of similar character.

This view was concurred in by the majority of those present, who were of opinion that the Association would only be likely to prosper in proportion as it was designed to subserve and harmonize the various electrical interests.

The report of the Committee on Organization, with slight amendment, was adopted.

A code of by-laws was also adopted.

The election of officers was next proceeded with.

Mr. Nicholls moved that Mr. J. J. Wright be the president.

The chairman suggested the name of Mr. S. R. Parker, of Owen Sound, as being a person well adapted for the position. The opinion of the meeting was, however, that the interests of the Association would be best served for the present by the election of a resident of Toronto. The election of Mr. Wright was therefore made unanimous.

On motion of Mr. Carroll, Mr. Dunstan was elected first vice-president.

On motion of Mr. Thornberry, Mr. Carroll was elected second vice-president.

On motion of Mr. Dunstan, C. H. Mortimer was elected secretary-treasurer.

The following gentlemen were elected to compose the Executive Committee: Messrs. Wright, (Renfrew); Yule, Edmonson, Parker, A. B. Smith, Thomson, Johnson, Fisk, Waddell.

On motion of Mr. Dunstan, seconded by Mr. Carroll, it was resolved that all fees paid before 1st June, 1892, shall be in full to 31st May, 1893.

It was resolved on motion of Mr. Carroll, seconded by Mr. Thomson, that the first annual meeting of the Association shall be held in the city of Hamilton on the second Tuesday in June, the time and place to be fixed by the Executive Committee.

The meeting then adjourned.

The Executive Committee subsequently met, and discussed some preliminary business.

Mr. N. W. Rolt, local manager of the Edison company at Woodstock, Man., has been transferred to the Toronto offices.

The Edmonton Electric Lighting & Power Co., Ltd. has been incorporated by letters patent to furnish the incandescent light in Edmonton, N.W.T. Capital stock, \$10,000, all subscribed. The company is connected with the Royal Electric Co., of Montreal, to put in a gas plant. The lights to be turned on Nov. 30th.