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THE INSTITUTE MEETING.

Now that the smoke of battle has cleared away, it is apparent that the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Canadian Mining Institute was eminently profitable. It is evident, also, that the Institute bulks larger in the public eye than ever before. This is true, not merely because of its large membership, but more particularly for the reason that it is developing and following a more or less definite policy, and is not too timid to give formal expression to its opinions. Whilst entire unanimity of thought cannot be expected of any aggregation of human beings, yet the members of the Institute are generally of one mind on matters affecting the good name of the profession or the public status of the industry.

This is illustrated by the fact that the resolution correcting certain errors in Mr. Sifton's now historic address was not rescinded, despite the warm and, perhaps, impolitic efforts of the Secretary of the Commission on Conservation. The obvious purpose of the Institute was not to censure Mr. Sifton, but to draw attention to the unintentional inaccuracy of his statements. As a matter of fact, no society is in a better position to appreciate and assist Mr. Sifton in his magnificent task. Mr. Sifton is no super-sensitive lily. He is embarking upon a work that will bring him buffets and abuse—also it will bring him name and fame. He may count upon the whole-hearted support of the Canadian Mining Institute. That support would be meaningless if it consisted merely in blind approval.

The address of the retiring president, Dr. W. G. Miller, was comprehensive, lucid, and inspiring. His general review of railway development in relation to new mining regions was full of meat. Dr. Miller during his term of office has exercised an exceedingly potent influence on the Institute. It is comforting to know that his successor, Dr. F. D. Adams, is in every respect fitted to fill the exacting requirements of the presidency.

Especially notable amongst the papers read was that of Mr. P. McN. Bennie, on "Recent Developments in Electro-Siderurgy." The pleasant facility with which Mr. Bennie categorically answered the numerous questions put forward by his audience was, to say the least, unusual. Edifying, also, was the entire absence of the first person singular.

The audience, owing largely to the lateness of the session, did not appear to be adequately impressed with the importance of Dr. Stansfield's announcement concerning the direct production of steel from iron ores in the electric furnace. Dr. Stansfield's paper described the work of Mr. J. W. Evans, of Belleville, Ont. Illness