

J. Obalski, chief of the Department of Mines of Quebec, presented the mineral statistics of that province, and T. W. Gibson, deputy minister of mines, presented those of Ontario. Mr. Obalski also presented a paper on "Gold in the Eastern Townships of Quebec."

The Evening Session.—At the evening session Dr. W. Campbell, of Columbia University, New York, presented a paper on "Metallography Applied to Engineering." This was illustrated by a number of lantern slides, showing methods of using apparatus and many sections of metals and alloys. D. B. Dowling read a paper on "Prospecting for Coal in the Rockies," illustrated by some beautifully coloured lantern slides taken on the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Dr. Campbell's paper was discussed at some length by Messrs. Porter, Wilmott, Gwillim, and others; Mr. Dowling's paper by Messrs. Adams and Hobart.

Elfrie Drew Ingall, Ottawa, read a paper on a "System of Conventional Signs for Showing Mineral Occurrences on Maps." This was also illustrated by lantern slides.

THE BUSINESS MEETING.

The business meeting was held on Thursday morning. The president, in his brief annual address, referred to the intended visit to Canada of the London Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, which is coming next autumn on the invitation of the Canadian Institute. The London institute delegates, if possible, will visit all the mining centres, including British Columbia. Mr. Keffer expressed gratification at the increase in membership from 500 to 700 during the year, but deprecated the dissension which seemed developing between members in Ontario and Quebec. Such dissension, he said, endangered the life of the institute and some of the members in British Columbia favoured forming an independent institute of Western mining men. Personally, he strongly favoured the preservation of the national character and scope of the institute, as independent provincial institutes would be suicidal. He also referred in appreciative terms to the move by the institute to have branch libraries in various mining centres.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR, 1907-08.

The secretary, H. Mortimer Lamb, read the report of the council for the year, 1907-8, as follows:

Meetings.—The ninth annual meeting of the institute was held in the city of Toronto on March 6, 7 and 8, 1907. The attendance was the largest in the history of the institute and the occasion was also noteworthy in that the members were afforded the privilege of entertaining a number of distinguished guests from the United States, who took an active interest and part in the proceedings. Other meetings have been held during the year under the auspices of the local branches of Cobalt and Toronto; whilst an important meeting of Western members, for the purpose of organizing a Western section and for the

reading of papers, was held at Nelson, British Columbia, on January 15 and 16, 1908.

Five regular meetings of the council have been held at headquarters, Montreal, and the attendance was generally above the average of former years.

Publications.—Thirty-five papers were presented at the annual meeting, and these with the discussions thereon, and a report of the proceedings of the meeting, now constitute Vol. X. of the "Journal of the Institute," which has been issued to members in good standing.

At a meeting of the council in October last, it was decided to publish thereafter advance proofs of papers contributed by members, reports of branches and affiliated societies and other matter of general interest to the membership, in the form of a quarterly bulletin. The first number of this bulletin has been placed before you.

Membership.—The increase in the membership during the year is exceptionally gratifying, there having been elected since the last annual meeting, 147 members, 38 associate members, 13 corresponding members, and four student members, a total of 202, representing an increase in membership for the year of more than 45 per cent.

Branches.—The above-mentioned large increase in membership is mainly attributable to the interest that has been awakened in the work of the institute in the provinces of British Columbia and Alberta, and in the Cobalt district of Ontario. In the latter district, a branch was successfully organized on April 15 last, Arthur A. Cole having been elected chairman and G. R. Hardy, secretary. The branch holds regular monthly meetings for the reading of papers and the discussion of questions of local interest. The Western section or branch, to which allusion has already been made, was organized at Nelson, British Columbia, on January 15, 1908, with a membership in round figures of a hundred and fifty, including members residing in British Columbia, Alberta and the adjacent United States territory. A vote having been taken, A. B. W. Hodges, manager of the Granby Consolidated Mining, Smelting and Power Company, Limited, of Grand Forks, British Columbia, was elected chairman, and E. Jacobs, of Victoria, British Columbia, secretary of the Western branch. The council desires to record its appreciation and to express its grateful acknowledgment of the valuable services rendered in connection with the organization of the Western branch, by the president of the institute, Frederic Keffer, who undertook and carried out all the arrangements for the meeting, the success of which may be almost entirely credited to his personal efforts and zeal.

On February 13, 1908, a Montreal branch of the institute was organized with George E. Drummond as chairman, and J. W. Bell, secretary. This branch contemplates holding monthly meetings during the winter months.

Deaths and Resignations.—The council records with profound regret the deaths of the following