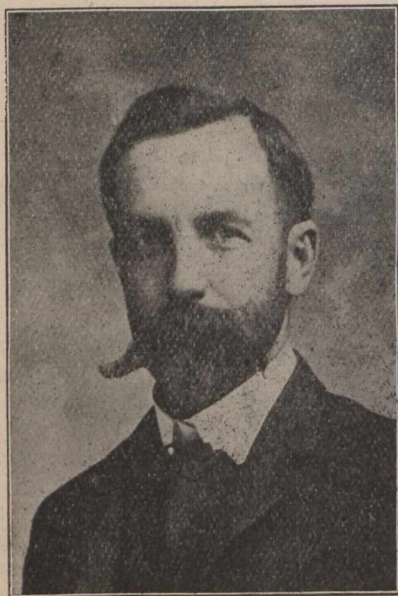


President and Mr. G. R. Harty, Secretary; and the Eastern Branch, at Montreal, with Mr. George E. Drummond as President and Mr. J. W. Bell as Secretary. Appreciation was expressed at the formation of the Federal Department of Mines and the increase of the Federal Government grant to the Institute from \$3,000 to \$5,000. Mr. Lamb reported that Mr. Frank E. Lathe, of McGill University had been awarded the President's gold medal for the best paper by a student member.

In the afternoon more papers were read. The evening was taken up with a thoroughly enjoyable smoker, arranged by the members of the Ottawa committee. The outstanding feature of the evening was the monologue given by Mr. Gordon Rogers and entitled "Mr. Dooley on Mining." Mr. Dooley's experience in the profession extended from buying "gumdrop" stock to sending a four-pound package of manuscript to THE CANADIAN MINING JOURNAL and having it returned collect.

FRIDAY'S SESSIONS.

The ballot box had closed at 6 p.m. on Thursday and results were expected early Friday morning. This, how-



Dr. Willett G. Miller, President C.M.I.

ever, was not to be. The large number of nominations and the ingenious complexity of the ballot form made the work of the scrutineers, Messrs. Brock, Wilson and Hobart, excessively tiresome.

On Friday morning the Institute unanimously placed itself on record as in favour of the renewal of the Dominion lead bounty. In discussing the motion, it was pointed out by Mr. J. C. Murray, editor of THE CANADIAN MINING JOURNAL, that the British Columbia Provincial coal tax, recently imposed upon the coal and coke of British Columbia, had a vital bearing upon the lead bounty. The tax itself would fall ultimately upon the metalliferous mines and would, in a sense, tend to neutralize the bounty. Hence both questions should be considered together.

The motion regarding the bounty was worded thus:—

"That this meeting, in continuation of the policy in the past, endorse the request of the lead miners and smelters of British Columbia, now before the Government, for an extension of the lead bounty act for a further period of five years, with an increase in the mini-

mum price of lead fixed by the bounty from \$80 to \$90 per 2,240 pounds."

The President is to appoint a committee to lay the matter before the Minister of Trade and Commerce.

Among other business transacted on Friday was the passage of the motion of Dr. A. E. Barlow, that a vote be taken by letter ballot on the proposed removal of the headquarters of the Institute from Montreal to Ottawa. Mr. John E. Hardman and Dr. Barlow were appointed a committee to write a circular explaining the reasons for and against the proposed change.

On motion of Mr. J. B. Tyrrell, seconded by Dr. T. L. Walker, it was decided to request the railways to grant reduced rates to prospectors. Prospectors were defined as the holders of mining licenses.

The reading of technical papers concluded the afternoon's work.

About six o'clock the results of the elections were announced as follows:—

President—Dr. W. G. Miller, Toronto.

Vice-Presidents—Mr. G. E. Drummond, Montreal; Mr. W. Fleet Robertson, Victoria, B.C.; Dr. A.E. Barlow.

Secretary—Mr. H. Mortimer-Lamb, Montreal.

Treasurer—Mr. J. Stevenson Brown, Montreal.

Councillors—Mr. W. M. Brewer, Victoria, B.C.; Mr. Arthur A. Cole, Cobalt, Ont.; Mr. D. H. Drury, Montreal, Que.; Mr. Chas. Fergie, Glace Bay, N.S.; Mr. J. E. Hardman, Montreal, Que.; Mr. R. T. Hopper, Montreal, Que.; Mr. A. J. McNab, Trail, B.C.; Mr. W. F. C. Parsons, Londonderry, N.S.; Mr. D. W. Robb, Amherst, N.S.; Mr. O. B. Smith, Phoenix, B.C.; Mr. R. H. Stewart, Rossland, B.C.; Mr. J. B. Tyrrell, Toronto, Ont.

The Annual Dinner, on Friday evening, concluded the best convention that the Institute has ever held.

Mining Science, February 20th.—Continuing his articles on slime concentration practice, Edwin A. Sperry writes of dewatering in this issue of *Mining Science*. Since there is mechanical loss wherever there is a current, Mr. Sperry believes that the use of canvas strakes, or "rag plants" are not as economical as settling tanks for dewatering. Two instances are cited. In one mill 180 tons of ore was crushed. The mill tails were screened on 20 mesh shaking screens. The undersize went to settling tanks, the overflow from which was 60 mesh and finer. This product amounted to 65 tons in 24 hours, carrying 4.7 per cent. of lead. 13.16 tons was caught in canvas and 51.84 tons wasted as tails. 48.4 per cent. of the total lead was wasted with the tails. 90.7 per cent. of the total lead would pass 200 mesh screen and, taking the retreatment of the canvas plant heads as a criterion, 80 per cent. of this could have been saved by dewatering and slime table treatment.

Other good points are made in the article. The conical Callow tank, 7 feet 7 inches high, with an effective width at the top of 8 feet, has a settling capacity of 20 gallons per minute in volume. The capacity for solid material depends, of course, upon the consistence of the pulp. With 10 per cent. solids 20 to 25 tons per 24 hours should be handled.

The liability of choking taking place at the apex of conical settling tanks is met by attracting an auxiliary chamber to the side of the tank in the form of a long tube having an opening into the tank for almost its entire length. The lower end is closed. At the upper end is a gland through which is inserted a pipe, the lower end of which reaches nearly to the lower end of the auxiliary chamber. This pipe is used as the draw off. It can be so manipulated as to remove clogging.