

Annual Meeting of the Canadian Mining Institute

The meeting of the Canadian Mining Institute, held in Montreal on March 6th, 7th and 8th, was a very successful one. The program proved interesting, large questions being dealt with in an able manner by those who undertook the preparation of papers on matters of national importance. Spirited discussion was aroused by some of the papers on fuels and the Friday morning session was enlivened by a spirited defence of the Commission of Conservation.

Iron and Steel Section Formed.

An event that may prove to be of great importance to the Institute was the foundation of a Section on Iron and Steel. Numerous representatives from the iron and steel industry attended the meeting and decided in favor of the suggestion that they should organize in the interests of the industry and that the Canadian Mining Institute, of which several are already members, is the organization with which they should affiliate. As it is the purpose of the Canadian Mining Institute to further the interests of mining and metallurgy in Canada, the formation of an Iron and Steel Section is a natural development. It is understood that the Section will have a very capable executive including: Robert Hobson, Hamilton, Ont.; Col. Thos. Cantley, Mark Workman, W. C. Franz, Dr. Alfred Stansfield, W. J. Janssen, H. M. Jacquays, J. A. Irwin, C. F. Bristol, Esmond Peck, G. H. Duggan and P. L. Miller, Montreal; J. J. Hartley, Kingston; J. H. MacDougall, Sydney, N.S.; F. Crockard, New Glasgow, N.S.; Geo. W. Watts and Wm. Inglis, Toronto; J. G. Morrow, F. A. Sherman and W. M. Curry, Hamilton, Ont.; Col. David Carnegie, Ottawa; Capt. David Kyle, Sault Ste. Marie; M. Deakins, Winnipeg; Fleet Robertson, Vancouver; Geo. McKenzie. This committee will start in on the work of organization at once.

President Cole's Address.

President A. A. Cole, in his address, emphasized the fact that Canada, because of her vast resources of raw materials, would be one of nature's most favored nations, and all must prepare to take advantage of this, and do what they could to encourage greater independence and national self-reliance in its national development. Their principal work must be carried on through Governmental departments, and the Institute had urged the consolidation and strengthening of the Department of Mines, an essential part of which was improving the financial status of the technical members of the staff. The work of the department should be extended so that not only would it deal with the mining and manufacture of minerals and mineral products, but could closely study markets in close co-operation with the Department of Trade and Commerce. Closer co-operation between the Department of Mines and the provincial bureaux should be encouraged, also co-operation among producers with the sanction and support of the Government should be a watchword within the industry.

Organized action by the technical and industrial associations of the Dominion was advocated at the opening sessions. This came up in the course of a general discussion, and was approved in the following resolution, proposed by Dr. W. L. Goodwin, Kingston, seconded by Mr. R. H. Stewart and unanimously

adopted: "That, in the opinion of the Canadian Mining Institute, the time has come for the organization of the technical and industrial societies of the Dominion in such way as to enable them to take joint action in the interests of the Canadian industries, and that this subject be remitted by this meeting to the council of the institute for such consideration and action as will promote such organization."

The status of the metallurgical end of the society was also urged by Dr. Alfred Stansfield, of McGill University, with a proposal to change the name of the institute, so as to include the metallurgists, who form an important branch of the institute. In view of the amount of work that lay ahead of the meeting, Dr. Stansfield withdrew his resolution for a year, with the hope that it would not be lost sight of.

Work of J. E. Hardman and J. S. Brown Recognized.

A luncheon was held by the convention at the Windsor at one o'clock, at which the president, Mr. A. A. Cole, took the chair. He was greeted with considerable applause when he announced that a resolution had been unanimously passed by the council to commemorate the 20th annual meeting of the institute by conferring life memberships on their first member, Mr. John E. Hardman, of Montreal, and Mr. J. Stevenson Brown, of Montreal, who was for many years their treasurer.

The report of the council showed that there had been an increase in membership during the year. There were 125 members on active service, and eleven members had paid the supreme sacrifice at the Front. The total membership was 1,118, as against 1,066 in 1916. There had been 86 losses by death, resignation and removal. The treasurer's report showed a total of \$20,385, with a balance of \$1,990.

Considerable discussion took place during the afternoon session with regard to Government commissions, the general opinion being voiced by Dr. Miller, who considered that there had been too much commission business, and that work should be left more to individual enterprise.

This idea was supported by Dr. J. B. Porter, of McGill, who thought there had been too many commissions appointed. At the same time, he expressed the idea that there had been preposterous extravagance in mining and the utilization of fuel. To correct this, he thought that something might be done by appointing a central advisory body to give assistance to the legislative bodies already in existence. The need for this, he said, was shown by the wasteful methods of many small coal operators, who were simply "picking the eyes" of the mines by surface methods, and injuring their ultimate development.

Reconstruction Problems.

An interesting paper was read by Col. David Carnegie, of the Munitions Board, Ottawa, on "Some Problems in the Reconstruction of Industry."

In his address, Col. Carnegie dealt with two main problems—how to secure remunerative trade without unfair competition, and how to maintain efficient production with competitive co-operation. These two problems, he said, chiefly concerned the consumers, the sellers, the manufacturers and the workers.