

NEWS OF THE ENGINEERING SOCIETIES

Brief items relating to the activities of associations for men in engineering and closely allied practice. THE CANADIAN ENGINEER publishes, on page 99, a directory of such societies and their chief officials.

CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

A meeting of the Electrical Section of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers was held in Montreal on March 19th. Mr. Julian C. Smith was the speaker, and his subject was the performance of electrical insulators. It was followed by a good, general discussion, in which many prominent engineers took part.

Ottawa Branch.—A paper on "Structural Steel Design from a Commercial Standpoint" was read on March 19th before a good attendance of the members of the Ottawa Branch, by Mr. E. S. Mattice, of the Dominion Bridge Company, Montreal, and Mr. W. F. Gronau, of the Structural Engineering Company, Montreal. Mr. Mattice dealt with the practical side of the subject, and Mr. Gronau dwelt upon the theoretical.

Toronto Branch.—This evening (March 26th) Mr. J. G. G. Kerry, of Kerry and Chace, Limited, Toronto, will address the Toronto Branch on "The Proposed Terminal of the T. and N.O. Railway System on James Bay."

Victoria Branch.—On March 12th a paper on "Modern Guns" was read to the members by Captain N. C. Sherman, of the Pacific Coast Ordnance Department, and created a great deal of interest.

At the next meeting of this Branch Mr. H. W. E. Canadian will give an illustrated paper on "Modern Irrigation in British Columbia." This meeting is scheduled for April 9th.

ANNUAL MEETING OF S.L.S. ASSOCIATION.

The Saskatchewan Land Surveyors held their annual meeting at Regina a few weeks ago. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, A. C. Garner, D.L.S., S.L.S.; vice-president, W. A. Begg, D.L.S., S.L.S.; secretary-treasurer, H. G. Phillips, S.L.S. Counsellors—Messrs. W. R. Reilley, D. Alpine Smith, W. M. Stewart, Saskatoon, and J. A. Morrier, Prince Albert. Auditors—Messrs. E. C. Brown, G.T.P., and O. F. Cummins, Regina.

A number of interesting addresses were given during the course of the convention. The general discussion emphasized the need for raising the standard of the work of the profession, and considerable time was devoted to an investigation of the ways and means of best accomplishing this end.

Last year the association obtained legislation giving them complete control of the examinations and discipline of the members. In securing this advanced legislation the members felt that they had made great strides in raising the standard of the association, but it was felt that even better discipline could be obtained and more efficient work accomplished.

Mr. A. T. Thompson, S.L.S., of Grenfell, contributed to the programme by reading a paper on his "Reminiscences of the Early Days in the North-West," with notes on the Indian Tribes, which described his own personal experiences in this country during the last 30 years, and which was well received. Mr. Thompson was asked if he would contribute to the biography of the members, and he consented to do so.

On Monday the president, Mr. A. C. Garner, D.L.S., S.L.S., spoke of the most important matters to be considered, and gave a general outline of the work of the association. The secretary then presented his report and financial statement, showing that the membership has materially in-

creased since the last annual meeting, and that all the members were taking an active interest in the work of the organization.

A very interesting paper was read by Mr. R. H. Montgomery, S.L.S., of the firm of Morrier and Montgomery, of Prince Albert, on "Practical Astronomy," dealing particularly with "Equation of Time." The paper was well conceived, and dealt with some very technical matters.

Mr. Stewart, S.L.S., of the firm of Phillips, Stewart and Lee, of Saskatoon, read a paper on the "Design and Construction of Open Ditches," pointing out particularly the drainage work done in this province and the machinery most suitable or this particular kind of work, taking into consideration the conditions of the soil and the size of the ditches required to be constructed. After giving his paper he was asked to furnish particulars as to this kind of machinery. He promised to obtain information regarding a plan which he believed would in time lessen the cost of construction of ditches. It was pointed out that difficulties which heretofore prevented a great deal of drainage work in this province were being removed, and that in the very near future an enormous amount of drainage work would be accomplished.

It was decided to have these papers printed and distributed for the use of the members of the association; also a statement of the association generally covering the four years that it has been in existence, including all other papers that have been read by members on former occasions.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

Over 100 graduates of the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering of the University of Toronto were present at a meeting of the Engineering Alumni Association on March 23rd, when David A. Molitor, C.E., gave an illustrated lecture on the Panama Canal. Mr. Molitor, previously professor of Civil Engineering at Cornell University, was designing engineer on locks and dams in the Canal engineering organization. He is thoroughly conversant with the history of the present and earlier projects, as well as with the engineering features of both design and construction. His lecture was accompanied by the exhibition of about 100 lantern views, showing details of concrete and steel construction of the Gatun Dam and spillway, the locks at Gatun, Pedro Miguel and Miraflores, the methods of excavation at Culebra Cut, etc. A description of the construction and operation of the emergency dams which have recently been installed, and which Mr. Molitor designed, created considerable interest.

At the conclusion of the address the members took advantage of a good opportunity to ask questions and an extra half hour was spent in discussion.

In the absence of Mr. E. W. Oliver, the chairman of the Association, the chair was occupied by Mr. T. H. Hogg.

About the middle of April the Association will hold another meeting, which will be addressed by J. L. Weller, C.E., of St. Catharines, on the design and construction of the New Welland Ship Canal, of which project he is chief engineer.

EDMONTON ENGINEERING SOCIETY.

The Edmonton Engineering Society, of which Mr. A. W. Haddow is Secretary-Treasurer, hold meetings, at which papers are read and discussed, on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month.