

## ANNUAL MEETING, CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

**A**S forecasted in our issue of last week, the twenty-ninth annual meeting of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers took the place that was to have been expected of it. It established itself very prominently in the history of the Society. Business-like, crisp, up-to-the-minute sessions, resourceful and energetic speakers, educative and unevasive committee reports, recreative and enlightening excursions, and an enthusiastic and well-attended dinner, combined with keen interest and active endorsement of progressive proceedings, marked the affair with the stamp of genuine success.

**Tuesday Morning.**—The first session opened at 10.15 with Mr. Butler presiding. Telegrams of greeting and good wishes were read,—one from Lieut.-Col. C. H. Mitchell, C.E., Staff Headquarters, Salisbury Plain, England, and one from the youngest of the Society's offspring, the Edmonton Branch. The minutes of the last annual meeting were received and certified correct. The appointment of scrutineers for amendments to by-laws and also for officers and members of Council, occupied but a few minutes, whereupon the Report of Council was brought before the members. (This report was published in abstract form in our issue of January 21st, page 151.)

The report of the Library Committee (also summarized in our issue of last week) was then received and adopted without discussion.

The treasurer's report and auditor's statement created a little extra interest in virtue of the rather large amount of dues outstanding, and it was suggested that the incoming Council be instructed to exercise such measures as they deemed appropriate in order to lessen the amount outstanding.

**Reports of Branches.**—The annual reports from the various branches were then read, either by representatives or by the secretary, Professor McLeod.

Vancouver branch reported a membership consisting of 48 members, 74 associate members, 15 juniors, 10 students and 4 associates. Fourteen meetings had been held during the year and many instructive and important papers presented. The branch reported the death of two of its prominent members in the persons of Mr. G. H. Webster and Mr. R. M. Horton.

Manitoba branch had a membership of 297, consisting of 46 members, 103 associate members, 58 juniors, 25 students and 65 associates. Besides its general meetings, other meetings had been held by its electrical and mechanical sections and a lengthy list of papers had been presented. During the year a change of by-laws had been effected whereby the officers, who were elected at the annual meeting in December, took office in the following May. The branch was quite sound financially, reporting a very healthy bank balance.

The report of the Toronto branch was received with much applause, the members evidently having in mind the comments, lightly expressive of inactivity, which characterized the adoption of the report of this branch a year ago. During 1914 the membership had increased from 215 to 295, an advance of 37 per cent. The meetings had been largely attended, a varied programme of meetings having been arranged and a selection of notable speakers made. The average attendance of meetings, including luncheons and excursions, had been 116. The energetic work of the library committee in its recataloging the volumes and materially adding thereto, deserved

special mention. Identification passes had been issued to members to enable them to visit plants and works of interest. The report observed that an important feature of the work of the incoming executive of the branch would be an arrangement for permanent quarters, in view of the fact that the Engineers' Club of Toronto had under consideration the building of a new home. Deep regret was expressed at the loss suffered by the Society and the branch in the death of Dean Galbraith, and also of Mr. J. T. M. Burnside and Mr. J. McD. Parke.

The membership of the Ottawa branch was also increased during the year, although a large number of the members are absent, having offered themselves for service in the first or second Canadian contingents. At its annual meeting the by-laws were revised to extend the term of office of the managing committee from one year to two. Besides monthly luncheons the branch held eight meetings, the attendance at which varied from a minimum of 35 to a maximum of 325. The report showed considerable betterment in the finances of the branch and indicated the steps that were being taken to acquire better quarters and library facilities.

The Kingston branch also reported quite a number of its most active members as being absent on overseas service. The loss of Professor A. Kirkpatrick was considered a severe loss to the branch, as he had been one of its most enthusiastic workers. Some very interesting gatherings had been held and instructive papers presented, although no meetings had taken place since the outbreak of the war.

Two very important papers had been presented and discussed before the Quebec branch, namely, Mr. Arthur Surveyer's paper on "Making Our Water Powers Valuable," and Mr. A. J. Forester's paper on "Cast Iron and Steel Mains for Water Supply." The membership, at the close of the year, was composed of 20 members, 41 associate members, 2 associates, 14 juniors and 21 students.

The Victoria branch held eight regular meetings during the year, at which very instructive papers were read, dealing chiefly with engineering work in British Columbia. The branch had adopted a procedure of alternating its monthly meetings with evening receptions, seven of which were held. The total membership of 80 had not changed since the last annual report, there having been 17 new members enrolled and 17 removals. Mention was made of the third annual convention of British Columbia members, held in Victoria in December and participated in by the Victoria and Vancouver branches.

The report of the Calgary branch showed a present membership of 62, with an average attendance of 45 at meetings. Fifteen papers had been presented in 1914, and 11 branch dinners held. A very substantial bank balance was reported. The branch expressed itself as eager for a western convention of the Society.

The establishment of the Edmonton branch of the Society, during the summer, had been a result of the united endeavors of a large number of members resident in Edmonton and vicinity. Since its formation three splendid papers had been read and a good programme had been arranged for the present season. Alternate meetings of the Society took the form of luncheons and dinners.

In bringing to a close the presentation of annual reports of the branches, Mr. Butler expressed genuine satisfaction respecting their work during the year.

According to the report of the Society's board of examiners, 18 candidates had presented themselves for examination during the year. Fifteen were successful.