

our Convention last summer, there is little doubt that our request would be granted.

The question has been discussed among individual members of the Council as to whether a scheme for life insurance could not be arranged with some first-class company, on such a scale as to insure to all members of both classes of our Society, irrespective of place and residence, throughout the Dominion, such a reduction as to prove a substantial benefit. The Committee on privileges can deal with this matter.

The proceedings of our first Convention have not yet been printed in pamphlet form, chiefly on account of the difficulty of convening a Council meeting, and arranging a feasible scheme for their publication without financial risk or loss. Estimates have been procured from first-class printers, and it is believed that a scheme can be devised when the Committee is organized.

#### COMMITTEES APPOINTED.

On motion, the following committees were appointed, the President and Secretary being members *ex-officio* of each.

*On Membership and Correspondence:* Messrs. Crawford, E. E. Horton, Tyson, F. L. H. Sims and Gibson. Three to form a quorum.

*On Tariff, Legislation, Affiliation and Privileges:* All the members of the Council. Three to form a quorum, but no tariff to be adopted without submission to the whole Council and the vote of the majority.

*On International Association, Printing and Entertainment:*—Alderman Taylor, Messrs. Butcher, Bruce, E. E. Horton, W. F. Maclean. Three to form a quorum.

#### FINANCES.

The Sec.-Treas. read a report as to the financial standing of the Society, showing receipts from paid-up membership of \$32, and expenses to date, \$74.38. The balance due the Treasurer, \$42.38, will be liquidated by the payment of fees by members now on the roll.

#### PAYMENT FOR AMANUENSIS WORK.

A petition was read, signed by H. J. Wickham and a number of Junior members from Toronto, St. Catharines, Ottawa and Belleville, suggesting that the Council express its opinion as to what salary should be the minimum that an amanuensis competent to pass the test for Junior membership should be asked to accept—the sum of \$9 per week being suggested as a reasonable figure for such minimum. After discussion of this petition, in the spirit of which the Council concurred, it was referred to the Membership Committee.

#### JUNIOR MEMBERS ON THE COUNCIL.

A By-law was read a third time and passed, enacting that in all matters of general interest five of the Junior associates should be notified to be present at the Council meetings and have the right of participating in the discussions.

#### A SOCIAL MEETING.

The suggestion that a social meeting be held about the beginning of February, prior to the departure of the newspaper and Hansard reporters to Ottawa, was referred to the Entertainment Committee.

The Council then adjourned.

GEO. BRADLEY, *President.*

THOS. BENGOUGH, *Secretary.*

#### NEWS NOTES.

##### CANADIAN.

Mr. Wm. Perkins, official reporter for the Manitoba Courts, spent Xmas holidays with his folks here. He reports plenty of hard work.

Mr. Harry J. Lee, a Brantford Steno., who left Blake & Co.'s law firm here to enter into partnership with his brother in Chicago as Attorneys and Law Reporters, has recently added an "annex" to his business, known as the "Chicago Shorthand Institute." The Institute is to be incorporated.

Mr. Albert Horton, editor of the *Manitoba Free Press*, writes down that he will arrive in Toronto from Winnipeg about Jan. 25; and spend two weeks in this city resting, before he tackles his duties on the Hansard staff at Ottawa. He is bringing a "big scheme" down with him. When he comes it will be on view in *The World* office.—*Toronto World*.

A man who went to Manitoba a few months ago has sent only one letter home. It said "send me a wig." And his fond parents didn't know whether he was scalped or married until they bethought themselves that it was the best paper in Kingston that he wanted.—*Whig*. This shows once more what trouble people get into by dropping their ns.

We are pleased to record the success of Mr. J. A. Albright, now with A. H. Harris, Son & Co., agricultural implement manufacturers, as stenographer in their Winnipeg office. Mr. A., while attending the Normal School last winter, took a course of evening lessons from us, and, though he knew nothing of shorthand when he commenced, and had scarcely any time for practice while in Toronto, he made the best use of his vacation, and is now enjoying the fruit of his labors.

Mr. R. Gray, agent of the Grand Trunk Railway at Acton, has invented and patented a new telephone. The instrument has been in successful operation over a three mile circuit at Acton for some time, and although it has received no greater test so far, its utility for this distance leaves no doubt as to the possibility of its successful operation over longer stretches. The chief feature of the new telephone is that you can hear a message in an office without putting your ear to the instrument, and that it does away with the necessity of using a bell to call the person up with whom you wish to speak.