## UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO ENGINEERING SOCIETY.

On December 9th the members of the University of Toronto Engineering Society assembled to pay tribute at a memorial meeting to the late Dr. John Galbraith, dean of the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering. The meeting was addressed by several of the older graduates, including Mr. G. H. Duggan, vice-president and chief engineer of the Dominion Bridge Co., and a graduate of 1883, and Dr. T. Kennard Thomson, consulting engineer, New York, and a graduate of '86. Mr. E. D. Gray, president of the Society, was in the chair.

The speakers referred to their early associations with Dean Galbraith and to the remarkable development of the Institution, as viewed by them from a distance, since graduation. In his remarks, Dr. Thomson reviewed briefly the engineering career of the departed man, touching upon his exceptional character, marvellous foresight and preponderant spirit. The late educationist's policy was reviewed and eulogized as one which developed in the old graduates as time went on the feeling that the course of instruction which they had received from him was of far greater value than could be obtained from any course in the best modern University.

On the following day another meeting of the Society was addressed by Dr. Thomson on the foundations for bridges and buildings, especially as regards pneumatic caisson work.

Compressed-air caissons were first used on this continent in North Carolina, in 1852 for bridges, and in 1893 in New York City for buildings. Now many bridges and buildings are supported by foundations obtained by this method.

Photos were shown of the beautiful stone arch bridge over the Connecticut River, at Hartford, and accidents were described which happened in the Susquehanna, Missouri and other rivers. Many New York skyscrapers were described, especially those whose cellars are 16 to 32 feet below the level of the surrounding ground-water. No difficulty is experienced in keeping them dry, as described.

The difficulties of pile-driving were also shown by photos of many very badly driven piles. The underpinning or placing of new foundations under old buildings as high as 18 stories, without allowing the building to settle, was also explained in detail.

A description was given of the removal of a 17-story building on penumatic foundations, which was removed after 14 years' service from the corner of Wall and Nassau Streets to make place for the 39-story Bankers Trust Building. In this connection it was noted that where the steel columns were in contact with concrete no rusting had commenced, but where there was an air space between the steel and concrete, then rusting had made considerable progress.

## AMERICAN CONCRETE INSTITUTE.

The eleventh annual convention of the Institute is to be held in Chicago, February 9th to 12th, 1915. The following is a summary of the programme:—

Concrete Roads, Sidewalks and Bridges.—Papers and discussions relating to the status of concrete road construction will be presented, and special attention given to costs, repairs and maintenance.

Concrete and Reinforced Concrete Tests and Design.—Discussion of the column tests made by the Institute at Pittsburgh, tests of buildings, and other matters of current special interest.

Concrete in Art and Architecture.—Discussion of architectural design in concrete, dimension and art concrete stone, treatment of surfaces, etc.

Plant Management and Costs.—Devoted to concreting plants, covering plant management and costs, the design and cost of wood and metal forms, and the methods of placing, proportioning and selection of concrete materials.

## EDMONTON BRANCH, CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

The next regular meeting of the Edmonton Branch will be held on January 6th, and will be addressed by Mr. A. J. Latornell, city engineer, Edmonton. His subject will be a description of the trunk sewer system of Edmonton.

An interesting syllabus of papers for the season has been prepared. On November 4th Mr. R. H. Parsons read a paper entitled "The Prevention of Electrolysis Due to Street Railway Tracks." On December 2nd Mr. J. Chalmers read a paper, "Depreciation as Applied to Public Utilities." Future meetings include a paper on military engineering, to be given in February by Mr. D. Donaldson. Messrs. J. Brodie and J. A. Allan will take up the subject, "Natural Gas in Alberta, with Geology Incident Thereto," at the March meeting. The April paper will be "Electric Railway Operation and Management," by Mr. J. H. Larmouth. The May meeting will be devoted to general business of the Branch. The members meet fortnightly, each alternate meeting being of a more or less informal nature, with a dinner as part of the programme. Commissioner J. Chalmers is chairman of the papers committee.

## CLAY WORKERS' CONVENTION.

The annual convention of the Canadian National Clay Products Association will be held in Toronto, January 26th-29th, 1915.

## COMING MEETINGS.

AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION. — Annual meeting to be held in the Woolworth Building, New York City, January 11th, 1915. Secretary, P. S. Ridsdale, Washington, D.C.

CANADIAN NATIONAL CLAY PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION.—Annual Convention to be held at the King Edward Hotel in Toronto, January 26, 27, and 28, 1915. Secretary, G. C. Keith, 32 Colborne Street, Toronto.

CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Twenty-ninth annual meeting, to be held in Montreal, January 26th, 27th and 28th, 1915. Secretary, Prof. C. H. McLeod, 176 Mansfield Street, Montreal, Que.

EIGHTH CHICAGO CEMENT SHOW.—To be held in the Coliseum, Chicago, Ill., from February 10th to 17th, 1915. Cement Products Exhibition Co., J. P. Beck, General Manager, 208 La Salle Street, Chicago.

AMERICAN WATERWORKS ASSOCIATION. — The 35th annual convention, to be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, May 10th to 14th, 1915. Secretary, J. M. Diven, 47 State Street, Troy, N.Y.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF ENGINEERING EDUCATION.—Annual meeting to be held at the Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, June 22nd to 25th, 1915. Secretary, F. L. Bishop, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pa.