

poration engaged in the construction industry. Collective membership may be obtained by any group or association of individuals, firms or corporations, whether local, provincial or national. Plural memberships may be obtained by any individual or collective member who wishes to support the association to the extent of more than \$25 per annum. Each membership is entitled to one vote in the affairs of the association, provided that it is represented individually at the annual meeting.

The committee recommended that the local groups in the association get together and form provincial groups, and that each province nominate three representatives to the national council, which council is to be made up entirely of these members so nominated, together with the elected executive officers. The nominating committee is to consist of one member from each province represented at the annual meeting. The committee recommended the elimination of the arrangements which had been originally proposed for arbitration between members, to decide disputes relating to any commercial matter or practice, as it was thought that such arrangements were not necessary or in the best interests of the association at present.

Report on Business Relations

The labor committee reported progress. The business relations committee, of which Mr. Yates was chairman and Mr. Leckie secretary, presented the following report:—

"After considerable amount of discussion as to the lines on which the association could benefit the members as a whole, the following recommendation is respectfully made:—

"That a standing committee be formed to take up the whole subject of business relations (1) between the general contractors, architects and owners; (2) between the general contractors, sub-trades and supply houses; (3) between the sub-trades, supply houses, architects and owners.

"That this committee get in touch with all branches and exchanges throughout Canada and obtain their opinions on this subject, also to state their special requirements along these lines.

"That this committee then report its findings with suggestions to the national council of this association, who shall in turn take whatever action they may see fit to improve business relations along the lines as set forth above.

"It is suggested for the guidance of this committee, that the following may be considered:—

"1.—That all members of this association, whether through branches or directly, shall bind themselves to as far as possible deal only within the association.

"2.—That some system may be worked out whereby the general contractor shall be protected in return for his undertaking to deal only within the association.

"3.—That the uniform contracts, which it is hoped will become universal when they are drawn up, shall include a contract form between the sub-contractor, the supply house and the general contractor along the lines of the uniform contract now in use in Winnipeg, to especially protect the sub-contractor and supply houses as to their payments being made promptly."

Report on Standard Practices

J. B. Carswell, chairman of the committee on standard practices, presented the following report:—

"*Forms of Tenders and Bids and Question of Unit Prices.*—The committee recommends: (a) That no subdivision of tenders or unit prices be given to architects or engineers before the contract is closed or before written assurance has been received that a contract will be entered into.

"(b) That architects and engineers be notified that general contractors will not submit bulk competitive tenders where the said architect or engineer is at the same time taking bids on his work by trades.

"(c) That the practice of giving certified cheques with bids, both on private and public work be strongly discouraged, and it is suggested that in view of the large deposits which have to be made by bonding companies with the provincial and Dominion governments, that bid bonds be substituted.

"*Standard Forms of Contract.*—It is recommended that a committee be immediately formed, consisting of three responsible architects, appointed by the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, and three members of this association, and that legal advice be obtained by the architects on the one hand, and this association on the other hand, to co-operate in drawing up a standard form of contract and general conditions which can be used throughout the Dominion.

"Further, that a standard form of sub-contract be prepared, which form should bind the sub-contractor to the same conditions of contract as the general contractor, and assure the sub-contractor of the same privileges and conditions as accrue to the general contractor.

"*Penalties and Bonuses.*—Inasmuch as architects and engineers invariably reserve the right to dismiss any contractor for incompetency, it is recommended that penalty and bonus clauses should be eliminated entirely from construction contracts.

"*Straight Contract and Cost-Plus Work.*—It is recommended that lump-sum contracts be strongly discouraged until existing conditions become more normal, and that the 'cost plus a percentage' or 'cost plus a fixed or sliding fee' form of contract be advocated as the only fair and reasonable basis from the viewpoint both of the contractor and owner, and that a resolution to this effect be immediately forwarded to the Dominion and provincial governments and municipal bodies, and to all architectural and engineering bodies interested."

Will Invite Engineers' Co-operation

It was moved by A. E. Jennings and seconded by R. J. Lecky that the above report on standard practices be amended to provide for the appointment of two members of the Engineering Institute of Canada, two members of the Royal Architectural Institute and four contractors, as the committee to consider standard forms of contract, instead of three architects and three contractors as suggested by the above report. The report was carried with this amendment, and the Engineering Institute will be invited to co-operate in the work.

Mr. Mattice presented a resolution adopted by the Ottawa branch of the Association of Canadian Building and Construction Industries, demanding that all public tenders be opened immediately in public at the hour for which they are called; and that the contracts be awarded immediately wherever possible; and that the certified cheques accompanying bids be returned within a week or otherwise bear interest. The conference endorsed this resolution and also the principal of a general contractor letting a sub-contractor know whether he had used the latter's figure, so that the sub-contractor will know whether he stands any possible chance of obtaining the work.

Fred Armstrong, vice-president of the association, addressed the meeting, urging the conference to adopt all possible ideas which would make the association more attractive to the supply men. He urged them to deal with such matters as the "made-in-Canada" campaign, freight rates, development of Canadian resources, etc. Canada must become accustomed to thinking nationally, said Mr. Armstrong. There is no reason why Canadian raw materials should go to the United States to be refined or prepared, and then come back to this country, subject to custom duties. He threatened that Canadian manufacturers would take no part in the work of the association unless the latter supports the use of Canadian materials.

The president, Mr. Anglin, appointed the following as the nominating committee: J. K. Thomas, of Alberta; W. Wilson, of Saskatchewan; H. T. Hazelton, of Manitoba; J. M. Pigott, of Ontario; H. E. Smallpiece, of Quebec; and John Flood, of New Brunswick.

Report of Labor Committee

Wednesday, February 4th, was the last day of the conference, and the meeting was called to order by Mr. Anglin, who introduced several members who had just registered. The following report was presented by R. J. Fuller, chairman of the labor committee:—