

Victorian Institute of Engineers.

(ESTABLISHED 1883.)

1927, MARCH 31.

PROCEEDINGS

The Annual Meeting of the Institute was held at the Rooms, Allied Societies' Building, 55 Collins-place, on Thursday, March 31, 1927, at 8 p.m.

In the unavoidable absence of the President, Mr. A. Casson Smith (senior Vice-President) occupied the chair.

The minutes of the December 15, 1926, Ordinary Meeting were confirmed.

An apology for absence was received from Mr. J. Sarvaas.

The Treasurer's balance sheet, which had been printed and circulated among members, was, on the motion of Mr. W. Reid Bell, seconded by Mr. J. T. Noble Anderson, received and adopted.

The Chairman announced that the following office-bearers had been elected unopposed:—President, Mr. A. Casson Smith; Vice-Presidents, Mr. W. Reid Bell and Mr. J. Wilkins; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. T. Hill.

The following were declared elected members of Council by ballot:—Messrs. A. E. Battle, F. K. Esling, W. R. Pollock, D. O. Reeson, H. Conradi, and General C. H. Foote. Messrs. A. E. Hughes and Pyke acted as scrutineers.

COUNCIL'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1926-1927

Your Council begs to report—

The membership is now 135 members.

Your Council regrets to have to report the deaths during the year of Messrs. J. S. Dethridge, W. H. Ebbs and H. Warnock, men whom the profession can ill spare.

Your Council has acted in matters concerning standardisation, the Spencer-street Bridge and other public matters.

During the session six Council Meetings, two Special Council Meetings and six General Meetings were held, and the chief business dealt with was as follows:—

March 24—Annual General Meeting, Election of Complete Council, Report and Balance Sheet.

May 12—Presidential Address by Thomas Hill.

June 23—Paper: "Transmission of Compressed Air Through Pipes," by J. Sarvaas.

September 1—Paper: "Design of Sewage Disposal at Canberra," by H. G. Connell.

October 13—Lecture: "City Milk Supply Equipment. From Farm to Consumer," by J. Borrie.

December 15—Lectures: "The Future of Steam Boilers," by A. Lewis; "The Progress of Work on the River Murray," by Thos. Hill (President); and miscellaneous exhibits and demonstrations by Wm. C. Rowe, J. T. N. Anderson, H. E. Grove, H. E. Cumming and R. J. Bennie.

During the year the Incorporation of the Institute was completed, and the new Articles of Association circulated.

Your Institute is now in occupation of the new buildings, and it is hoped that the step will be of great benefit to the Institute. A Joint Library and a paid Librarian are now at the service of members, and the Library is available every afternoon and Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings.

The PRESIDENT announced that owing to the absence of the Retiring President, who was called away to another State, the customary presidential address had to be postponed.

DIGEST OF ARTICLES IN EXCHANGES.

Mr. WM. CHAS. ROWE read an extract from "Dunn's International Review" on "America's Amphibious Railroad—a Marvel of Engineering Skill."

Mr. J. T. NOBLE ANDERSON said the article was a most interesting one, but it was well known that the bridge referred to was not the largest ocean viaduct in the world. The Falkstead, Ceylon, Viaduct was much larger. Quite a number of piers carrying the bridge had a depth of almost 100 ft. But Great Britain had a great deal to learn from America in the matter of publicity.

Mr. WM. CHAS. ROWE submitted a digest of the most important articles in recent overseas exchanges as follows:—

Journal of the Franklin Institute, February, 1927.—Phenomenon of Direct Current Self Excitation in Vacuum Circuits and Its Application; A Critical Survey of Some Recent Advances in the Study of Diamagnetism; Intensification of the Latent Image on Photographic Plates and Films; Space Characteristics of Antennae; The Movement of Fluids in Porous Solids; The Effect of Occluded Hydrogen on the Tensile Strength of Iron.

Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders in Scotland, vol. 69.—Ruth's Steam Accumulator; Jubilee of the Marine Spring-Loaded Safety Valve; The Commercial Application of Fuel Oil; Failure of Metals by Creep or Viscous Flow; The Werkspoor Diesel Engine; The Development in Increased Efficiency in Steam Application; Causes of Distortion in the Electrical Reproduction of Sound; The Development of the Nobel Engine; Ship Construction; Manufacture and Use of Rubber Tyres; Light Internal Combustion Engines.

American Society of Mechanical Engineers.—The Code of Design for Mechanical Springs; Phosphor Bronze Helical Springs for Precision Instruments; Formulae for the Design of Helical Springs of Square and Rectangular Steel; Metal Spring Design; Boiler Furnaces for Powdered Coal; Radiation in Pulverised Coal Furnaces; Factors Concerning the Economics of Shopping Steam Locomotives; Stress Concentration by Holes and Tillets; Design of Covering for Pipes Carrying Steam up to 800 deg. Fahr.; Review of Steam Turbine Development; Recent Investigations in Turning and Planing and a New Form of Tool; Mechanical Features Affecting the Reliable and Economical Operation of Hydro-Electrical Plants; Mechanical Problems of Hydraulic Turbine Design; Tests of a Uniflow Engine; Torsional Vibration and Critical Speeds of Shafts; Torsional Stress Concentration in Shafts of Circular,

At 9 p.m. the meeting closed.

VICTORIAN INSTITUTE OF ENGINEERS

Receipts and Expenditure for the Year 1926.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
To Balance in Hand (vide Balance Sheet 1925)	£355 1 2	By Rent, Cleaning, etc. . .	£97 9 3
Subscriptions—		Less Unpresented	
For 1927	£7 7 0	Cheque.	24 11 0
For 1926	155 18 6	Secretary—Petty Expenses and Postage	£72 18 3
Arrears	37 16 0	Treasurer—Bank Charge	5 0 0
Entrance Fees	7 7 0	Legal Expenses, Incorporation	35 13 9
Exchange	1 0	Reporting and Clerical Assistance	35 5 0
	208 9 6	Sundries (less cheque unpresented, £3 6/6)	5 10 9
Interest on Bond (£100) for 1 Year	5 10 0	Circulars, Stationery, Dispatching and Postage	1925 14 1
Interest on Savings Bank Account	7 17 4	Proceedings, Notices of Meeting and Printing	1926 29 7
Sale of Proceedings	1 0 0	Articles of Association	
		Printing Proceedings, 1925	14 10 0
		Printing Proceedings, 1926	47 17 3
		Bond	100 0 0
		Deposit Savings Bank	138 0 10
		Current Account, Union Bank	82 8 8
			320 9 6
			£577 18 0

VICTORIAN INSTITUTE OF ENGINEERS

Statement of Liabilities and Assets for Year 1926.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Unpresented Cheques—£24 11/, £3 6/	£27 17 6	By Balance in Union Bank (as per pass book)	£82 8 8
Balance Capital	414 12 0	Bond	100 0 0
		Deposit in Savings Bank	138 0 10
		Arrears of Subscriptions, Valued at	50 0 0
		Furniture (at valuation)	£25 0 0
		Furniture (part ownership)	2 0 0
		Library	45 0 0
			72 0 0
			£442 9 6

THOMAS HILL, Hon. Treasurer.

Audited and found correct, G. LOUDON.

Victorian Institute of Engineers.

(ESTABLISHED 1883.)

1927, JUNE 1.

PROCEEDINGS

An Ordinary Meeting of the Institute was held at the Rooms on Wednesday, June 1, 1927, at 8 p.m.

The PRESIDENT (Mr. A. Casson Smith) occupied the chair.

An apology for absence was received from Mr. J. Sarvaas.

Mr. WM. CHAS. ROWE submitted a digest of the principal articles in current exchanges:—Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers—Mechanical Properties of Steel (this was an article deserving of special attention, as it contained a description of a new testing machine by which photographic records of load and deformation were automatically produced); there was also an interesting article on the Rugby Radio Station. Transactions of the Institution of Engineers of Australia—Modern Ideas of Wind Force and Roof Truss Design; The Flow of Gases; Explosions and Fires in Mines; Notes on Mine Air; Preservation of Wooden Poles; Safe Load for an Unsymmetrically Loaded Column; An Investigation of Steam Governor Characteristics; Lime and Cement; Some Aspects of Shock; Road Construction; Skin Spraying and Drying Plants. Journal of the Franklin Institute—Statistical Mechanics; Some Effects of Dilution and Stirring of a Photographic Developer; A Comparison of the Variation of Intensity and Direction of Radio Signals; Lumped Electric Lines.

The Annual Report of the Council for 1926 was read by the Secretary. Mr. Williams moved that it be received and adopted. The motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. WM. CHAS. ROWE, pursuant to notice, submitted the following motion:—

The V.I.E., at General Meeting Assembled, desires to express its regret that our Government has permitted Orders for Machinery to be placed with a foreign country, and that the Government has

appointed a Foreign Consulting Engineer in connection with works at Yallourn.

Remembering Australia's sixty thousand dead, the unemployment in Great Britain, the unemployment in Victoria, and the young Australian engineers who are being turned out by our Universities and Technical Colleges, with little or no prospects, we as an Institute consider the action of our Government to be calamitous.

That this Resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Victoria.

That a Copy be also sent to our Past President, Sir John Moriash.

The PRESIDENT thought it regrettable that the motion had been submitted, as it dealt with a political matter that should not be debated by the Institute. Individual members might hold definite opinions upon the matter, but he did not think the Institute should be called upon to express an opinion. If the motion were carried it would be a criticism of the Electricity Commission and of the actions of the Government. He did not think it was within the province of the Institute to express an opinion at the present stage upon the appointment of a consulting engineer or the importation of machinery of which they knew very little. If the motion were negatived it might appear that the Institute was in favour of the appointment of a foreign consulting engineer and of the importation of foreign machinery. He wished to dissociate the Institute, as an Institute, from that position also.

Mr. WM. CHAS. ROWE said every member of the Institute had been placed in a very false position. Some day they might have an important motion to bring forward. Would they like their motion to be dealt with as his motion had been treated by the President?

In reply to a point of order raised that the motion could not be discussed until seconded, he submitted he was in order in explaining the circumstances under which the motion was submitted.

The PRESIDENT said Mr. Rowe could explain his motion.

Mr. WM. CHAS. ROWE said he had laid the text of the motion before two consecutive meetings of Council, and asked for advice on the matter. He did not get one word of advice from any member. He had therefore handed in his notice of motion. He had been asked to withdraw the motion, and the President had addressed members on the subject. He considered it very unfair not only to himself, but also to every member.

The PRESIDENT said his remarks were in no way personal. His view was that the motion, being an expression of opinion as to political actions of the Government, was against the best interests of the Institute.

Mr. WM. CHAS. ROWE appealed for the courtesy of some member in seconding the motion *pro forma* in order that it might be discussed.

Mr. BATTLE asked if a member must be considered as supporting the motion if he seconded it *pro forma*.

Several members expressed the view that he would.

As a seconder was not forthcoming, the motion lapsed.

Mr. WM. CHAS. ROWE verbally tendered his resignation from the Council.

Mr. BATTLE and Mr. R. J. BENNIE supported the President in an endeavour to induce Mr. Rowe to reconsider his decision.

Mr. WM. CHAS. ROWE said he felt the meeting had shown no confidence in him, therefore he should not remain on the Council. He believed they had placed the Institute in a false position in regard to the best interests of the engineers of Victoria.

At 10 p.m. the meeting closed.