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Register 8.3.23 At Roseworthy College

The officers are:—Chairman, Mr. J. H. O. Eaton; executive committee, Messrs. J. Bowman (acting-chairman), W. L. Burton, E. V. Clark, C. D. Gibb, and Professor Chapman; general committee, Professor Chapman and Messrs. C. G. Bayer, W. L. Burton, E. V. Clark, J. H. O. Eaton, D. V. Fleming, W. G. F. Goodman, H. G. Jenkinson, E. A. Johnston, J. B. Labatt, S. McIntosh, J. R. Richardson, H. V. Ryan, F. W. Stephen, J. G. Stewart, A. E. Mc Bourne, F. W. Wheaton, Dr. W. A. Hargreaves, and Messrs. E. F. Eberbach (secretary) and W. Hobba (assistant secretary).

A CIVIC RECEPTION.

Delegates from every State in the Commonwealth were present at the civic reception tendered to the delegates to the annual



Professor Chapman.

Conference of the Institution of Engineers at the Adelaide Town Hall on Tuesday afternoon. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress (Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Cohen) received their guests in the reception room. Many of the visiting engineers were accompanied by their wives, who were warmly welcomed on behalf of the ladies of South Australia by the Lady Mayoress and her helpers.

The Lord Mayor said he was sure the representative gathering typified some of the most important professional interests in the Commonwealth. The Institution of Engineers was comparatively new, but it was a most important and influential organisation. Of the group of associations which went to make up the Institution of Engineers, South Australia was a young member. The institution had been primarily formed to promote the scientific practice of engineering, to assist in the acquirement and interchange of knowledge, and in scientific research. The gigantic engineering works already to their credit brought honor not only to the individuals responsible for their construction, but to the Commonwealth. Let them take the Burrinjuck waterworks, which dammed the Murrumbidgee and provided abundance of water for thousands of people.

The proposed great North Shore bridge across Sydney Harbor was designed by one of the members present that day. (Applause.) The Moorook brown coal scheme, by which it was proposed to provide millions of units of electricity, and the hydro-electric scheme in Tasmania were some of the triumphs of their Australian engineers. In South Australia the Adelaide tramway system stood as one of the finest in Australia. As a matter of fact, after a deal of travel on the Continent and in England, he was prepared to say it was one of the finest systems in the world. (Applause.) All honor was due to Mr. Goodman who had been responsible for the whole scheme. (Applause.) They would see for themselves also the marvellous development at the Adelaide Electric Supply Company's works, and they had also their splendid systems of water storage. The development of the Murray locking system would be yet another triumph of engineering, adding credit to the institution and prosperity to the whole of Australia. He extended to them all a hearty welcome to Adelaide, where they would find that they were honored guests.

Alderman Isaacs, on behalf of the City Council, endorsed the remarks of the Lord Mayor. Nothing could better help to cement good feeling between the States than the visit of men like those present. He trusted their stay would be both profitable and pleasant.

Alderman Forwood said, as one who had been connected with the engineering trade for over 50 years, he was more and more impressed with the potentialities of Australia each time he returned from a trip abroad. More devoted upon engineers with regard to the secondary industries of the country than upon any other men. He hoped they would develop their great powers in this direction upon as wide a base as possible.

Professor R. W. Chapman, chairman of the Institute of Engineers of Australia, said the reception was a happy beginning to the conference. (Applause.) The institute was comparatively young, but it was progressing rapidly. South Australia had something to show the visitors in the way of a great engineering work in the Millbrook reservoir, set amid exquisite natural scenic beauty. They would discuss many things in the next few days, but in the main the conference should be a great deal in the nature of a holiday. The engineering profession was now at about the same stage as medicine in the days when the village blacksmith extracted teeth, the barber relieved disorders in his customers by the simple practice of opening a vein, and the apothecary not only dispensed medicines but also prescribed them. It could be raised in status, however, by men who were determined to do it, until it ranked with the best professions in the world. (Applause.) On behalf of the members of the institution he thanked the Lord Mayor for his welcome.

Mr. R. J. Boyd (chairman of the Sydney Institute of Engineers) said they were too apt to take the credit of all great works to themselves. Much as Sydney Harbor would be commercially improved by the great bridge which was to span it, it would not enhance the beauty of the harbor itself, which was greater than any of their works. He trusted that as engineers the great works of the past would inspire them with a vision for the future. They all appreciated their splendid welcome to Adelaide.

Mr. H. E. Coane (vice-president of Melbourne Institute of Engineers) said Adelaide ranked high for a city of its size, and would easily compare with those of similar population in England and on the Continent. It was certainly the best laid-out city in the Commonwealth. Adelaide led the way in engineering, having had a sewerage system long before Melbourne. The parks system in Adelaide was one of its finest features. Adelaide possessed a definite civic pride, which was reflected in the city itself. They should all congratulate Mr. Richardson upon the splendid surface of the city roads. (Applause.) He thanked the Lord Mayor for his kindly welcome.

Mr. Hitchcock (Tasmania) also spoke briefly in appreciation.

The Programme.

The delegates will this morning inspect Holden's Motor Body Factory and the Islington Workshops, and in the afternoon the Adelaide Electric Supply Company's new generating station at Osborne. In the evening a lecture will be delivered at the University by Mr. Goodman. To-morrow morning visits will be paid to Penzance's Furniture Factory and the Tramway Trust's power station, and in the afternoon to the Tramway Trust's car depot, and Henley Beach. In the evening a lecture will be delivered at the Institute, North-terrace, by Mr. C. A. Bazer. On Friday the delegates will go to the Millbrook and Barossa reservoirs, and the annual meeting will be held at night. On Saturday Mount Lofty and Penfold's vineyards will be visited, and the party will leave on Monday for a visit of inspection of the River Murray Reclamation Works. The council of the Institute will meet this afternoon and to-morrow afternoon at the University.

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THE ENGINEERING CONFERENCE. Important Council Business. Status of Engineers.

The council of the Institution of Engineers, Australia, met at the University of Wednesday afternoon. The President (Professor R. W. Chapman) was in the chair.

An important matter submitted was that of a charge of unprofessional conduct laid against a member of the Institution. After full consideration of the evidence, the council unanimously decided that the accusation was not proved. The charge arose from the calling in of a consulting engineer to report upon certain schemes for the supply of water for a large city in another State.

Regulations with reference to the award of the Edward Noyes Prize were approved. This prize has been given to the association by the widow of the late Edward Noyes (at one time a prominent electrical engineer in New South Wales) to perpetuate the memory of her husband. The amount of the prize will be £10 10/ per annum. The prize will be given for papers on any engineering subject prepared by a junior or student member of the institution.

Regulations relating to the award of the P. M. Russell memorial medal were also approved. The funds for the award of the medal have been taken from a grant made by the late Peter Nicol Russell, of the Engineering Association of New South Wales, which is now incorporated in the greater association. Under the terms governing the award the medal will be given annually to a member of the institution over the age of 45 years.

A special vote of thanks was tendered to the President for his valuable work in connection with the conference, and for having given up his vacation to undertake a visit to the other States in the interests of the institution.

A progress report was submitted by a committee on the question of the status of engineers. It was felt that the remuneration of engineers compared unfavourably with that paid to members of other professions, and it was considered that the salaries paid by the State Departments were quite inadequate, in view of the responsibilities involved, also that the salaries given by private firms and undertakings were to a large extent based on salaries paid in the Government service. It was decided to secure fuller information, showing the present position of affairs, with a view to placing members of the profession on a more satisfactory basis.

A proposal was placed before the meeting that consideration should be given to the question of the establishment of an employment bureau, to which members of the institution out of employment might refer, and with which firms, corporations, and so on, having vacancies might register. It was decided that a special committee should be appointed to formulate a scheme.

The meeting was adjourned until 2 o'clock this afternoon.

DELEGATES AND LOCAL ENTERPRISES.

During Wednesday delegates visited several of the most important local business enterprises. At 10 a.m. a party of about 30 were received at Holden's Motorbody factory. They were under the leadership of Professor R. W. Chapman (President of the Institution), and were welcomed by the managing director of the firm (Mr. E. W. Holden), and the Chairman of Directors (Mr. H. J. Holden). A thorough inspection was made of the works, and surprise was expressed at the great size of the place and the general excellence of the equipment, and the high quality of the products. Another contingent of delegates (about 40) were taken by special train to the Islington Workshops. Mr. J. Bowman was in charge. The visitors, who were received by the Acting Chief Mechanical Engineer (Mr. F. J. Shea), looked through the various departments, and voiced pleasure with the trip. In the afternoon approximately 100 of the delegates were the guests of the Adelaide Electric Supply Company at its new generating station at Osborne. The journey to Port Adelaide was made by train, and then the Harbours Board placed a launch at the disposal of the party. Those who did not desire to disembark at the generating station were taken towards the Outer Harbour and then back to Osborne, where afternoon tea was served. Mr. F. W. Wheaton (engineer and manager for the company), was leader for the outing, which was thoroughly enjoyed. Delegates' wives were entertained at the Botanic Garden Kiosk in the morning by Mrs. Chapman and ladies of the local committee.

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CHRISTIAN SOCIOLOGY. Established in 1921 the Round Table Christian Sociological Society, of which the Rev. E. S. Kiek is president, has already produced substantial results for the discussions held during the past two years. The programme for the 1923 session has been issued, and comprises questions embracing "The Ideal Life." The following discussions will be held, in which the ladies and gentlemen named will open the programme:—"The Need for Physical Fitness," Dr. C. D. David; "The Need for Sound Environment," Mr. L. I. Hill, M.P.; "The Need for Spiritual Culture," the Rev. J. A. Seymour; "The Functions of Primary Education," Mrs. Winifred Kiek; "The Functions of Secondary Education," the Rev. K. J. F. Bickelstein; "The Functions of University Education," Professor H. Darnley Naylor; "Law in Industry," Dr. W. Arthur Brown; "Possibilities in Politics—A New Democracy in Australia," Mr. H. S. Hudd, M.P.; "The Basis of Social Morality," Professor I. McKellar Stewart; "The Churches' Function and Responsibility," the Very Rev. Prior Hogan.

Hitherto it has been largely only the wealthy men's sons who have been able to purchase land for themselves, and thus make full use of the valuable tuition received at the Roseworthy Agricultural College. In Executive Council on Wednesday, however, new regulations were passed under the Graduates' Land Settlement Act, which will mean that the sons of men who are not in a position to start out for themselves will be enabled to take up holdings.

The new regulations are in conformity with the general provisions covering soldier settlement, on which the whole of the Agricultural Graduates' Settlement Bill was framed, and their object is to assist and encourage the settlement of agricultural students on the land. All diploma holders between 21 and 30 years of age are eligible to apply, but they must be recommended by the head of the Agricultural College, as fit to take up land. Provision is made for them to purchase farms within the settled areas. The total amount of money that can be advanced by the Government for the purchase of land, improvements, stock, and building is £3,000. With that money it will be possible for a graduate to buy probably 250 acres, at £10 an acre, and improve the property and purchase plant. It is not anticipated that the advance will be sufficient for the whole of the requirements of the settler, but is designed to assist him. It may be sufficient for small dairying proposition, but will scarcely be enough for a farming proposition, where fallowing is necessary.

Of Invaluable Assistance.

The interest is to be periodically fixed by the Commissioner of Crown Lands, and repayments will be on a graduated scale. The regulations will come into force as soon as they are gazetted. It is stated that only about 30 per cent. of those who qualify are likely to want to take advantage of the Act, which will be of invaluable assistance to the college. The good work being carried on at Roseworthy is being realized, and for a couple of years all the accommodation there has been fully used by students. When the new regulations come into force, there is every probability that the popularity of the institution will still further increase. It is believed that, with possibly increased numbers of students, the college will need about another 500 acres of land, if the same attention is to be devoted to the practical side of the work as has been the case in the past.

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ROSEWORTHY COLLEGE.

Last session Parliament passed a Bill providing for Government assistance being given in settling graduates of Roseworthy Agricultural College on the land. On Wednesday the Executive Council approved of regulations under the Act, in conformity with the general regulations covering soldier settlement. The Act is designed to assist and encourage the settlement of agricultural graduates on the land. All the diploma holders between 21 and 30 years of age are eligible to apply, but they must be recommended by the principal of the college as suitable and fitted to go on the land. Provision is made for suitable applicants to purchase farms within the settled areas, the total amount which may be advanced by the Government for land, improvements, stock, and plant being £3,000. With that, if an applicant had no capital himself, he might purchase 250 acres at about £10, improve and stock it, and provide himself with plant, but it is expected that the majority of diploma holders will be able to finance themselves sufficiently to enable them to secure larger areas. The advance might be sufficient in itself to purchase a small dairying proposition, but would hardly be enough for a farm in which fallowing is necessary. The interest to be paid on the loan will be fixed by the Commissioner of Crown Lands periodically on the ruling rate of interest. Repayments will be on a graduated scale. The regulations will be gazetted today, and the Act will then come into operation. It is expected that only about 30 per cent. of the graduates of the college will seek Government assistance. One effect of the new Act will be to open the doors of the college to the sons of men who would be able to give their boys the education up to the diploma stage, but would be unable to provide capital to start them on farms. This will mean that additional accommodation may be required at Roseworthy College in the form of another corridor for boarders. There is already sufficient class-room and dining-room accommodation for about 100 scholars, though the school is now full with a roll-call of 60. It may be necessary also to provide more land, as practical operations comprise an important part of the college course.