

As will be seen from the Balance Sheet attached, the finances continue to remain in a sound condition, and that after the payment of all expenses during the year, the capital of the Association continues to increase.

The Council regret, however, to record that very little notice appears to have been taken of their appeal to members in the last Annual Report, for a more regular attention to the payment of subscriptions, and that instead of the amount due being decreased it has been allowed to very materially increase. This condition of affairs is not satisfactory to the Council, who are endeavouring to advance the interests of the Association generally, and the bank interest on the amount now outstanding might have been added to the capital had it been received, and would probably have been the means of increasing the Society's usefulness. It is to be hoped that in future the importance of this matter will not be lost sight of by members, and that more regular payments may be the result of this appeal.

It is satisfactory to report that the lease of the present Meeting Rooms has been secured for a further term of two years (from August last), without increase of rental, the position and suitability of these Rooms being considered in every way sufficient and adequate to the Society's requirements.

The alteration in the number of meetings constituting the Session from twelve to eight has answered admirably, for whilst the vacation covers the hottest months of the year, the interest in the reduced number of meetings has been more concentrated, and the average attendance has been maintained. During the Session ten General Meetings have been held, and the papers submitted have been of an interesting and important character.

The list of papers read and discussed are as follows:—

At the October Meeting, paper on the "Epicyclic Grab Dredger," by Mr. Hy. Davies, illustrated by diagrams and working models.

In March, 1890, the President's Annual Address was delivered.

In April, "On the Prevention of Damage to River Banks by Flood Waters," by Mr. W. Seymour Wells.

May 8th, "On Van Rysselberghe's Hydro-dynamo System of Electric Lighting," by Mr. C. Van de Velde.

May 15th, Discussion on same.

June, "On Electric Traction," by Mr. G. Fischer.

July 10th, Discussion on same.

July 17th, Adjourned Discussion on same subject, and a Paper on "Sanitary Engineering and the Public Health," by Mr. J. M. Smail.

August, Discussion on Mr. Smail's Paper, illustrated by working models, and a paper "On Delta Metal," by Mr. Walter Reeks.

September, "On the Dangers arising from the Use of Clays in Embankments, etc.," by Mr. Angus Mackay.

At the General Meeting, held in May, the Council submitted the matter of holding another "Scientific and Mechanical Exhibition" to the members for an expression of opinion as to the advisability or otherwise of making preparations and arrangements for carrying same into execution during the year 1891. After discussion, however, it was thought that the time was inopportune, as the country was only beginning to recover from depression, and it was ultimately resolved that the matter be postponed for twelve months, and then submitted for consideration.

The Annual Re-union of members and friends was held on the 28th November, when an enjoyable day was spent, and the affair was in every way a success.

On the 18th January, at the invitation of Mr. Gresley Lukin, manager, a large number of the members visited the Metropolitan Company's Coal Mine at Helensburg. The majority of those present descended the shaft to a depth of 1,100 feet, and were conducted through the underground workings by Mr. Robertson, the mine manager, and his assistants. A most enjoyable and instructive afternoon was spent and

members returned to town about dark. On the 14th June, through the courtesy of Mr. O. McMaster, the contractor, the members were afforded an opportunity of seeing the new steel reservoirs now in course of construction at Chatswood and Ryde, for the North Sydney Water Supply. The members were courteously received by Mr. McMaster, at Chatswood, and after an examination of the reservoir there, were driven to the Ryde reservoirs, returning to town about dark.

During the year, thanks to Mr. Ahrbecker's exertions, Volume III. of the Association's Proceedings has been issued, and it is expected Vol. IV. will be ready at an early date. The Association's volumes continue to be circulated to other kindred societies all over the world, which results in an interchange of proceedings in almost all cases, as will be seen from the list of donations appended, and to the donors of same the Council take this opportunity of tendering their thanks.

Special donations have been received from Messrs. L. Hargrave, T. Andrews, and J. G. Griffin (members of the Association), in the form of certificates, photos, and volumes of Minutes of Proceedings of the Institute of Civil Engineers, the latter (with those already in the Library) enabling the Council to make up almost a complete set for reference.

About the middle of the year the Council's attention was directed to some of the provisions of the District Government Bill by a communication from the Survey Club, which made suggestions for amendment of certain clauses. The matter was referred to a sub-committee consisting of Messrs. Fischer, Dickinson, and Henson for investigation, and report after deliberation with the sub-committee appointed by the Survey Club. Should it be determined that amendments are necessary, it is proposed to communicate same by deputation or otherwise to the Government in due course.

ENGINEERING ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

ACCOUNT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1890.

Dr.	Receipts.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Expenditure.	£ s. d.	Cr.
1889.						
To Balance in Bank		138	3 6	By Rent of Rooms		66 0 0
„ Cash in hand		4	3 3	„ Printing and Engraving Proceedings		110 5 2
			142 6 9	„ General Printing		15 16 11
„ Entrance Fees—				„ Periodicals		11 17 0
13 New Member at £2 2s.		27	6 0	„ Binding Periodicals		11 13 6
2 New Students at £1 1s.		2	0	„ Annual Re-union		97 12 0
			29 8 0	„ Secretary's Allowance		40 0 0
„ Annual Subscriptions			209 18 9	„ Petty Cash, including Postage, Stationery, Advertising, and Insurance		27 8 7
„ Annual Re-union			79 15 0	„ Sundries		6 6 2
„ Rent			1 1 0	„ Excursion		6 4 0
„ Excursions			3 10 0	„ Collection on Cheques		0 7 0
„ Volumes and Pamphlets... ..			5 7 0	„ Cash at Bankers	76 14 6	
„ Excess payment by Treasurer to Bank			0 13 0	„ Cash in hand	1 14 8	
			471 19 6			78 9 2
			471 19 6			471 19 6

Audited and found correct.

JAMES I. HAYCROFT, } AUDITORS.
JAMES ELDER, }