

The Institution of Engineers, Australia.

CONSTITUTION.

NOTE.—On the first day of August, 1919, various Engineering Societies within the Commonwealth of Australia agreed to combine and form themselves into one Institution, with a common title, notwithstanding which, each Society forming a Division or Branch of the Institution, retained the right to make rules for the government and control of its own affairs in all matters not inconsistent with those determined by this Constitution.

EXISTING SOCIETIES.—The following Engineering Societies, viz.:—

The Institute of Local Government Engineers of Australasia,

The Australasian Institute of Mining Engineers,

The Electrical Association of Australia,

The Engineering Association of New South Wales,

The Melbourne University Engineering Society,

The Northern Engineering Institute of New South Wales,

The Queensland Institute of Engineers,

The South Australian Institute of Engineers,

The Sydney University Engineering Society,

The Tasmanian Institution of Engineers,

The Victorian Institute of Engineers,

The Western Australian Institution of Engineers,
shall be known as "**Existing Societies.**"

FOUNDATION SOCIETIES.—Any Existing Society which joins the Institution within six calendar months of the date of formation of the Institution shall be deemed to be a "**Foundation Society.**"

PROPERTY.—Any Foundation Society which, alone or with others, becomes a Division or Branch of the Institution may, nevertheless, reserve to itself and retain full control of all or any of its real or personal property, whether the same belongs to it absolutely, or is vested in it or for it in trust or otherwise.

NAME.

1. The Institution shall be known as “**The Institution of Engineers of Australia.**”

OBJECTS.

2. The Institution is formed to promote the science and practice of Engineering, and generally to bring about a closer co-operation of Engineers throughout the Commonwealth of Australia, for the acquirement and interchange of professional knowledge, the encouragement of original research, and the advancement of the Engineering profession.

ORGANISATION.

3. To carry out the objects of the Institution more effectually, to stimulate interest, and to secure representation on the Council from all parts, the Commonwealth of Australia shall be divided into convenient areas. The members of the Institution resident in such an area shall form a Division of the Institution.

4. A Division shall be established under the authority of the Council at the request of the Corporate Members residing in any State, or of not less than one hundred and twenty-five Corporate Members residing in any clearly defined or separate district. The Council may, however, under special circumstances, authorise the formation of additional Divisions.

5. A Division shall be distinguished by the name of its locality. [For example, the Newcastle Division of the Institution.]

6. In any Division twenty or more Corporate Members qualified in the same section of Engineering may, with the approval of the Council, form a Branch of that Division for purposes of closer co-operation in technical and professional matters.

7. Branches shall be distinguished by the name of the section of Engineering which they represent and the Division of which they form a part. [For example, The Civil Engineering Branch of the Melbourne Division of the Institution.]

MEMBERSHIP.

8. The Institution shall consist of Honorary Members, Members, and Associate members, who shall be the Corporate Members, and of Juniors, Students and Associates.

All Corporate Members shall be entitled to vote, but Members and Associate Members only may hold office.

Juniors, Students and Associates shall possess all the rights and privileges of Corporate Members, except the right to vote or hold office.

9. Any Honorary Member, Member, Associate Member, Junior, Student or Associate, having occasion to designate himself as belonging to the Institution, shall state the grade to which he belongs, according to the following abbreviated forms:—Hon. M.I.E. Aust.; M.I.E. Aust.; A.M.I.E. Aust.; Jr. I.E. Aust.; Stud. I.E. Aust.; Assoc. I.E. Aust.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.

10. Honorary Members of the Institution shall be persons who have rendered conspicuous service to the profession, or who are eminent in Engineering or kindred sciences; but no Engineer practising the profession in the Commonwealth of Australia, and eligible for Corporate Membership, shall be elected or remain an Honorary Member.

The number of elected Honorary Members of the Institution shall not at any time exceed twenty; and not more than three Honorary Members shall be elected in any one year.

Any person who, on the first day of August, 1918, was an Honorary Member of a Foundation Society, may remain as an Honorary Member of the Division in which that Foundation Society was incorporated; but no further Honorary Members shall be elected by any Division or Branch.

11. Members.—Every candidate for election or transfer into this grade shall be at least thirty-three years of age, and shall have been engaged in some section of Engineering for at least twelve years, during which period he shall have occupied a responsible position in the design, construction, management, or operation of important work or plant for at least five years, and shall have acquired some degree of eminence in the profession.

He shall further satisfy the Council that he has received a good general and scientific education.

The term of twelve years may, at the discretion of the Council, be reduced to ten years, in the case of a candidate who is an Associate Member, or who who has graduated in a School of Engineering recognised by the Council, or who has passed such other examination as, in the opinion of the Council, is considered sufficient.

12. Associate Members shall comprise every person who, at the establishment of the Institution was a corporate Member of a Foundation Society, and who, being at least twenty-five years of age, shall have enrolled with the Institution within one year of the establishment thereof, and in addition thereto, all those thereafter elected or transferred into this grade.

Every candidate for admission or transfer into this grade shall be at least twenty-five years of age; he shall produce evidence to the satisfaction of the Council that he has been trained as an Engineer, and has been engaged in the practice of the profession for at least four years excluding apprenticeship, pupilage or training, provided that such term shall be deemed satisfactory by the Council. In the case of Graduates of recognised Schools of Engineering, the term of four years may be reduced to three years.

Every candidate shall pass an Associate Membership Examination before a Board of Examiners appointed by the Council, but he may be exempted from examination if:—

- (a) He has already passed an examination which, in the opinion of the Council, is equivalent to the Associate Membership examination; or
- (b) Having attained the age of 30 years, he can produce evidence that he has had, excluding apprenticeship, pupilage or training, at least eight years' experience, partly in the office and partly in or upon engineering plant or work, provided that such experience shall be deemed satisfactory by the Council.

13. Juniors shall comprise every person who, at the establishment of the Institution, was a Graduate, or Junior or Student of a Foundation Society, and who, being at least twenty-one years of age, shall have enrolled with the Institution within one year of the establishment thereof, and, in addition thereto, all those thereafter elected or transferred into this grade.

Every candidate for election or transfer into this grade shall be at least twenty-one years of age, and shall have been engaged in some section of Engineering for at least

four years, and shall have had such engineering experience as will enable him to fill a subordinate position in engineering work. The period of four years may be reduced to one year in the case of a candidate who has graduated in a School of Engineering recognised by the Council.

Every candidate who is not a graduate of some School of Engineering recognised by the Council, shall be required to pass such an examination as may be prescribed by the Council, provided always that any candidate who has attained the age of twenty-five years, and, being a Student, has passed the Students' Examination, upon producing evidence to the satisfaction of the Council that he has had employment for at least one year in a responsible position, shall, at the discretion of the Council, be exempted from examination. No person shall remain in the grade of Junior for more than ten years from the time of his election or transfer.

14. Students shall comprise every person under the age of twenty-one years who, at the establishment of the Institution, was a Student of a Foundation Society, and shall have enrolled with the Institution within one year of the establishment thereof, and in addition thereto all those thereafter elected into this grade.

Every candidate for election into this grade shall be at least seventeen years of age, and shall pass the examination for Students prescribed by the Council, unless he has already passed such other exempting examination as may be approved by the Council. He shall satisfy the Council that he has received or is receiving, training as an Engineer, and has received, or intends to obtain, sufficient practical and scientific training to fit him for a responsible position as an Engineer. No person shall be elected as Student after he has reached the age of twenty-

one year, nor shall any person continue as a Student if he cease to follow the profession, nor in any case after reaching the age of twenty-six years.

15. Associates shall comprise every person who, at the establishment of the Institution, was an Associate, but not a corporate member, of a Foundation Society, and shall have enrolled with the Institution within one year of the establishment thereof, and in addition thereto all those hereafter elected or transferred into this grade.

Every candidate for election or transfer into this grade shall be one who is not eligible for election as a Corporate Member, yet, by reason of his attainments in Science, or in any of the arts allied to or having interests in common with Engineering, may be deemed by the Council to be worthy of election.

16. Teachers of Engineering may be regarded as employed in the design of Engineering work.

17. Any member of an existing Society which does not join the Institution within six months of the formation thereof shall, nevertheless, upon individual application to the Council within a further six months thereafter, have the right to join the Institution with all the privileges possessed by members of Foundation Societies.

18. A corporate Member only may become affiliated with a Branch. An Associate, a Junior or a Student shall be attached to a division only. The Council shall determine the qualifications necessary for a Corporate Member to become affiliated with any particular Branch, but any Corporate Member of a Foundation Society may remain affiliated with that Branch of the Institution formed from the Society.

A Corporate Member may not affiliate with more than one Division, but he may affiliate with more than one Branch of a Division if his qualifications be attested by

each Branch to which he desires to become affiliated, and also be approved by the Council. He shall, however, in no case vote for or hold office in more than one Branch.

COUNCIL.

19. The Council of the Institution shall consist of a President, two Vice-Presidents, two Past Presidents, and not more than thirty Councillors. The tenure of office shall be—for the President one year, the Vice-Presidents two years, the Past Presidents two years, and the Councillors one year. The Past Presidents shall be the two surviving Presidents who have last held office, and are willing to act on the Council.

20. If, through any cause, the office of President or Vice-President becomes vacant, the Council shall elect from its own number a successor for the unexpired portion of the term, and the vacancy in the office of Councillor so created shall be filled as provided for in Clause 21.

21. A vacancy in the office of Councillor shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term by the Council, which shall select a representative from the Division from which the previous holder was elected.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

22. The President of the Institution for the succeeding year shall be elected annually by the retiring Council from its own number.

23. One Vice-President shall be elected each year by the Council, at its first meeting, from its own number, but such election shall not be deemed to create a vacancy in the Council.

24. The Councillors shall be elected by the members in each division in such proportion that there shall be one Councillor for each Division, and one additional Councillor for every two hundred and fifty (or part thereof) Corporate Members in the Division, or such higher quota

as may be necessary to comply with the requirements of Clause 19.

25. Only persons of the grade of Member may be nominated for election to the Council.

26. There shall be a Secretary, appointed by the Council from among the Corporate Members of the Institution. His remuneration shall be determined by the Council, and he shall hold office subject to removal by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Council. During the term of his appointment, he may take part in the deliberations of the Council, but shall not vote, and shall not take part in the administrative affairs of any Division or Branch of the Institution.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary, under the direction of the Council, to conduct the ordinary business of the Institution; to keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Institution, and of the Council; to keep a correct roll of members' names, with their addresses and dates of admission and transfer, this roll to be known as the Register of the Institution; to direct the collection of the subscriptions and the preparation of the account of the expenditure of the funds, and to present all accounts to the Council for inspection and approval; to conduct the correspondence of the Institution; to give notice of all meetings of the Council and General Meetings of the Institution; to supervise the printing, and edit the Transactions of the Institution, in accordance with the Constitution and By-laws.

27. There shall be an Honorary Treasurer, elected annually by the Council at its first meeting, who must be a Corporate member resident in the locality of the headquarters of the Institution. If not a Councillor, he shall nevertheless, attend the meetings of the Council, and may take part in the deliberations, but may not vote. He shall,

subject to any expressed provision in the Constitution or By-laws, perform any such duties as the Council may determine. The appointment of a Councillor to the position of Honorary Treasurer shall not be deemed to be creating a vacancy in the Council.

28. An Auditor, who shall be a public accountant, resident in the locality of the headquarters of the Institution, shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting, and he shall be responsible for the audit of the accounts for the ensuing year. He shall have access at all reasonable times to the accounts of the pecuniary transactions of the Institution, and shall verify and sign the annual statement of the accounts before it is submitted by the Council to the Annual General Meeting.

MANAGEMENT.

29. The location of the headquarters of the Institution shall be determined by the Council.

30. The Council shall generally direct the business of the Institution either itself or through Committees.

31. The Council shall prepare and adopt a series of By-laws which shall govern procedure under this Constitution; such By-laws shall be adopted, or may be amended, by a concurring vote of not less than a majority of the whole Council, provided that the text of a proposed By-law, or amendment thereof, shall be forwarded by registered post to each member of the Council at least thirty days before the meeting at which a vote on the same is to be taken.

32. There shall be at least four meetings of the Council in each year.

33. Any member of the Council, provided he is not affiliated with a Division the headquarters of which are located in a city in which a Council Meeting is held, may, if he is unable to attend such meeting, appoint a

Member to act as his substitute, but the Secretary must be notified on an approved form, before the meeting, of the name of the substitute.

The substitute Councillor shall have the same privileges of deliberation and vote as Councillors at General meetings.

34. The Council shall, at its first meeting in each year, appoint a Finance Committee, of which the Honorary Treasurer shall be, *ex officio*, a member, and which shall include at least three members of Council. The Council may, at any time, appoint such other Committees as may be considered advisable. These Committees shall report to the Council, and perform their duties under its supervision.

The President shall be, *ex officio*, a member of every Committee of the Council.

35. The Council may at any time authorise any officer, other person or Committee, to perform any acts or functions which in the Constitution or By-laws may be prescribed to be performed by any specified officer, other person or Committee, whenever by reason of death, absence, disability, or other cause, sufficient ground therefor shall be apparent to the Council.

36. Any act of the Council receiving the expressed or implied sanction of the Corporate Members at a General Meeting of the Institution shall be deemed to be an act of the Institution, and shall not be impeached by any member of the Institution on any grounds whatever.

37. The affairs of each Division and Branch shall be administered under the direction of the Council, and in conformity with this Constitution, by the respective Committees, which shall exercise such powers as the Council may approve, but each Committee shall have the right to make By-laws for the government and control of its own

affairs in all matters not inconsistent with this Constitution.

38. Each Division shall be managed by a Committee known as a Division Committee, elected annually by and from the Corporate Members of that Division, and consisting of a Chairman, Committeemen, and such officers as may be deemed necessary. Each Branch in a Division shall have at least one representative on the Division Committee.

39. Each Branch within a Division shall be managed by a Committee known as a Branch Committee, elected annually by and from the members of that Branch, and consisting of a Chairman and such other officers as may be deemed necessary.

40. No Committee shall publish or communicate to any party or parties, who are not members of the Institution, any matter which may purport to represent the policy of the Institution, without the expressed sanction of the Council.

Each Branch Committee shall, annually, forward a report of its transactions to the Division Committee upon which it is represented.

41. Each Division Committee shall annually forward a report of its transactions and an audited balance sheet to the Council.

42. The Rules and By-laws of Foundation Societies forming Divisions or Branches of the Institution shall be made to conform to this Constitution.

43. The Council shall investigate any alleged or apparent irregularity or unconstitutional act of any Committee coming within its knowledge, and, if it thinks fit, shall call upon that Committee for an explanation thereof. If the explanation be deemed insufficient, the Council shall enquire further into the matter, and, if satisfied