

metric units. This step was taken with great success. The metric weights and measures were then used exclusively throughout the factory. The output of the factory was increased approximately 50 per cent. with the same working staff. The weighing in one department had previously been made by an expert in the old weights and measures. After the change to the metric system, this work was done by a laborer with fewer mistakes than formerly. Mr. Molitor estimated that a saving of approximately 20 per cent. could be effected in the book-keeping and calculations of factories which introduced the metric weights and measures throughout.

Dr. C. O. Mailloux, consulting engineer, chairman of the United States Committee of the International Electro-Technical Commission, told of his practical experiences in the use of the metric system in the United States and foreign countries, describing his last interview with Sir John Wolfe Barry, who designed the London Bridge and other engineering enterprises in England. He expressed to Dr. Mailloux his firm conviction of the desirability and necessity for adopting the metric weights and measures in England and discussed the practical steps contemplated for their general use. Dr. Mailloux pointed out the fact that the electrical units throughout the world were based on metric weights and measures and that this in itself was indicative of their ultimate adoption for all purposes in America and England.

Mr. Jesse M. Smith, past president of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, stated that he had been in close touch with the metric movement for fifty years. He had studied in Berlin during the winter following the Franco-Prussian War. The metric system was then used in the text-books and also for practical work throughout Germany. He had frequently used the metric system in America and other countries since then and believed it to be only a question of time when the metric system would be adopted in all parts of the world.

Professor Eugene C. Bingham, of Lafayette College, was appointed chairman of the Committee on Sections of the American Metric Association. The following resolution on this subject was adopted:

"Resolved, that the American Metric Association hereby requests the formation of local sections throughout the country."

United States Senator John F. Shafroth, read bill S5037, which he has introduced in congress and asked for a discussion on the subject. This bill is a step toward the general use of metric

weights and measures, making exceptions where such seem to be advisable for special work. The bill was endorsed by the American Metric Association.

Secretary of Commerce, Honorable William C. Redfield was the principal speaker at the "Metric Dinner," held on the evening of the twenty-seventh. After outlining his practical experience as a manufacturer for thirty years and his travels in other countries in the interests of his export trade, he voiced the conviction that the metric weights and measures should and would be adopted for general use in the United States. The Secretary of Commerce said in part: "I believe that the metric system offers a return to simplicity, offers an effectiveness of thought, offers more to little children in our schools if you please, which we are not justified in withholding from them."

The following officers were elected for the year 1919: *President*—George F. Kunz, New York; *First Vice-President*—Wm. Jay Schiefflin, New York; *Second Vice-President*—Jesse M. Smith, New York; *Third Vice-President*—David A. Molitor, Detroit; *Treasurer*—Arthur P. Williams, New York; *Secretary*—Howard Richards, Jr., New York.

The following were among the resolutions passed:

"Resolved, that the American Metric Association hereby expresses its desire to cooperate more fully with those American industries and trades using and contemplating the use of metric weights and measures."

"Resolved, that the American Metric Association send greetings to the universities, colleges and other educational institutions and respectfully invite their cooperation in bringing in the general use of meters, liters and grams for the welfare of America."

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