

expression, and this fact was appreciated by his students. One of them on coming out of one of Professor Kimball's strikingly beautiful lectures on polarized light was heard to exclaim in a voice of mingled awe and admiration, "Say, fellows, I've sometimes paid good money for a lecture no better than that." A genuine compliment though a bit crude in form. Considerate of all but himself, Professor Kimball overestimated the ability of his body to stand the strain. Repeated sojourns in the Adirondacks served only temporarily to improve his impaired health. But against this background of physical ill his qualities of mind and heart shone with increased lustre. He showed courage akin to that of a wounded soldier on a field of battle. When strength was gone by force of will he carried on.

But the profound influence which this man everywhere wielded is not to be accounted for by gifts of intellect and charm of manner. Just as our physical weight depends partly on what is in us and partly on the planet under us, so a man's moral weight depends largely on the star toward which he strives; and no sketch of Professor Kimball, however brief, should omit mention of the fact that he was a religious man in every fiber. He believed in the church and helped in its work. His was an abundant, beneficent life, and while he enjoyed to the full that which is seen and temporal his character was built on the granite foundation of a faith in things unseen and eternal.

JOSEPH O. THOMPSON

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE AMERICAN ENGINEERING COUNCIL

MANY problems of prime importance to the nation and to the engineering profession will be considered by the Executive Board of the American Engineering Council, governing body of the Federated American Engineering Societies, at its next meeting, which has been fixed for March 23-24 in Cincinnati.

The board's sessions will be held at the Ohio Mechanics Institute, President Mortimer E. Cooley presiding. On March 22 the committee on procedure will meet at the Hotel Gibson. Arrangements are under way for a meeting of

Cincinnati engineers on the evening of March 23 at which addresses will be delivered by members of the executive board. The opening session of the board will be called at 9:30 A.M., to be followed by an afternoon session at 1:30.

Considerable additions to the membership of the Federated American Engineering Societies are in prospect, President Cooley informed the committee on procedure at its last meeting in New York City. At least a dozen engineering societies are about ready to join, he said. President Cooley was authorized to appoint a committee on increase in membership. John A. Stevens, of Lowell, Mass., has been selected as chairman.

The meeting of the committee on procedure was presided over by President Cooley and was attended by Vice-presidents Philip N. Moore, J. Parke Channing, Calvert Townley and Gardner S. Williams, S. H. McCrory, chairman of the finance committee, and Executive Secretary L. W. Wallace.

President Cooley was authorized to appoint a committee on transportation to advise the executive board at its Cincinnati meeting as to whether or not there are any points in the problems of the transportation of the United States to which the federation could with propriety and effectiveness give attention, and if so, to submit a plan in its report to the executive board.

Max Toltz, of St. Paul, was chosen chairman of the transportation committee. Other members include Con M. Buck, W. H. Hoyt, W. K. Hatt, Dean Perley F. Walker and J. S. Barelli.

The committee on procedure decided that the entire question of immigration was without the purview of the federation and that a committee could not properly be appointed to study any phase of it.

Acting upon representations from the Associated General Contractors of America, to the effect that the seasonable aspects of the building industry as well as climbing construction costs were problems constituting an alarming situation, the committee adopted a resolution "viewing with approval the proposed co-operative movement to remove or reduce the element of seasonable demand in the construction industry."

Willingness to name a committee to co-operate with some responsible agency that will

direct the movement was expressed. President Cooley was authorized to appoint a committee, should he believe it necessary, to cooperate with some authoritative instrumentality such as the American Construction Council or the Associated General Contractors of America.

A "buyers' strike" is inevitable if the present trend of higher prices continues, it was asserted in the statement of the contractors, signed by Managing Director Richard C. Marshall.

The committee on procedure decided that the American Engineering Council would aid in any way within its power and means in bringing about uniform safety legislation. The committee declined to take a stand on the ship subsidy bill, which, it was held, did not come within the scope of the federation's activities.

A communication from W. S. Moody stating that immigration restrictions have so handicapped production that the nation's commercial growth was being hampered was considered by the committee. Suggesting that machinery be used to relieve the shortage of unskilled labor, Mr. Moody said:

I offer for your consideration the proposition that the council make a thorough survey of industry and select several kinds of work now done manually where great numbers of men could be replaced if power driven devices did the work.

Having selected sufficient fields of such work to release say 500,000 or more hands, I would then have the council recommend to all industry that they associate for this purpose and contribute the necessary money to enable various suitable engineering organizations to undertake the development of the necessary devices for performing this work.

The developmental work should be undertaken by the engineering organization in the same intensive way that similar big production problems were taken up during the war, although, of course, with greater regard for reasonable economy.

The committee voted to submit the question of undertaking an intensive study of labor-saving devices, as outlined by Mr. Moody, to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

APPOINTMENTS IN THE U. S. BUREAU OF MINES

CONTINUED growth of the Bureau of Mines, especially in the supervision of leasing opera-

tions on public lands, has resulted in the creation of a leasing branch within the bureau, the appointment of another assistant director and several changes of personnel within the organization.

General operations under the leasing act of February 25, 1920, development of lands in the naval reserves and the supervision of operations on Indian lands, have combined to make the federal government an outstanding factor in the production of minerals. Wells drilled on public lands, including the naval reserves, now produce approximately 3,000,000 barrels of oil monthly, or at a daily rate of 100,000 barrels. This production is outside of that from Indian lands. Coal leases and prospecting permits have been issued in fourteen western states, in which the federal government is supervising the operation of eighty-nine mines.

A. W. Ambrose, assistant director, who is specially qualified in petroleum matters, has been placed in charge of the newly created leasing branch. He also will act as a consulting engineer to all branches of the bureau on matters relating to petroleum and natural gas.

D. A. Lyon, chief metallurgist and supervisor of stations, has been appointed assistant director in charge of the research branch, which includes the functions and scope of the former investigations branch after the elimination of leasing matters. For the present, no appointment will be made to the position of supervisor of stations and Mr. Lyon will perform the duties of supervisor in addition to those of head of the research branch.

T. T. Read, having asked to be relieved from his position as chief of the information service and assigned to investigative work, has been appointed a supervising mining engineer. During the absence of F. J. Bailey, assistant to the director, on a visit to the mine safety cars and stations, Mr. Read will serve as the acting head of the operations branch of the bureau and will later be assigned to appropriate field duties.

C. E. Julihn has been recalled from service as chief mining engineer of the War Minerals Relief Commission and made chief of the information service. Francis Winslow, now connected with the division of war minerals