Companies, to consider abbreviations and symbols, but after some discussion of the subject it was thought desirable to include as a part of the project the graphical symbols which are used in engineering drawings, diagrams and the like, for representing instruments and apparatus and components of them.

It was agreed that the cooperation of foreign standardizing bodies should be sought in the development of the work. The importance of international uniformity in symbols is great on account of the international character of much engineering and scientific work, and the importance of reference books and periodicals in foreign languages.

The work will go forward under a committee organization developed in accordance with the rules and procedure of the American Engineering Standards Committee.

The appended list of those who attended the conference and the organizations by which they were designated will show the diversity of interest involved in the project.

Henry Norris Russell, American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Sullivan W. Jones, American Institute of Architects.

Edward J. Cheney, American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

George W. Metcalfe, American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

C. H. Sharp, American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

Edward K. Judd, American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers.

Edward V. Huntington, American Mathematical Society.

Albert P. Wills, American Physical Society.

Henry A. Ruger, American Psychological Association.

G. A. Newrath, American Railway Association —Signal Section.

C. L. Warwick, American Society for Testing Materials.

Stanley F. Morse, American Society of Agricultural Engineers.

C. B. LePage, American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Sanford A. Moss, American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

C. M. Sames, American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

R. R. Leonard, American Society of Refrigerating Engineers.

R. D. Parker, American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

C. H. Sharp, Association of Edison Illuminating Companies.

H. Stuart Acheson, Combustion Publishing Corporation.

H. G. Knoderer, Electrical Manufacturers Council.

A. M. MacCutcheon, Electrical Manufacturers Council.

L. A. Hazeltine, Institute of Radio Engineers.

Howard Richards, Metric Association.

Kenneth H. Condit, National Conference of Business Paper Editors.

Alexander Maxwell, National Electric Light Association.

Charles E. Neil, National Electric Light Association.

W. Spraragen, National Research Council.

Sullivan W. Jones, National Research Council Engineering Division.

John T. Faig, Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education.

Sanford A. Moss, Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education.

John M. Lloyd, Society of Automotive Engineers.

W. W. Smith, Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers.

J. Franklin Meyer, United States Bureau of Standards.

Ray M. Hudson, United States Department of Commerce.

A. W. Whitney, chairman, American Engineering Standards Committee.

P. G. Agnew, secretary, F. J. Schlink, assistant secretary, American Engineering Standards Committee.

BOARD OF SURVEYS AND MAPS

A REPORT of the Board of Surveys and Maps of the federal government for the calendar years 1921 and 1922, dated March 5, 1923, and signed by William Bowie, chairman, has been submitted to the President of the United States.

The board was created by executive order dated December 30, 1919, and was designed to furnish the means of coordinating the activities of bureaus and independent organizations of the federal government engaged on surveying and mapping, to avoid duplication of effort by these organizations and to make the results of the greatest usefulness to the map using public. The report gives the list of the eighteen government organizations having representa-

tion on the board and the list of the twenty-two non-governmental organizations represented on the advisory council which was created to assist the board in making contact with the public.

At each public meeting, which is held bimonthly, there have been present members of the advisory council and others who are not members of the board. The report states that the meetings have been well-attended and that there has developed a remarkable spirit of helpfulness and cooperation which has led to very beneficial results. Various bureaus of the government dealing with surveying and mapping look to the board for advice on technical matters. Several cases of cooperation have resulted from the close contact in the meetings of the representatives of the various surveying and map making bureaus. Notable examples are:

1. Cooperation between the corps of engineers and the United States Geological Survey in the topographic mapping needed by the various branches of the Army;

2. Cooperation of the Air Service of the Army and the Topographic Branch of the Geological Survey;

3. Cooperation of the United States Geological Survey and the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey with the Forest Service and with the Bureau of Soils in furnishing surveying and mapping data to the latter two organizations;

4. Cooperation between the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey and the General Land Office which has resulted in the connection of corners of the land surveying system of the country with the triangulation stations established by the former bureau.

In obedience to the executive order creating the Board of Surveys and Maps, a central map information office was established in the Interior Building for the purpose of collecting, classifying and furnishing to the public information covering all mapping and surveying data available at the several government departments and from other sources. This map information office has been of the greatest assistance to the government and to outside organizations and individuals. Much information has been furnished by it to all branches of the government service, to universities, schools, map publishers, commercial firms of all kinds, state officials, individuals of foreign countries and to the general public. The results accomplished by the map information office alone justify the creation of the Board of Surveys and Maps of the federal government.

While the Board of Surveys and Maps was not created to engage in the task of securing more funds for the several surveying bureaus in order that the topographic mapping of the country might be expedited, yet the members of the board feel that the mapping of the country should be taken up as a project and that legislation looking towards this desirable result should be enacted by congress. In the opinion of the board, the demands made on the bureaus of the government furnishing surveying and mapping information amply justify the appropriation of the necessary funds to extend the mapping at a more rapid rate than has obtained in the past.

W. BOWIE

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE AMERICAN ENGINEERING COUNCIL

DECISION to undertake a nationwide coal storage investigation was reached by the executive board of the American Engineering Council of the Federated American Engineering Societies at its meeting at Cincinnati, March 23 and 24. General endorsement of the plan for government reorganization, submitted to congress with the approval of President Harding and the cabinet, and continuance of the committee on Transportation, headed by Max Toltz, of St. Paul, were other outstanding features of the meeting.

The personnel of the committee to conduct the coal inquiry, which is to be made unless there is objection from the constituent societies, will be announced later by President Cooley.

The committee on procedure of the American Engineering Council some weeks ago authorized the appointment of a committee on transportation for the specific purpose of investigating and reporting to the executive board as to what, if anything, the American Engineering Council could do with propriety and effectiveness in relation to the transportation problem of the American people. The committee was instructed that it was to give consideration to all forms of transportation, that is, by railways, by motor trucks and by water.

Max Toltz, chairman of the committee ap-