

THE
ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERS
 2, ROYAL EXCHANGE PLACE, CALCUTTA
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1937

In memoriam.—

The Council of the Association of Engineers had to record with a profound sense of sorrow the death of the following members:—

1. Hon'ble Mr. J. C. Banerjee—Member.
2. Mr. Jamini Prokash Chatterjee—Associate Member.

Mr. J. C. Banerjee was a founder member of the Association and he took a keen interest in its expansion. It is an irony of fate that the Council had no sooner sent its message of congratulation at a meeting on his election as a member of the Council of State than it had to send its message of condolence on his sad demise, at the following meeting. As a renowned professional man he was known throughout the length and breadth of the country to men of his profession as well as to those out of it. He was responsible to a great extent for the progress and expansion of the Association and it will cherish his memory with deep gratitude.

Mr. Jamini Prokash Chatterjee was also a founder member of the Association and was very regular. A promising career was cut short at the prime of youth. The Association deeply mourns his premature death.

Membership:—

The membership on the roll at the end of the year was 487. During the year under review the Council elected the following 14 gentlemen to the various grades of membership. 1 was elected as Member by transfer from Associate Member, 10 as Associate Member, 1 as Associate, 1 as Graduate by transfer from Student and 1 as Student. The full list is given below:—

Leger No.	Name	Date of Election
NUMBER		
308	Mr. Shachin Bandopadhyaya, B.Sc. (Glas) (transferred from Associate Member)	3-2-37

Leger No.	Name	Date of
ASSOCIATE MEMBER		
476	Mr. Mahanmad Ismail, B.Sc. (Edin.)	9-12-36
477	Mr. Harbhajan Singh Wasal	6-1-37
478	Mr. Birendra Narayan Datta, B.E.	17-3-37
479	Mr. Dhirendranath Ganguli	28-4-37
480	Mr. Prabodh Kumar Chatterjee, B.Sc. (Glas.)	28-4-37
482	Mr. Subodh Kumar Bose	28-4-37
483	Mr. Kalyan Kumar Sengupta, B.E., C.E.	29-6-37
484	Mr. Dinendra Kumar Nandi	1-9-37
485	Mr. I. S. Varman	1-9-37
486	Mr. Kumud Bandhu Dey	26-10-37
ASSOCIATE		
487	Mr. Birendra Mohan Sen	3-12-37
GRADUATE		
460	Mr. Kanailal Mojumder (transferred from Student)	9-12-37
STUDENT		
481	Mr. Ketokee Ranjan Banerjee	28-4-37

Council for 1937:—

The names of the Office-Bearers and Members of the Council for the year 1937 are as follows:—

Rai G. C. Das Bahadur—President; Messrs. J. N. Das Gupta and K. M. Mukherjee—Vice-Presidents; Mr. S. Bandopadhyaya—Secretary; Messrs. C. C. Sinha and S. C. Chakraverty—Asst. Secretaries; Mr. N. N. Sen—Treasurer; Mr. Saroj Basu—Editor; Mr. N. N. Rudra—Librarian; and Rai A. N. Das Bahadur (Past President), Dr. J. N. Basu, Messrs. R. K. Ganguli, A. K. Datta, A. C. Banerjee, J. N. Chakraborty, Zakaullah Khan, (vice Mr. S. N. Banerjee resigned) P. C. Das Gupta, S. K. Roy, A. K. Sen, K. C. Biswas, J. N. Banerjee and A. K. Aditya—Ordinary Members.

Sub-Committees:—

The following Sub-Committees were framed by the Council for this year:—

1. Library Sub-Committee—with Ward Councillor Hanuman Prosad Poddar, M.L.C. and Messrs. J. N. Das Gupta, A. C. Banerjee, Secretary and Librarian.

Three meetings were held to discuss matters.

2. Journal Sub-Committee—with Messrs. N. N. Rudra, Zakaullah Khan, A. C. Sen, Secretary and Editor.

One meeting was held to discuss matters.

3. Building Sub-Committee—with Messrs. A. K. Sen, K. C. Biswas, N. N. Sen and Secretary.

No meeting was held.

Council Meetings:—

Fourteen Council meetings were held during the year 1937.

Resignation:—

The Council accepted two resignations from the Membership and five from the Associate Membership of the Association this year.

Representatives on public bodies:—

(1) Delegates nominated by the Council to the Indian Science Congress at its Silver Jubilee Session held in Calcutta at the beginning of 1938:—

Dr. B. N. Dey, D.Sc. (Glas.), M.A.E., M.I.E. (Ind.) and Mr. S. Bandopadhyaya, B.Sc. (Glas.), C.P.E. (Glas.), M.A.E., A.M.I.E. (Ind.).

On an appeal from the General Secretary of the Indian Science Congress, the Association was pleased to contribute Rs. 100/- to the same which the General Secretary thankfully acknowledged.

(2) Delegate nominated by the Council to the Bengal Library Conference held at the Ashutosh Buildings, The University, Calcutta on the 24th July, 1937:—

Mr. N. N. Rudra, B. Sc. (Cal.), B.Sc. (Benares), M. A. E.

Anniversary Celebration:—

The Eighteenth Anniversary of the Association was celebrated with the following programme:—

1. Annual General Meeting at the Chamber Hall at 2 Royal Exchange Place on Friday the 26th February, 1937 at 6 p.m.

2. Paper on "Romance in Engineering" by Mr. J. N. Das Gupta, B.A., B.E., M. R. San. I., M.A.E., M.I.E., (Ind.) with illustrations by names of a projector at the Chamber Hall on Wednesday the 3rd March, 1937 at 6 p.m.

3. Visit to Rubber & Shoe Factory of Messrs. Bata Shoe Co. Ltd., Batanagar, Nungi, 24-Parganas on Saturday the 6th March, 1937 at 8-30 a.m. A motor bus was specially arranged to convey the members free of charge to the factory from Kalighat Bus Depot. Nearly thirty members attended.

4. Visit to Pulta Water Works and Dinner etc. on Sunday the 7th March, 1937. The visit lasted from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The dinner was held at 1-30 p.m. There were tennis and other games. A motor bus was specially arranged to convey the members free of charge to Pulta starting from the junction of Shambazar Street and Cornwallis Street at 10 a.m.

Annual General Meeting:—

The Eighteenth Annual General Meeting was held on Friday the 26th February, 1937 at 6 p.m. at the Chamber Hall at 2 Royal Exchange Place under the chairmanship of Mr. J. N. Das Gupta, Vice-President of the Association. The business transacted at the meeting consisted of the adoption of Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 1936, presentation of Budget for 1937, election of Auditor for the year 1937, announcement of the names of Office-Bearers and Members of the Council for 1937. These were followed by the Presidential address.

Visit and Excursion:—

A visit to Kulti Outfall Works of the Corporation of Calcutta was arranged on the 21st March, 1937 and several members availed themselves of the opportunity to see how the work was progressing. All facilities were afforded to the visiting members by Mr. A. N. Banerjee, B.E., A.M.A.E. to whom our hearty thanks are due.

Another interesting visit to the New Howrah Bridge Construction now in progress was arranged on the 5th November, 1937 at 8-30 a.m. Members attended were far more in number than could be anticipated. Our thanks are due to the Chief Engineer, Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta, who kindly granted the permission and Messrs. J. R. H. Otter and N. Gupta, who took the trouble of showing the members round.

Journal:—

• Three issues of the Journal were published during the year 1937. The December issue had to be dropped. The printing charges including those for the Dec., 1936 issue covered an expenditure of Rs. 704-12-0. Our Journal brings in exchange for the Library and Free Reading Room about one hundred magazines both inland and foreign. The editorship of the Journal had changed hands and was in the charge of our young

Editor Mr. Sarojaksha Basu this year. He has decidedly improved the general outlook and standard of the Journal.

Library:—

The charge of the Library and Free Reading Room devolved this year on Mr. N. N. Rudra. He was nominated as a delegate to the Bengal Library Conference held at the Ashutosh Buildings, The University, Calcutta on the 24th and 25th July, 1937 which he attended and in taking part in the discussion he made some useful suggestions. The Library has an extensive collection of books and magazines relating to all branches of engineering. The magazines are displayed on the Reading Room Table. Members as well as interested public do avail themselves of same from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. on week days. This year the stock of the Library has been replenished by ten books purchased and six books presented. Several important magazines have been preserved in bound volumes this year. We are thankful to the authors and publishers of the books presented to the Library.

Library Grant:—

The Corporation of Calcutta was pleased to grant Rs. 150/- for the Library for 1936-37 for which grateful thanks of the Association are due to it.

Accounts:—

The accounts for the year 1937 were started with a cash balance of Rs. 921-7-9 brought forward from the last year. The amount of receipt including the above cash balance and the amount of payment are respectively Rs. 4,185-2-9 and Rs. 3,474-5-0 leaving a balance Rs. 710-13-9 at the end of the year. Practically there are no liabilities to meet. Messrs. H. C. Das & Co. have audited the accounts satisfactorily, for which we thank them. The audited accounts are forwarded herewith.

Examination:—

Mr. Kumud Bandhu Dey was the first to pass the Associate Membership Examination of the Association which was held on the 18th September, 1937 at the office of the Association on payment of the fees by the Examinee. The candidate is an Upper Subordinate of the Dacca Ashanullah School of Engineering. Mr. K. M. Mukherjee, and Mr. S. Bandopadhyaya were the examiners appointed by the Council.

Social Gathering:—

A social gathering was held on Friday the 10th December, 1937 at the Chamber Hall at 2 Royal Exchange Place. A large number of

members and guests joined the pleasant function. They were treated to light refreshments and entertained with the instrumental music of Sitar Solo by the renowned Ustad Enayet Khan. The function was a great success.

Conclusion:—

The greatest difficulty experienced this year has been the dearth of papers from members and it will not be stretching the point too far if it is mentioned that the number of original papers this year has been one. This is indeed a sad state of affairs and I would earnestly appeal to the members to forward their contributions. This has naturally been a cause of setback for the Journal of which the fourth issue again failed to put in an appearance. The Editor is quite helpless in the matter. I would, under the circumstances again put forward my suggestion of bringing out only 2 issues of the Journal per year, as the long-cherished hope of finding the Journal self-supporting is hardly ever likely to materialise.

The activities of the Association in the direction of visit and excursions have increased appreciably. The visits were all instructive and interesting and were all well-attended. The idea of arranging buses for transport was found to be very popular and helpful.

The library continues to be the treasure of the Association. In fact there is no other engineering library of its class in the city. Yet it cannot be equipped in the manner we would wish to for want of funds and help.

I would earnestly request the Student and Graduate members of the Association, young, energetic and enthusiastic as they naturally are, to devote part of their time to help us in the improvement of the library. At the same time I appeal to the older members to devise ways and means to secure donations for the purpose.

As forecast last year, we have had to face a financial difficulty this year owing to several resignations—quite a number from defaulter members. Such difficulty we may have to confront yet a while before we can rally.

Before I have finished I could hardly refrain from referring to three very important events of the year, though in doing so I may be accused of stealing a march over the activities of the year to come.

The Association granted a donation of one hundred rupees to the Indian Science Congress and was able to send two delegates to the Congress to represent the Association. This is a signal honour done to the Association as there were only four Engineering delegates to the

Congress. Secondly, no less a personage than Professor G. W. O. Howe, D.Sc. (Glass), M.I.E.E., etc. James Watt Professor of Electrical Engineering, the University of Glasgow, who came on a visit to Calcutta in December as a delegate to the Indian Science Congress, was persuaded to give a very interesting and educative lecture on "The Concept and Language of Electrical Engineering" before a large audience at the Chamber Hall. And last, but not the least, I am proud to have to state that I have been able to persuade Professor Howe to become an Honorary Member of the Association. This can justly be considered the crowning achievement of a year in which activities have rather lacked in quantity though not in quality. Brother Members, I, who am an incurable optimist, look upon this as the dawn of a more glorious day for our Association—a day which will see the fruition of the true spirit that this Association stands for.

SHACHIN BANDOPADHYAYA.

Hony. Secretary.
