

MID-YEAR MEETING  
BOSTON  
FEBRUARY 16, 1917

## ASSOCIATION NEWS

MID-YEAR MEETING  
BOSTON  
FEBRUARY 16, 1917

**Motion-Picture Film Showing the Development of Transportation Displayed at Portland Company Section Meeting—Capital Traction Section Celebrates Its First Anniversary—Signals and Heavy Traction Were Discussed at the Connecticut Company Section Meeting**

### "King of the Rails" Film Shown in Portland

Two hundred persons sat down to supper preliminary to the Dec. 20 meeting of the Cumberland County Power & Light Company section. After a short business session, at which seventeen new members were admitted, the meeting was turned over to the entertainment committee. The section orchestra made its debut, and singing and exhibition dancing also contributed to the success of the evening.

M. R. Griffith of the Boston office of the General Electric Company showed and explained a motion picture film entitled "The King of the Rails." This showed the development of transportation from the early days, leading up to the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway electrification.

### First Anniversary Celebration of Section No. 8

On Jan. 11 the Capital Traction Company section celebrated the first anniversary of its founding with an attendance of 130. George E. Hamilton, president of the company, was the principal speaker. Greetings from the Washington Ry. & El. Co. section were presented by President J. T. Moffett. A talented local cartoonist gave a "stunt" chalk talk, and a number of those present furnished good music. A buffet lunch was served at the close.

In congratulating the section upon the completion of a successful year's work Mr. Hamilton said that this effort to bring the men into closer touch, to teach them to look broadly at their work, was one of the best things that had ever come into the life of the company. He repeated some things which he had said a year before, in part as follows:

"I am a believer in the association of men, especially of men engaged in the same or similar work. It gives opportunity for useful discussion, and discussion aids thought, stimulates inquiry and invites criticism. It produces knowledge and concentrates effort. It promotes good fellowship and teaches men the value of co-ordination in view, effort and direction. It is good for the men and good for the interests they serve. Association develops organization, and organization promotes efficiency; efficiency is power, and power well directed compels success. So I am a believer in and an advocate of this association, and my sympathy and cooperation, personal and official, is with the intent and purpose of this meeting. We serve ourselves when we serve well the company and the public, and the fact that we are a public service corporation should never be forgotten. The least of us can by association and all that association brings take on the strength, that comes with a fuller knowledge and a wider understanding, to meet manfully and well our three-fold duty: to ourselves, to the company and to the public we serve."

Continuing this line of thought Mr. Hamilton said in part:

"An organization of this kind brings us together, makes us all see what each is doing, and gives new impetus to our minds and a firmer and a fuller purpose to

every man who is striving to do what is right. It teaches us what a service corporation is; shows us that because we are members of this service corporation we have assumed duties that we cannot lightly consider, duties that will compel us thoughtfully to perform all of the obligations that we assume. It shows us the part that each is playing in the performance of this duty. If we learn our lesson well, if all of us engaged in this common enterprise feel and, feeling, measure up to the obligations that we assume, then indeed are we doing the work of men.

"This close contact teaches us more. It brings into the lives of all of us the spirit of service and teaches us what service is."

### January Meeting of Section No. 7

Signals, heavy traction and boosting the company were the topics discussed at the twelfth meeting of the Connecticut Company section held on Jan. 9. The usual dinner was held, with an attendance of 125 members and guests, after which George Pfurr, general line foreman Waterbury division, gave an illustrated talk on "Signal and Dispatching Systems Used on the Waterbury Division." He described the working mechanisms forming parts of these systems.

The next speaker was Nathan B. Stone, president of the publicity club of the Chamber of Commerce of New Haven, who chose for his topic "Lux et Veritas." With this as a basis he explained what the public expects from the street railway, and suggested several ways of boosting the Connecticut Company.

George H. Hill, assistant engineer railway and traction department General Electric Company, Schenectady, N. Y., then spoke on the C. M. & St. P. Railway electrification, using lantern slides and moving picture films.

During the dinner the section orchestra played and two soloists gave vocal numbers.

### Western Society of Engineers Elects Officers

At the forty-seventh annual meeting and dinner of the Western Society of Engineers, held in Chicago on Jan. 10, the result of the election of officers was announced as follows: President, H. J. Burt, structural engineer Holabird & Roche, Chicago; first vice-president, D. W. Roper, superintendent street department Commonwealth Edison Company, Chicago; second vice-president, J. N. Hatch, consulting engineer, Chicago; third vice-president, W. W. DeBerard, Western editor *Engineering Record*, Chicago; treasurer, C. R. Dart, bridge engineer Sanitary District of Chicago.

James Keeley, editor and publisher of the Chicago *Herald*, addressed the meeting on the conditions in Europe and what may be expected after the war, and Dean F. E. Turneure of the University of Wisconsin made some remarks on the relations of the engineering school and the engineering profession.