

stitution, and cause his name to be removed from the Register. Provided that the Secretary shall send to the last-known address of such Member, Associate or Student at least fourteen days' notice of the intention of the Council before the preceding rule can take effect. Provided further that the Council may, at the request of such Member, Associate or Student, at any time within three months of such removal as aforesaid, reinstate his name upon such terms as shall seem to them just.

16(a) The Institution shall be governed by a Council to be elected at the Annual General Meeting, consisting of one President, two Vice-Presidents, and not less than nine and not more than thirty Members, Associate Members and Associates. The number of Associate Members upon the Council shall not exceed one-third of the total membership of the Council. The number of Associates upon the Council shall not exceed two.

That Clause 16(b) be altered by striking out the word "and" between the word "Members" and the word "Associate," and by the addition of the words "and Associates" between the word "Members" and the word "of" in line 1,

And that Clause 18(a) be altered by striking out the word "and" between the word "Members" and the word "Associate" in line 2, and by the addition of the words "and Associates" between the word "Members" and the word "and" in line 3.

DISCUSSION

MR EVANS —It does not seem to me quite right that Members and Associate Members should both have to pay the same amount of subscription. In most Institutions the higher grades are expected to pay more. I suggest Members should pay 3½ guineas, Associate Members 2½, and Associates 2.

THE HON SECRETARY —With regard to the alterations in subscription, at the last Extraordinary Meeting the Council agreed to carry on if the subscriptions were put up to £3 3s, and it was felt by some that it would therefore be unwise to put them at any higher figure. It is impossible to carry on unless the level of £3 3s is decided upon, so it was kept at that figure. Mr Manning, who is unable to be present to-night, suggests an amendment of the last sentence of the Clause now under discussion, which at present reads "Provided further that the Council may, at the request of such Member, Associate or Student at any time within three months of such removal as aforesaid, reinstate his name upon such terms as shall seem to them just." He

suggests that the words " within three months of such removal as aforesaid " be struck out, leaving it as follows " at any time reinstate his name "

(This amendment was put to the vote and carried unanimously)

MR BRAMSON —I think that Members and Associate Members should pay the same subscription, because the difference should be in qualifications only, and not dependent upon their pockets. A case may arise where the Institution decides to confer the honour of regrading upon an Associate Member. That honour might by some be considered doubtful if it involved an increase in subscription.

DR THURSTON —I could give a little information which would enlighten Mr Evans on this point. The proposal which he makes, namely, that full Members should pay $3\frac{1}{2}$ guineas, was suggested. The Emergency Committee, however, after full consideration, came to the conclusion that $1\frac{1}{2}$ guineas above the present subscription was more than we could expect the members to pay, also, that we had actually fixed the matter ourselves by stating that the increase of subscription would be not more than one guinea. In view of that the Emergency Committee came to the conclusion with the Council that they should agree to the £3 3s for all. Therefore, when a member is regraded higher on account of his qualifications, I suppose the only additional payment will be the entrance fee.

THE HON SECRETARY —Looking down the list of Honours Members, there are six of these who I know are not in a position to pay a higher subscription, and some of them have a difficulty in managing even the present £2 2s.

MR WINGFIELD —Why not give members the option of paying half-yearly?

THE HON SECRETARY —That has always been done at the request of members.

MR EVANS —What about Associates?

THE HON SECRETARY —Looking at the list, quite a number of them are able to pay more than the Members. What we want to decide is whether the qualifications are those of merit or financial ability. When the amalgamation question came on, certain of our Members were to be offered Fellowship. Of those to whom I spoke who had that opportunity, the majority said "Nothing doing," on account of increased subscription.

CAPTAIN SAYERS —There are certain other engineering institutions that

have a grade for Associates for which they demand no technical qualifications, but merely some kind of business or other interest in the profession with which that Institution deals. In many such cases the subscription for those Associates is the same as that for full Members, whereas Associate Members are charged at a lower rate. I think therefore, that if there is to be any distinction, Members and Associates should pay the maximum rate and Associate Members be given the benefit of the lower rate. I feel, however, that there is a very great drawback in increasing the £3 3s already asked. In very many cases, men of very high technical qualifications owe them to the fact that they have very much wider interests, and in many cases, although they are fairly well paid, they are members of many different Societies, which means that the sum total becomes a heavy strain. I suffer from that rather severely, and about two years ago had to cut down my membership of quite a number of bodies. I have stuck to the Institution of Aeronautical Engineers and have refused to join the Royal Aeronautical Society, as I felt I was not justified in paying the two subscriptions. Although I do not pretend that I shall leave if the subscription is put up, at the same time it will be difficult, and I believe others will find it so.

It is quite obvious that the Institution must get many more members in addition to increasing the subscription. If, however, we are looking to an increased membership, then every extra half-guinea which you put on your subscription is going to reduce your membership in the future. I therefore think that if the Council did increase the subscription it would be very unwise. I think they should increase the Members and Associates and decrease the Associate Members.

THE HON. SECRETARY —If the Associates pay extra and are then regraded Associate Members or Members, it will bring the reduction of subscription all round more quickly.

MR. EVANS —I wish to move the following Amendment to the Resolution. That Full Members pay £3 3s, Associate Members 2½ guineas, Associates 2 guineas, and Students the same as at present.

(The amendment was put to the vote and defeated, no one voting in favour.)

Voting then took place on the original Resolution, which was passed by 11 for to 1 against.

4 The CHAIRMAN moved

THAT the following Clauses be added to the Rules

18(c) A meeting of the Members, Associate Members and Associates shall be convened by the Council once in every year for the purpose of receiving the Annual Report and for the election of Councillors. Upon receipt of a resolution signed by twenty Members and/or Associate

Members and/or Associates, requiring them to convene a General Meeting the Council shall proceed to convene the same with all despatch

18(d) Upon all resolutions other than alterations of the Objects and Rules the votes of Members may be taken by post provided that only such votes as are received by the Council prior to the hour of the meeting or on or before the date specified on the voting form, shall be counted. In the case of voting by Overseas Members and the Australian Branch, a cablegram for or on behalf of more than one member shall be accepted as votes by the number of Members represented on the cable

DISCUSSION

MR BRAMSON —With regard to Rule 18(d), is there any provision made for verifying any postal communication received? I think we should guard against hoax or fraud

THE HON SECRETARY —I think that if a postal vote is allowed one has to run a slight risk of such cases, but I believe it very unlikely they would occur. We can verify the signatures of all members from their application forms

CAPT SAYERS —The usual method is to have a form which is sent out by the particular Society only to its members

MR WINGFIELD —Yes, that is the right procedure. I would like to propose that the Clause be amplified by the addition of the words “ on a form to be supplied by the Council ” between the word “ post ” and the word “ provided ” in line 2

(This amendment was carried unanimously)

MR BRAMSON —Regarding Rule 18(c) I think we should deal with another point. If I receive notice of a meeting and I also receive an agenda, I know that if I take the trouble I shall have the opportunity in debate of arguing on the subject if I am not in agreement with any particular point, and that I shall have an opportunity of appealing to all those who have to decide in the matter. With the postal vote I have no such opportunity, and a majority decision may be given which would have been altered if the point had been subjected to debate. Perhaps that can be dealt with by fixing a time of the notice which has to be given between the issuing of the agenda and the time of the meeting, which would give members who wished to do so an opportunity to canvass all members on the subject by post