

The Military Engineer

Dedicated to the National Defense

Maj. P. S. BOND
Corps of Engineers; M. Am. Soc. C. E.
Managing Editor

Maj. H. R. RICHARDS
Engineers
Business Manager

Col. G. A. YOUNGBERG
Engineers
Consulting Editor

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Progress in Society organization

IN conducting a campaign it is a military maxim and in all human endeavors it is ordinary common sense, to recognize the main issues and devote one's energies thereto, avoiding the temptation to fritter them away in too much attention to details.

A society cannot accomplish the purposes for which it was organized until it possesses a strong and influential membership. Accordingly, the main issue for the Society of American Military Engineers at this time is to build up its membership, and our energies have thus far been devoted almost exclusively to this end. The results attained have been gratifying, and applications for membership are steadily flowing in.

During the months of April and May there has been a steady and very encouraging increase in the rate of growth, and ultimate success seems assured. The aims of the Society, as set forth in its constitution, have received unanimous approval, and this journal has proved interesting to its subscribers.

The labors incident to the readjustment of our military establishment to new conditions are very arduous, and as a consequence the temporary Board of Directors, most of whom are officers on duty in the War Department, have not thus far been able to take action on the large number of applications for membership which have been received. An examination of the applications, however, indicates that all applicants thus far are eligible for membership.

Steps are being taken to effect a better working arrangement, pending the permanent organization of the Society following the first regular election of officers.

It is hoped that all applications will receive final action soon. In the meantime charter membership

in the Society remains open, and it is hoped that many new members will avail themselves of the opportunity thus afforded.

All charter members are urged, at this vital epoch in the Society's existence, to lend their best efforts to the accomplishment of the main purpose now before us: that of building up a strong membership as rapidly as possible. Each of our members has many acquaintances, even close friends, who are also eligible for membership. Tell them of our society and its aims, show them this magazine (it will interest them), and invite them to join us without delay. Membership application blanks and copies of the constitution will be sent on request to any member who desires to give them to eligible friends. It is hoped that every charter member will secure at least one additional charter member before the permanent organization is effected, probably early in July, 1920.

Organization of local posts. Article IV of the By-Laws of the Society provides for the organization of local sections or posts. These local posts, in bringing our members into close personal touch with each other, are believed to be essential to the realization of our fullest usefulness. The number of members is now such as to warrant the organization of these posts. Preliminary plans and arrangements have been completed and the actual organization will be undertaken in the very near future. Dates for local meetings will be duly announced, and all members in each locality are urged to attend these meetings and to invite all friends who are eligible to membership to do likewise.

Society emblem. Our Board of Directors is considering a number of designs for an appropriate emblem for our Society. It is expected that this will be fixed upon very shortly, and orders for its fabrication will be placed at once.