

SUMMARY OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL
CONVENTION.

Hotel Traymore, Atlantic City, N. J.

FIRST SESSION, FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 1919, 10.30 A. M.

The convention was called to order by W. K. Hatt, President of the American Concrete Institute.

The report of the Committee on Plain and Reinforced-Concrete Sewers was presented by Coleman Meriwether, a member of the committee. After a long discussion on the proposed standard specification for monolithic concrete sewers and reinforced-concrete pipe sewers, and recommended rules for concrete sewer design, the report with its attendant specifications was referred back to the committee for reconsideration, to be resubmitted at the next convention.

The report of the Committee on Treatment of Concrete Surfaces was read by its chairman, J. C. Pearson. The accompanying Standard Recommended Practice for Portland Cement Stucco was accepted by the convention to be printed in the Proceedings.

The following papers were read and discussed:

“Effect of Vibration, Jigging, and Pressure on Fresh Concrete,”
by Duff A. Abrams.

“Investigation into the Economic Possibilities of Light-Weight
Aggregates in Building Construction,” by A. W. Stephens.

The session adjourned to attend the afternoon session of the American Society for Testing Materials held in same hotel, 2.00 P. M.

SECOND SESSION, FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 1919, 8.00 P. M.

Joint meeting with the American Society for Testing Materials. President W. K. Hatt, of the American Concrete Institute, and President G. C. Clamer, American Society for Testing Materials, in the chair.

The report of the A. S. T. M. Committee C-1 on Cement was presented by its chairman, R. S. Greenman.

The report of the A. S. T. M. Committee C-9 on Concrete and Concrete Aggregates was presented by its chairman, Sanford E. Thompson.

The report of the American Concrete Institute Committee on Fireproofing was presented by its chairman, W. A. Hull.

The following papers were read and discussed:

American Concrete Institute paper—"Fire Tests of Concrete Columns," by W. A. Hull.

American Concrete Institute paper—"The Strainagraph and Its Application to Concrete Ships," by F. R. McMillan.

American Society for Testing Materials paper—"Effect of Fineness of Cement," by D. A. Abrams.

American Society for Testing Materials paper—"Cement Producing Quick-Hardening Concrete," by P. H. Bates.

THIRD SESSION, SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 10.00 A. M.

President W. K. Hatt in the chair.

The report of the Committee on Reinforced Concrete and Building Laws was read by its chairman, E. J. Moore. The report was received as a progress report and will be printed in the Proceedings.

The report of the Subcommittee on Regulations for Strength Test of Floors was presented by its chairman, W. A. Slater.

Mr. Richard L. Humphrey in the chair.

The following papers were read and discussed:

"Structural Laboratory Investigations in Reinforced Concrete Made by Concrete Ship Section, Emergency Fleet Corporation," by W. A. Slater.

"Elasticity and Temperature Deformations in Concrete," by S. C. Hollister.

The report of the Committee on Reinforced-Concrete Highway Bridges and Culverts was presented by its chairman, A. B. Cohen. The report was accepted as a progress report and will be printed in the Proceedings.

The paper entitled, "Concrete Work on the Brooklyn Army Base," by A. C. Tozzer, was presented by E. J. Moore.

FOURTH SESSION, SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 1919, 2.00 P. M.

President W. K. Hatt in the chair.

Business Session.

The Secretary read the report of the Board of Direction.

The Treasurer read the report of the Treasurer.

The Secretary reported that the letter ballot had resulted in the election of the following officers for the ensuing year:

President: William K. Hatt.

Vice-President: Sanford E. Thompson.

Treasurer: Robert W. Lesley.

*Directors: Third District—*Ernest Ashton.

*Fourth District—*W. P. Anderson.

*Fifth District—*W. M. Kinney.

The report of the Committee on Building Blocks and Cement Products was presented by the chair. The report was received and the specification on the Manufacture of Concrete Roofing Tile submitted to letter ballot as one of the standards of the Institute.

The report of the Committee on Concrete Roads and Pavements was presented by its chairman, H. E. Breed. The report was received and ordered printed in the form of proposed amendments to the proposed specifications of last year.

At this point the proceedings were interrupted long enough to read the announcement of the signing of the treaty of peace at Versailles. The members rose and joined in singing the national anthem.

The announcement of the award of the Wason Medals was made by the chairman of the Wason Medal Committee, F. C. Wight. The awards were made for three years, as follows: 1916, to A. B. MacDaniel, for his paper, "The Effect of Temperature on Strength of Concrete;" 1917, to Lt.-Col. Chas. R. Gow, for his paper, "The History of Concrete Piles;" 1918, Prof. Duff A. Abrams of Chicago, for his paper entitled, "Effect of Time of Mixing on the Strength and Wear of Concrete." Mr. L. C. Wason, the donor of the medals, presented them to the recipients.

The following papers were read and discussed:

"The Design of Reinforced-Concrete Fuel Oil Reservoirs," by H. B. Andrews.

"Tests of Concrete Tanks for Oil Storage," by J. G. Pearson and G. H. Smith.

The report of the Committee on Concrete Sidewalks and Floors was presented by its chairman, J. E. Freeman. The report as amended was received and the proposed revisions on specifications on concrete floors and sidewalks ordered submitted to letter ballot of the Institute.

A paper entitled, "Some Remarks on Earthquake Resisting Construction in Central America," by Juan I. DeJongh, was read by title.

The report of the Committee on Nomenclature was read by the chairman, W. A. Slater. It was received as a progress report and will be printed in the Proceedings.

SIXTH SESSION, SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 1919, 8.00 P. M.

Mr. Sanford E. Thompson in the chair.

The following papers were read and discussed:

"Concrete Railroad Track," by A. C. Irwin. Read by J. E. Freeman.

"The Development of Concrete Ships," by J. E. Freeman.

The final report of the Committee on Concrete Ships was presented by H. C. Turner, its chairman.

President W. K. Hatt presented the special medal of the American Concrete Institute to Mr. W. Leslie Comyn, in recognition of his pioneer work in the development of the concrete ship "Faith." In the absence of Mr. Comyn the medal was accepted by Mr. H. C. Turner. The following papers were read and discussed:

"Construction of Concrete Barges for New York State Canal,"
S. C. Hollister.

"Layout and Equipment in Government Concrete Ship Yards,"
A. L. Bush.

"Problems in the Design of Concrete Ships," J. Glaettli, Jr.

PRESENTATION OF THE WASON AND COMYN MEDALS.

Four medals were presented at the 1919 convention, three of them the Wason Medal, for the years 1916, 1917 and 1918—which were not awarded during the war—and one a special medal from the Institute to Mr. W. Leslie Comyn, of San Francisco, in recognition of his work in building and promoting the first ocean-going American concrete ship, the "Faith."

THE WASON MEDALS.

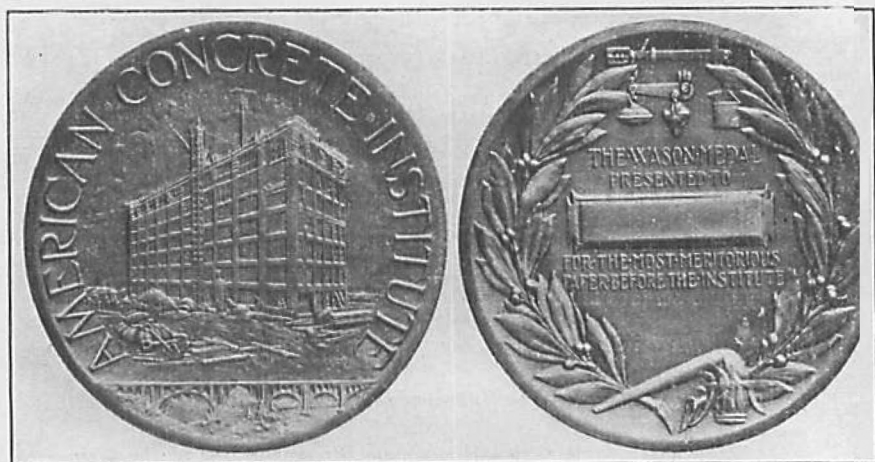
The awards of the Wason Medals—"for the most meritorious paper presented to the convention of the American Concrete Institute"—were as follows:

- ✓ 1916—A. B. MCDANIEL, "Influence of Temperature on the Strength of Concrete."
- ✓ 1917—CHARLES R. GOW, "History and Present Status of the Concrete Pile Industry."
- ✓ 1918—DUFF A. ABRAMS, "Effect of Time of Mixing on the Strength of Concrete."

In the presentation of the award the following remarks were made:

PRESIDENT W. K. HART.—Some years ago a very strong and faithful man put the Institute on its feet. Having provided for the physical well-being of the Institute, he also gave thought to its spiritual welfare, and Mr. Wason at that time, in 1916, provided certain medals which were to be conferred upon those members of the Institute who presented papers of outstanding merit. Each year a certain paper was to be selected, and the writer of the paper was to be the recipient of the Wason medal. The Chair will ask Mr. Wason to present the medals.

MR. L. C. WASON.—*Mr. President and Gentlemen:* Sentiment and the striving for an ideal are very vital forces in the affairs of mankind. If my memory serves me right, the first authentic written history referred to a contest for a prize, and the history and sentiment attached to the first Olympiads of the games which occurred many years before Christ and for a good many years which followed, have come down to our present time. The ideals for which they strove—physical prowess—at a time when physical prowess was very vital to the life of a small nation that had to defend itself against its neighbors, produced a sentiment which lasted to this day, so that the Olympiads were revived not many years ago. Today we know that mind is supreme. In the Holy Writ we have many references, for illustration, to the fact that mind is supreme and governs matter. It is, therefore, very fitting that a reward should be given to those who excel in mental attainments. While the early Greeks fought for a prize which was perishable, a laurel wreath, I believe, and strove against great odds and often at great sacrifice, so today we strive for a reward which is of little



THE WASON MEDAL.

SPECIAL MEDAL AWARDED BY THE INSTITUTE
to W. Leslie Comyn.

intrinsic value, but is connected with sentiment and seeks for an ideal which is worth while.

It ought to produce much better results in the affairs of the Institute and the industry it intends to serve, if this award is surrounded with such sentiment and ideals as to cause men to strive to obtain facts and then explain the truth. If the awards incite them to write out the truth of those facts in clear, concise, forceful manner for the benefit of their fellow-men, then they will be really worth while.

The rules which were adopted for the award of these prizes were not really original. They were merely compiled after studying the rules of the American and of the Boston Society of Civil Engineers, and I wish to inform the Board of Direction that if, in the future, conditions change and they find it wise and proper to change the rules, they are at perfect liberty to do so.

This award was made some years ago, but for certain reasons it seemed wise to postpone the production of them until now; therefore, there are three medals to award at this time. The Committee on Awards, with which I have nothing to do, selected the three men, and it is a great pleasure to me that they are all personal friends of mine, one of them a very dear friend, and it is with great pleasure that I award these prizes. On the face, each medal has a design which is typical of concrete construction; in the center, a reinforced-concrete building; at the bottom, an arch bridge, and at the margin, some unfinished work suggestive of construction. On the reverse side there is an olive wreath; at the top, a briquette suggestive of methods; and at the bottom, a retort suggestive of physical and chemical research and testing, and in the center, the inscription. The winner of the prize of 1916 is Prof. Allen B. McDaniel, and it is with great pleasure that I present him with this medal. The winner of the prize for 1917 is Charles R. Gow, of Boston, who, I believe, is not present, and I will see that he gets this medal, Mr. President, if you wish to leave it in my charge. The winner of the prize last year, 1918, is Prof. Duff A. Abrams, of Chicago. It is with great pleasure that I present it to him.

PROF. D. A. ABRAMS.—*Mr. Wason, Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Concrete Institute:* I am deeply conscious of the honor you have done me in presenting this medal. It seems to me that the American Concrete Institute is doing a very wonderful work in promoting the use and extensive knowledge of this material. I believe we are at the beginning of a new era in concrete work. It seems to me that the facts and papers presented before this meeting, notably such as those presented last night and today by Professor McMillan, Professor Slater and others of the Shipping Board, indicate a very marked widening in our knowledge with reference to this subject. In acknowledging my debt to the Institute, I want to express my indebtedness to the officials of the Portland Cement Association and to the trustees and faculty of the Lewis Institute, through whose cooperation in our construction material and research laboratory the carrying out of the experiments upon which this award is based was made possible.

MR. A. B. MCDANIEL.—Mr. Wason, I sincerely thank you for this award.

Mr. President and Gentlement of the Institute: Words can but inadequately express my appreciation of this honor which you have bestowed upon me. I shall be pleased to accept and treasure this medal, not only as a token of the accomplishment, which has seemed rather a small and simple thing to me, but principally as an emblem of the association of my colleagues, whose loyal coöperation made this work possible.

The profession and the Institute are to be congratulated upon the establishment of an institution of this character, which will doubtless be instrumental in promoting further investigations, research work and the publications of a notable character. Such a stimulating influence will certainly promote the progress of the profession and raise the standards of future papers to be presented before this society.

LT.-COL. C. R. GOW (*by letter*).—I wish to acknowledge receipt of the Wason Medal, which was awarded to me at the annual meeting of the Institute in June.

The selection of my paper on "Concrete Piles," for the award of this medal was a distinct surprise and source of gratification to me. Without such a complimentary acknowledgment, I should still have considered it a privilege to be permitted to contribute to the literature of the Proceedings of our society.

If the paper submitted by me contained matters of superior merit such as to warrant my selection for this signal honor, I feel doubly repaid for such effort as its preparation entailed.

I wish to thank you and the awarding committee most heartily for the distinguished consideration shown me and to express my regret that my military duties prevented me from being present to receive the award in person.

THE COMYN MEDAL.

The following is a report of the presentation exercises of the Comyn medal:

MR. S. E. THOMPSON (*from the Chair*).—One of our members has accomplished so signal a service that the Institute deemed it its privilege to make recognition of this. Mr. W. Leslie Comyn is not able to be present here tonight, but Mr. H. C. Turner will act in his stead in receiving this recognition, and Dr. Hatt will make the presentation.

MR. W. K. HATT.—*Mr. Chairman and Members of the American Concrete Institute and Guests:* I think the instinct of most human beings is to trust and follow the man of faith. Faith is a quality which we are told will remove mountains, and our instinct is to follow him rather than the man of an analytical turn of mind. In the development of reinforced concrete, it was the men of faith who pushed ahead the early construction in advance of theory or codes or formulations. We honor our American pioneers who pushed through the trackless forest and wilderness to settle

the western country of the United States; and tonight the American Concrete Institute honors itself in recognizing the achievements of Mr. W. Leslie Comyn, of San Francisco, who, while others were thinking and talking of the difficulties and dangers of building and launching a concrete ship, assembled a group of San Francisco business men and constructed a concrete ship, the "Faith;" not a ship on a small or experimental scale, but a ship of large size, 5,000 tons. It was launched March 14, 1918, at Redwood City, California. Wisdom, it seems, was justified of her children, and this ship braved the storms of the ocean and made a trip around Cape Horn and brought her cargo in safety and herself in good structural condition to the port of the City of New York.

The American Concrete Institute, through its special Committee, of which Mr. H. C. Turner is Chairman, has had designed and cast a medal to commemorate this splendid achievement of Mr. Comyn, and presents it to him, through Mr. Turner, upon this occasion, with the homage of the Concrete Institute. This medal has on its two faces, first, a picture of the ship, "Faith," with a representation of the docks and some of the machinery used in constructing it, and on the rim the words "Concrete Steamship Faith, launched March 14, 1918, at Redwood City, Calif.;" and on the other face of the medal, "To W. Leslie Comyn. In Recognition of His Faith and Courage in Building the First American Ocean Going Concrete Ship. What Others Only Dreamed, He Dared To Do;" and on the rim the words, "American Concrete Institute." I take great pleasure, sir, in presenting this to Mr. W. Leslie Comyn, through his friend, Mr. Turner.

MR. H. C. TURNER.—Of course, you will appreciate that it will be impossible for me to express what sentiments Mr. Comyn might have on the occasion of the receipt of this medal from the Institute. I think it would only be proper for me to state that I have a telegram from him expressing his regret that he could not be present tonight and asking me to convey to the Institute his very deepest appreciation of the honor extended to him through the award of this medal.