INSTITUTE COMMITTEE ELECTS ITS EXECUTIVES

Union Committee Allowed a Representation on the Institute Committee.

SUB-COMMITTEES REPORT.

H. L. Coburn Elected to Finance Commission—Meetings to Be Held Every Two Weeks.

The regular meeting of the Institute Committee was held yesterday afternoon at 4:30 P.M., in Room A, in the Union. President D. R. Stevens announced that the meeting had been called to order at 4:30 o'clock sharp, and requested that all members appear on time. After the roll had been called the minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted. The Calendar and Bulletin Committee, the Practice Gym, the Institute Committee, and the Finance Committee, were presented.

Nominations for the Finance Commission were called for, and as no more names were submitted the President recommended the appointment of those already nominated. Mr. M. L. Coburn, 1899, who is a member of the Student Senate Committee, and is chief engineer and secretary of the Amburne Hydraulic Company, was selected to serve on the Finance Commission with Mr. M. R. Scharff as his assistant.

Nominations for the Executive Committee were called for, and the following names were added: J. E. Whittlesy and L. C. Fuller. Mr. W. H. Vaner moved that these members be elected, and that if any of these members should fail to have the next highest number of votes taken place.

This motion was passed, and then J. C. Fuller made a motion to the effect that since it had been tacitly agreed among members that at least one Executive Committee member be a Junior, and that only one 1912 man had been nominated, it was only fair that the nominations be reopened so that more 1912 names might be submitted. The motion being received in the affirmative, H. M. Bartlett and H. A. Babcock were accordingly nominated. Ballots were then distributed, and after a short time it was announced that I. W. Withers, H. R. Rance, J. C. Fuller and L. C. Cooley had been elected to the Executive Committee.

A letter from Major Briggs was read, in which he suggested that the fencing and golf were dead letters at the present time, and that they should not be a part of the Institute rating, and the crew be reorganized in their place. This matter was referred to a committee to be appointed, consisting of the President and at least one member of the Finance Committee.

PROF. T. A. JAGGER

President Hausman of the Civil Engineering Society introduced Professor Jagger as the first speaker immediately after adjourning to the social room. He began his remarks with an outline of the geographical conditions of the Central American country and its surroundings. His function on this expedition was to form a geographical standpoint, to decide where to put and where not to put, where to place and where to interpolate. The main eruptions occurred April 13 and May 4th of last year. Previous to that time there had been no serious outburst of lava, nor any great amount of smoke. The main eruptions were of a nature to throw up a great column of steam and gas to a height of several miles. The lava which had previously been thrown out was in the form of fluid, and the gases were thrown out in the form of puffs. The gases had a tendency to crack up the entire height of the column. That it came from the East side was shown from the fact that stones thrown from the East side were burned, while those on the East side were thrown in the other way. The shock came almost instantaneously, and was confined to a relatively small limit. The strength of the vertical wave was shown by the twisting distortion of a certain statue, which was turned through an angle of nearly 90 degrees. The buildings in Cartage were constructed very weakly. It is now being planned to have the city reconstructed by some American construction company, the contractor to be paid in foreign bonds which would be virtual first mortgage on the entire city. In order to further study the effect of earthquakes, the United States department of agriculture is having a small research station installed for the investigation of earthquake difficulties. Various different sorts for the study of these phenomena have been invented recently by the Jesuits in the Philippine Islands and by the Japanese, and if $5,000 has been given for an advanced research in Hawaii next summer by the institute professors.

In continuation of Professor Jagger's talk, Professor Spofford spoke of the engineering questions connected with such disturbances of nature as he had just mentioned. He was chairman of the Finance Commission.

The city of Cartage is situated about 12 miles from each corner. The elevation of about seven hundred feet, it being founded by the Spanish many years ago, and before the earthquake it had gained quite a reputation as a market town in the Central American countries.

PROF. C. M. SPOFFORD

The severe rains of the almost perpendicular slopes cause many landslides, which cover up the tracks of the Northern Railroad of Costa Rica, and it is only at a great expense that the road is kept in operation. The types of buildings in existence before the disaster showed only the most elementary knowledge of earthquake resisting construction. These buildings did not understand that rigid limits were to be preferred to sizeable heights. The construction in San Jose was much superior to that of Cartage. The decreasing order of the amount of construction of different kinds in the united city was adobe, brick and stone work, baluques and wooden frame buildings. This is exactly opposite to what should have been the case.

(Continued on Page 3.)