

The Horological Institute of Victoria
Melbourne

September 15th 1893

The Council's report for the year ending August the 30th

Gentlemen

This being the first annual meeting of the Horological Institute of Victoria, your Council have much pleasure in submitting to you, their report of the years progress, in doing so it is the desire of the Council to be as brief as possible, at the same time, they are desirous of giving an account of their Stewardship for the past twelve months. The first meeting was held August 16th 1892 in the Athenaeum Hall Collins Street to consider the advisability of forming an Institute for the purpose of raising the standard of the work done by the trade and to issue certificates to the members of the Institute as a guarantee to the public of competency and faithful workmanship and thereby afford a security from fraud, or incompetency, a council of twelve members was elected to draw up rules and form the Institute - The Council after much care compiled the rules and submitted them to a meeting held on 1892. These rules were adopted in globo, and officers were elected for the following year. ¹⁸⁹³ Prof R-L. J. Ellery ^{Chief} F. R. S & F. R. A. S. being elected President for

the term of 3 years, while the following officers were elected in accordance with the rules for one year.

C. W. McLean Esq^r. and Mr A J Maddew, were elected Vice Presidents, Mr G. C. A Wenzel, Treasurer, Mr L. J. B. Bartlett Hon Secretary, Messrs H. J. Herbert, H. Rowson, B Joegz, H. Bullen, A. E. Brown, E. Brockenstire, J. B. Edwards, T. Wright, T. T. Steep, F H Stafford, T. Robins, C. Allen J. Wilson, were elected members and Mr A Shields Hon. member of the Council, Messrs R. McGregors and W Healy Auditors, Messrs Crisp & Cameron Solicitors & The Commercial of Australia, Bankers,

The council have held 33 meetings (at Mr Mc Gregors rooms, which he kindly placed at the the council's disposal) ~~since~~ since the Institutes formation, and have given much attention to details for the government of the Institute and have come to the conclusion that its objects, can, by patient energy and perseverance be attained in time, which will undoubtedly be a boon to the legitimate workman, the respectable trader, and the public - Your council desire to express the hope that every qualified person in the trade will join the Institute. They have, and hope the new council will also hold out every reasonable inducement to desirable members, but are also determined that none ~~but~~ but such, shall be admitted, in order that the reputation of the Institute shall not suffer, -

The other members of the council are especially desirous of thanking their President ~~Prof~~^{Mr} R. L. J. Ellery for the warm interest he has taken in the Institute and trust that he will yet see its beneficial influence widely appreciated.

Your council are also desirous of seeing some ~~new~~ blood in the council for the ensuing year, but would especially draw attention of gentlemen accepting office to the following facts, viz: that it will be necessary (at least during the Institute's infancy) to hold frequent meetings, and as it requires seven to form a quorum they trust any gentleman accepting office will endeavour to be regular in attendance in order that the Institute's business may be kept well up to date, and the many constant new matters may be dealt with, with despatch -

The present number of members on the roll are 85 while many are anxious to be admitted, this argues well for the progress and prosperity of the ~~future~~ Institute and should be a source of gratification to us all and we trust that before the end of the coming year, our numbers will be greatly improved. Your Town members of the Council are also desirous of informing the members that the up country members of the Council are doing good work, and especially mention the names of Col Sleep - Ballarat, Mr J. Cobound Bendigo, and Mr Wright of Geelong.

The above results are the fruits of an immense

amount of work and correspondence, the secretary having despatched no less than 3543 notifications of one kind and another in the past year -

Amongst the most important work of the year was the designing and issuing of the Certificates to members of the Institute, the effect of which is already being felt, by the members and appreciated by the Public. Mr Herbert is deserving of especial praise in this matter. The Council also tender their thanks to their Vice President C. W. McLean for his kind assistance, and the interesting papers given by him, during the past year, and beg to state that they are highly gratified at his consenting to stand for re-election -

Your Council deeply regret to have to report the loss by death of their late highly respected colleague Mr F. H. Stafford and deeply sympathize with his widow and family in their sad bereavement -

Before closing this report your council would urge the necessity of forming a library of Horological works for the benefit of members, and also the advisability of the members encouraging their apprentices to join as apprenticeship members and also the advisability of members coming forward and giving short papers on matters of interest, thereby encouraging discussion, which is, at all times, to be desired. In reference to the starting of a library the

Council have to thank Messrs H. G. Bobardt & Co for their kind and large donation, of Horological Journals, Britten's Watchmakers Hand books & Co & Co, which they have forwarded to the Secretary, during the year for the use of the Institute.

The Treasurer Mr G. C. A. Wenzel will submit to this meeting a satisfactory Balance sheet;

In conclusion the Council have much pleasure in congratulating the members of the Institute on the large amount of success that it has attained in its first year

S. J. B. Bartlett
Hon. Sec.