

NATIONAL SECTION OF PAIMEG

United States Section of the Pan American Institute of Mining Engineering and Geology has been formed and is now open for charter members.

The First Pan American Congress of Mining Engineering and Geology, organized and directed by the Institute of Mining Engineering of Chile and officially authorized by the Government of Chile and the South American Union of Engineering Associations, was held in Santiago, Chile, January 15 to 23, 1942. The A.I.M.E. appointed several delegates to this Congress including Edward Steidle and Will Wright. Mr. Wright was selected to head the group and prepared the report on the meetings which was published in *Mining and Metallurgy* of March, 1942. The United States Government appointed D. F. Hewett to represent the Geological Survey, Elmer Pehrson the Bureau of Mines, and Will Wright the State Department. Edward Steidle represented the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

At this Congress it was decided to organize a Pan American Institute of Mining Engineering and Geology (PAIMEG) with headquarters in Santiago, Chile. National sections have been organized in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Peru and Uruguay. This organization naturally wanted the support of A.I.M.E. and at the February meeting, 1943, at a meeting of the Board, Mr. Albala, the General Secretary of PAIMEG, discussed the object of the organization and their desire for our support.

The first Congress embraced 14 sections, representing every branch of the mineral industries. Perhaps the most important result of the Congress was the mutual recognition by the representatives of all nations that the Americas face a common problem of defense in the present emergency and possibly even more serious social and economic readjustments in the post-war years. Therefore, recommendations were made by resolution of the Congress with the intention of establishing good-neighbor policies with respect to minerals on a firm basis.

PAIMEG desires to cooperate with all the mineral industries societies of the Americas, support all activities that will benefit the mineral industries, and expand fundamental knowledge of geological conditions and encourage the standardization of technical terminology. The Institute will also facilitate the interchange of publications, students, professional men, and industrialists connected with the mineral industries.

PAIMEG is proposed as an autonomous private institution independent of the governments of the Americas. Qualified candidates from commercial organizations, societies, universities, et cetera, which are closely related to the mineral industries are accepted as members. PAIMEG wishes to organize through the initiative of individuals and private interests without having the necessity, for the time being, of asking help of the governments concerned.

At the annual A.I.M.E. meeting last February Mr. Wright met with President Mathewson, Secretary Parsons, Edward Steidle and D. F. Hewett and discussed the possibilities of organizing a national section of PAIMEG in the United States. At Mr. Parsons' suggestion, it was decided to hold an initial meeting in New York on April 19, at the time of the regular A.I.M.E. Board meeting. Edward Steidle served as Chairman of the "steering committee" in accordance with a request from President Rodriguez, PAIMEG, under date of November 10, 1943. A second Congress is scheduled to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in October 1944, but will no doubt be postponed for the duration. Future Congresses will be sponsored by PAIMEG.

Chairman Steidle invited 70 men, principally of New York and Washington, who have had some personal contact with the Latin Americas, to attend a steering committee meeting in New York on April 17. He received 43 acknowledgments of which 38 offered to join immediately. Seven additional men sent word indirectly that they would join.

The consensus of the steering committee was that it was most desirable that a National Section of PAIMEG be formed in the United States without further delay. A motion establishing the Section carried unanimously. Upon proper nomination and vote, the following were elected as a National Directorate:

CHAIRMAN: Edward Steidle, Dean, School of Mineral Industries, The Pennsylvania State College.

VICE-CHAIRMAN: C. W. Wright, Chief Foreign Minerals Specialist, United States Bureau of Mines.

SEC'Y-TREAS: A. T. Ward, Mining Engineer, New York City.

DIRECTORS: D. F. Hewett, In Charge, Section of Metalliferous Deposits, United States Bureau of Mines.

M. B. Gentry, Vice President, Freeport Sulphur Company, New York City.

T. T. Read, School of Mines, Columbia University.

W. E. Milligan, Department of Metallurgy, Yale University.

Members of any mineral industries society in the United States and Canada are eligible to join the National Section. Individuals paying 1944 dues, amounting to five dollars (no initiation fee) before December 31, 1944, will be recorded as Charter Members. The Chairman was requested to make this known to interested people through the medium of the various publications in the field of the mineral industries, including societies and other technical organizations. At this stage, membership must be based on willingness to aid in fostering good will and better understanding among mineral industries engineers and technologists in the Western Hemisphere. Anyone interested in joining PAIMEG as a charter member is requested to forward dues to Edward Steidle, Chairman, National Directorate, PAIMEG, State College, Pennsylvania, or to Arthur T. Ward, Secretary-Treasurer, National Directorate, PAIMEG, 50 Church Street, New York City. Minutes of the organization meeting will be forwarded to all members.
