

## Report of the Conference Recess Committee

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To cite this article: J. M. Reed & Allan A. Spowers (1911) Report of the Conference Recess Committee, Surveyor, 24:2, 44-46, DOI: [10.1080/18324460.1911.10439182](https://doi.org/10.1080/18324460.1911.10439182)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/18324460.1911.10439182>



Published online: 01 Aug 2012.



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- (c) That graduates in engineering may be professionally employed under an ordinary agreement. (Q.)
- (d) That all articles of agreement are to be registered. (Q.)
- 8. That letters of recommendation are unnecessary when applicants can submit certificates of competency gained by examination held in or subsequent to September, 1895. (Q.)
- 9. Endorsement of licences issued subsequent to September, 1895, in consideration of a qualification obtained on examination prior to September, 1895. (V.)
- 10. That it is desirable that all the States and New Zealand should have essentially similar Surveyors Acts and regulations thereunder. (N.S.W.)
- 11. That a uniform practice should prevail in the issue, suspension, and cancellation of licences to survey, including "Real Property Act" licences. (N.S.W.)
- 12. That one certificate should entitle the holder to make surveys under any Act may be affirmed as a principle to be kept in view. (Q.)
- 13. That it is desirable that the conduct of all mining surveys be under the control of the Survey Department in the various States. (Q.)

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## APPENDIX B.

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### Report of the Conference Recess Committee.

The Conference Recess Committee held meetings and dealt with business as follows :—

MELBOURNE, 7TH AND 8TH JULY, 1909.

(1) *Representation at Proposed London Conference of Surveyors-General.*—The desirability of representation of the Commonwealth and New Zealand at the proposed London Conference of Surveyors-General was affirmed. It was considered that two delegates should be sent, and that the cost should be shared equally by each State and the Dominion. The Premier of New South Wales was requested to communicate these resolutions to the Governments concerned. The Committee decided that the representatives should, in conformity with the invitation of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, be officials holding the position of Surveyor-General or its legal equivalent.

(2) *Proposal to Print the Marks on the Examination Papers.*—Decision deferred until replies had been received from all the Boards.

(3) *Abolition of March Examinations.*—Decided that no action should be taken, in view of the existing laws of several States, which enact that an examination shall be held.

(4) *Registration of Articles.*—Decided to urge the Boards to endeavour in every possible way to secure conformity of procedure, in accordance with the resolution of the Conference.

(5) *Suggestion by the New Zealand Board with regard to the Preparation of Plans by Candidates.*—The Committee considered that the proposal involves too much work on the part of the candidates, and would be an unnecessary loading of the examination.

(6) *Suggestion by Mr. Spowers that Regulation 5 (b) should be Amended by the Omission of the Subjects of Examination.*—Mr. Spowers was asked to put his views in writing for reference to the Boards.

MELBOURNE, 6TH JANUARY, 1910.

(7) *Representation at Conference of Surveyors-General.*—Resolved to urge Western Australia, Tasmania, and South Australia to fall in line with the other four Boards, which had accepted the Committee's proposals.

(8) *Amendment of Regulation 5 (b).*—Resolved to recommend the Boards to accept the suggestions put forward by Mr. Spowers.

(9) *New Zealand Regulation 21, which requires every Australian Surveyor applying to be Licensed in New Zealand to produce a Letter of Recommendation.*—The New Zealand Board was requested to modify the regulation, so as to bring it into harmony with the resolution of the 1908 Conference on this subject.

(10) *The Status of Surveyors who hold Licenses dated subsequent to September, 1895, issued in virtue of having passed the Examination prior to that date.*—Resolved to recommend the amendment of Regulation No. 13, so as to debar such surveyors from obtaining licenses from other Boards without the production of letters of recommendation.

(11) *Queensland Board's drafting of Regulation No. 16 (Report of 1908 Conference, Appendix B).*—The Committee considered this matter at the invitation of the New South Wales Board, and was of opinion that no exception need be taken to the drafting of the regulation.

(12) *Printing Marks on Examination Papers.*—Resolved to recommend that a trial be given, to test the matter in the light of actual experience.

(13) *Victorian Departmental Regulations for the Employment of Pupil Surveyors.*—Mr. Reed stated that in future issues these regulations would be amended, so as to be in conformity with the regulations of the 1908 Conference.

SYDNEY, 17TH AND 18TH MARCH, 1910.

The proceedings of the previous meeting, at which Mr. Spowers had been unable to attend, were confirmed by the full Committee. In the case of subject No. 8 above, it was decided to urge the Boards to carefully scrutinise the standards of the various examinations accepted in lieu of matriculation.

(14) *Representation at Conference of Surveyors-General.*—The Australian States (with the exception of South Australia) and New Zealand having agreed to the Committee's suggestion as to joint representation by two delegates, and the Boards having been consulted as to the question of such representation, it was resolved to nominate Messrs. R. McDonald (Chief Surveyor of New South Wales) and A. A. Spowers (Surveyor-General of Queensland) as the representatives to attend the Conference.

(15) *Subject Headings of Examination Papers.*—At the suggestion of the New Zealand Board, the Committee proposed certain headings for adoption.

(16) *Verbal Amendment of Regulation No. 15.*—A suggestion submitted by the New South Wales Board was not considered desirable.

(17) *Examination Papers, March, 1910.*—The Committee decided to send a circular letter to the Boards reviewing these papers, and offering suggestions for the future preparation of the papers.

(18) *Marks allotted to "Designing of Subdivision."*—Resolved to recommend a redistribution of the marks for this section of the examination, namely:—Preparation of Field-notes, 70; Plotting and Plan-drawing, 45; Designing of Subdivision, 35.

(19) *Introduction into the Examination of a Technical Description of an Area.*—Recommended that this be done in the paper “Earthworks and General Questions.”

(20) *Registration of Field Assistants of the Department of Lands, New South Wales.*—The Committee approved of the New South Wales Board's practice in this matter, namely, to register as an agreement the letter of appointment as field assistant, and a letter from the surveyor stating the date on which duties were taken up.

(21) *Proposals for Alteration of the Regulations with a view to Facilitating the Licensing of University Graduates in Engineering.*—These proposals, which emanated from a conference of representatives of Melbourne University and the Victorian Surveyors' Board, and which included a modification of the University course in engineering, were adopted, with amendments, and submitted as amended to the Sydney University authorities for consideration.

In addition to the above a number of minor matters were considered and dealt with by the Committee by correspondence.

R. P. SELLORS, Secretary.

18th January, 1911.

J. M. REED.

ALLAN A. SPOWERS.

## APPENDIX C.

### Sub-Committee's Report on Allotment of Marks.

Sixty per cent. of the marks for subjects other than the preliminary examination (credentials, field experience, etc., valued at fifty marks) are required for a pass, but to the marks obtained for those subjects there shall be added any marks allotted for such preliminary examination, and this total shall determine the result.

	Marks.
1. Preliminary Examination .. ..	50
2. Preparation of Field-notes .. ..	70
3. Elementary Mathematics ... ..	75
4. Levelling and Earthworks .. ..	90
5. Land Surveying Computations A and B . .	130
6. Plotting and Plan-drawing . . . .	45
7. Field Astronomy and Geodesy .. ..	105
8. Physics 25, Geology 25, and Forestry 25 ..	75
9. Land-surveying Design . . . . .	35
	<hr/> 625

Numbers 2, 6, and 9 comprise principles and practice of surveying and drawing.

## Eclipse of the Sun.

A partial eclipse of the sun will be visible at Sydney on April 28th. The magnitude will be 0.95, the sun's diameter being = 1. The sun rises on that date at 6.28, standard mean time, or about three-quarters of an hour after the beginning of the eclipse. The greatest phase will be at 6.45, and last contact at 7.46.