

MINUTES OF MEETING  
STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

February 8, 1961

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 P.M. by the Chairman. The first order of business was to hear a group on House Bill No. 110. Mr. Meek was introduced to apprise members of the committee of those in attendance from the Engineers group. Present were: Malloy Quinn, Clay County Engineer; Truman Sloop, Kansas City; Gene Ellis, Vice President from Topeka; Don Gentry, Topeka, and Don Schnacke who is a full time employee of the KES. Others present were Perry Miller, Executive Secy. REA; and Legislators Smith, Weiner and Dreiling, and Mr. Crew.

Mr. Schnacke stated that this bill proposes to Change Section 26 a 112, of the General Statutes. He stated that it has become a matter of concern to Kansas Engineers that non residents can become licensed professional engineers by mail, or otherwise; that Kansas is below the standard of the major portion of the states in its requirements, and that Kansas has attracted many engineers who could not qualify in their own state, and has in essence become a dumping ground for incompetent people; that because of this lax law, Kansas engineers are many times barred from consulting in other states. He presented statistics (copy attached) showing the trend along these lines. This bill also proposes to change the requirements for resident engineers to some degree.

Mr. Behee inquired how the Board Members are selected and the Secretary, Mr. Sloop, stated they are appointed by the Governor, but so far as he knows, there is no particular equation for the selection. Miss Jacquart inquired when examinations are given and Mr. Schnacke replied that they are given twice a year by the Board, at the University of Kansas and Kansas State, and that these are set up by rule of the Board, on a voluntary basis, the rule that is sought to become mandatory. Mr. Unruh asked if it was possible that a mandatory rule might restrict our own engineers, and Mr. Schnacke replied that there is always that possibility, but that the record speaks for itself. Too, that the Kansas Engineers were asked their feelings, and they concur. Mr. Unruh stated that he would like to check the results in 5 or 10 years.

Representative Smith stated: "I know we have been hearing a lot about various organizations. In my opinion, if we are going to have a law, lets have it up with the rest of the states, or not have any. Out in Colby, we have a firm doing real well, and its a sad situation when they have to hire an out of state engineers because our engineers can't operate out of state.

Chairman Taylor suggested that the Committee think about this bill and it would be taken up at a later date. He called attention to three proposed bills in line with the Governor's program, one being concerned with the Barber Board, one with Cosmetology and another to be explained by Mr. Fribley.

Mr. Fribley stated that this proposed measure deals with the Department of Administration, and gives them authority to accept certain federal funds made available to compensate various departments when a service is performed for the federal government. We have already been doing this, but we want to legalize it.

Mr. Doyen moved, and Mr. Marshall seconded that these three bills be printed and re-referred back to the Committee. Motion carried.

Mr. Fribley asked the Committee their feeling if he should introduce a bill making it compulsory for public buildings (schools, hospitals, etc.) to have an automatic device for detecting gas leakage, and providing for periodic inspection. Mr. Marshall inquired who makes the devices, and it developed there are 6 or 8 manufacturers. Other members mentioned instances where such a device might have prevented a disaster. Mr. Johnson commented that it might reduce insurance premiums. Mr. Underwood explained how such a device would work, and has volunteered to gather some drawings and pictures, and present them at a later date.

Meeting was adjourned.

## K E S LEGISLATIVE MEMORANDUM

The K E S Legislative program will include interest in many bills introduced in the 1961 General Session of the Kansas Legislature. In 1959, there were 58 bills that effected the construction industry and the engineering profession, and 19 were passed into law. The Society's legislative counsel will be watching the progress of these bills and lending aid and assistance to the legislators throughout the Session.

Of major concern to the Society will be legislation that the K E S Legislative Committee has approved and with the subsequent approval of the K E S Board of Directors. Briefly, this legislation will include:

AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 26A-112 G.S.S. 1959 of the ENGINEERS ACT. This is an amendment to the present licensing law effecting future professional engineers licensed in Kansas

The changes requiring a mandatory examination of all future applicants are patterned after the National Council of the State Board of Engineering Examiners national model enactment.

The State Board of Engineering Examiners is on record favoring it, stating Kansas is below the standards of 80% of all states.

The present procedure, permits licensing without examination but usually results in prohibiting future reciprocal acceptance of the licensee in most states requiring examinations.

The examination procedure gives to the public another step of assuring competent designers of the future. There is provision for applicants qualifying without an educational background but with substantial experience, and not be exposed to engineering fundamental examination.

The examination is nothing more than what we now voluntarily provide for under the E I T program with 999 taking the examination and with only 13% failures since 1953.

Kansas is being sought as a "dumping ground" for original licenses because of the present requirements. In 1959, of 90 licenses granted by the Board, 55 were licensed from out of state that were not licensed in their home states. Many are using Kansas as a means of obtaining that which they could not acquire at home, to promote themselves in large government organizations and industries who are encouraging licensing.

The growing complexity and high costs of construction today requires the public be assured that engineering will be performed by qualified and skilled engineers of the future. Kansas must progress in providing for this.

ENGINEER-IN-TRAINING EXAMINATION

Year	Applied	Passed	Failed
1953	47	40	6
1954	75	60	14
1955	80	59	21
1956	76	70	15
1957	119	111	19
1958	154	138	19
1959	224	194	43
1960	224	190	44
	999	862	181

This includes the total number of applications received during the period, the total number of examinations passed and the total number failed. The law provides that a person failing the examination may be re-examined once without payment of additional fee. Some of these candidates who passed and some who failed were taking the second examination.

	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>
(a) Total licenses granted	222	218	210	250
(b) Accumulative total licenses granted	3203	3821	4031	4281
(c) Applications received	260	263	263	292
(d) Applications rejected	17	37	63	50
(e) Applications withdrawn, included (d)				
(f) Total engineers with license	3185	3330	3477	3665
(g) Resident engineers granted licenses	122	117	120	143
(h) Non resident engineers granted licenses	100	101	90	107
(i) Total out-of-state applications received	124	134	111	129
(j) Total out-of-state licenses granted	100	101	90	107
(k) Total applicants for reciprocity	85	65	64	79
(l) Total licenses granted by reciprocity	79	66	60	83
(m) Total licenses granted before enactment of Chapter 26a, G. S. 1949	752	752	752	752
(n) reciprocal licenses granted to residents	29	22	25	25
(o) original licenses granted to residents	93	95	95	118
(p) reciprocal licenses granted to non-residents	50	43	35	58
(q) Original licenses granted to non-residents	50	58	55	49