

Functions of the Governing Board

PERHAPS the best way to introduce this subject would be to quote at the outset from The Society's fundamental law, its Constitution. This document outlines the basic duties and composition of The board in Article VI as follows: "The Governing Board who shall direct and manage the affairs of this Society for one year, or until their successors are elected and qualified, are the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, of which the secretary and treasurer may be one and the same person, and three board members-at-large together with the four most recent living ex-presidents of the Society. The oldest ex-president in point of service shall automatically retire from the Governing Board each year after a new president is elected and takes office and his place is taken by the retiring president. In the event of a vacancy in the membership of the Governing Board through resignation, death, or otherwise, such vacancy shall be filled by appointment by unanimous vote of the remaining members of the Board."



H. L. Roschen

The Board's duties and responsibilities are further outlined in Section 1 of Article VI of the By-Laws, from which the following is quoted: ". . . The Governing Board shall be the general executive body of the Society. They shall determine the policies and direct the affairs of the Society in such manner as to promote the best interest of the Society. They shall direct the manner in which all surplus funds shall be invested, but such investments shall be made only in securities of the Government of the United States of America. They shall direct the treasurer and executive secretary to keep all cash funds of the Society on deposit only in banks that are members of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and to see that the total amount on deposit in any single bank at any time shall not exceed the amount of the current maximum deposit insurance guaranty of the said Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation."

An examination of these articles reveals that the Board is given specific instructions only in connection with the general management and investment of the Society's funds. In all other respects the Board has final authority to decide any issue which may arise in the management of the Society's affairs. It is charged therefore with a heavy responsibility to the membership.

WITH this general preliminary information it will probably be most interesting to study some of the problems which the Board is regularly called upon to handle. Chief among these are maintenance of the Society's Journal, of its national or headquarters office, budgeting and financial problems, and establishment of convention locations and policy.

The Board's responsibility with respect to maintenance of the Journal lies principally in its annual appointment of a Journal Committee chairman and editor. The filling of this place is one of the first items of business when a new Board has been constituted after an election. After careful selection of the individual the Board then leaves the appointment of the committee and the administration and management of the Journal to him and his committee.

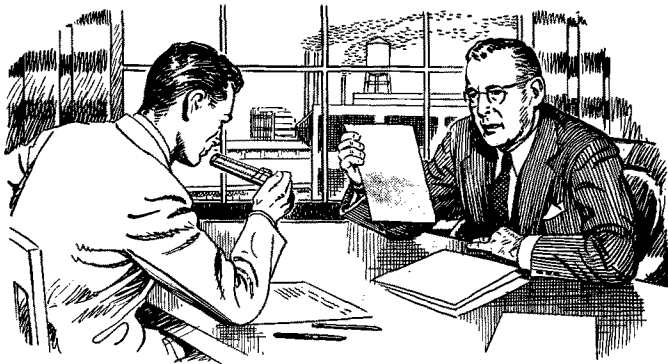
Officers usually prepare a budget sometime prior to the opening of a new fiscal period. This budget is based on the prior year's financial experience and is adopted by the Board after study, as a guide for the financial operations during the Board's tenure. It is not always possible to operate the Society in exact conformity with such a budget due to changing conditions. The practice of adopting a budget however has functioned to guide operations more smoothly. In recent years, with rising costs of services, the budget has had to receive more careful consideration than usual, and special committees of the Board have studied income and expenses carefully to keep them in balance.

A further responsibility of the Board is the maintenance of a national headquarters office and staff to conduct the necessary work for publication of the Journal, collection of dues, and other functions. An executive secretary is appointed annually. Management of the details in the national office is left in the hands of this individual.

The Board determines the location and approximate time of all Society conventions. In recent years it has been necessary to decide on convention cities at least two years in advance if satisfactory hotel reservations are desired. The exact dates, the program, and other convention details are left in the hands of local committees.

THIS report has thus far detailed only a few of the more important functions of the board. Space will not permit further discussion, but some others deserve brief mention. The Board considers many reports of regular and special committees, such as Education, Membership, Awards, Methods Publication, Convention Manual, and others. It appoints the Referee Board, Louisiana representatives of the Society, representatives in cooperative work with other societies, and an advertising manager. In its work it has always been careful to serve the best interests of the Society.

H. L. ROSCHEN
Secretary, 1945-1951



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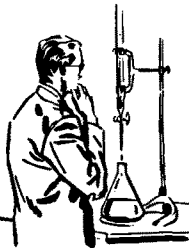


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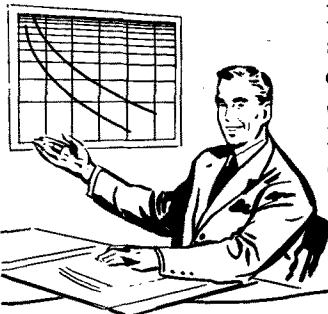
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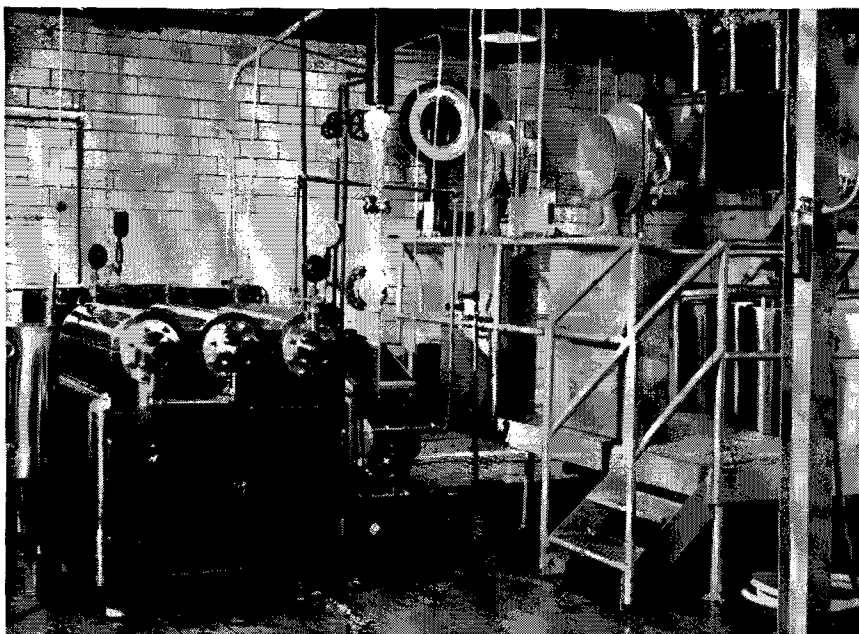
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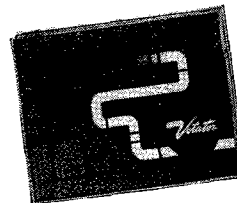
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